
THE PESTICIDE REVIEW

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Coveralls versus Work Clothing

What is the difference between the two?

Work clothing

"Work clothing" is apparel that an employee wears to work. It could be a short sleeve shirt and shorts, or jeans with a long sleeve shirt. It is important to note that whatever clothing the employee wears to work, they should wear clothing appropriate for the type of work they perform. This is especially true if a category 3 product label requires applicators to wear certain articles of clothing.

Work clothes are items that can be owned by the employee and are not considered to be personal protective equipment. Pesticide application personnel can wear two types of clothing to work, work clothes or coveralls. Employees can limit their apparel to work clothing if they are only applying category 3 materials and the pesticide label doesn't require the use of coveralls. For all other pesticide categories, regardless if the label calls for coveralls or not, the employer must provide coveralls.



Coveralls

Coveralls are supplied by the employer and are considered to be an article of personal protective equipment. Coveralls must be supplied to employees that handle category 1 or 2 pesticides, regardless if the label calls for coveralls or not. Coveralls must be made of a closely woven fabric that covers the legs, body, and arms. Coveralls can be a two-piece company uniform consisting of pants and a long sleeve shirt, or they can be one-piece, like a Tyvek® suit.

Coveralls are owned by the employer and must be left with the employer at the end of the day for laundering. If an employee doesn't end their day at the office, they can take their coveralls home. However, the employee must keep the coveralls separate from their family's clothes and return the items to the employer for laundering.

What if a label for a category 3 pesticide requires an applicator to wear a long sleeve shirt and pants? Does the employer have to supply and launder those items?

No. When a category 3 material requires the use of a long sleeve shirt and pants, the clothing is considered label-specific work clothing. If the label wanted an employer to supply and launder clothing, it would have required the use of coveralls. It is important to note, however, that it remains the employer's responsibility to assure employees follow all pesticide label instructions, and wear appropriate work clothing.

California Code of Regulations Section 6000 states: "Work clothing"... is not considered personal protective equipment although pesticide product labeling or regulations may require specific work clothing during some activities."

To find out more about the coveralls regulation, details can be found in California Code of Regulations Section 6736.

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New Trapping Requirements



Changes to Fish and Game Code § 4005, 4152, & 4180

There has been a change in the Fish and Game Code regarding the trapping of mammals. If you use any trapping device, whether it dispatches the animal on the spot, or captures it alive, you will now be required to:

1. Obtain a license from the California Department of Fish and Game.
2. Receive a tag number that must be affixed to all of your traps.

These changes will affect the trapping of animals such as raccoons, skunks, pigs, opossums, squirrels, gophers, moles, voles, etc.

Are traps for rats and mice covered by this regulation change?

No. The Fish and Game officer we spoke with stated that traps used to kill or capture rats and mice will not require a tag or special license from their office.

When will these requirements be enforced?

The new law requires Fish and Game to test an applicant's aptitude and knowledge of trapping laws. At this time, Fish and Game does not have a test that would be appropriate for pest control trapping. Because setting up a new test and educating all of the Fish and Game officers takes time, Fish and Game is in the process of asking for a moratorium on this law. The moratorium will provide time to implement the new requirements and set up the new licenses.

What about property owners?

The new law will require property owners to obtain a depredation permit and receive a number for their trap. - There is no cost to property owners.

If you have questions about the new trapping law, call Tom Belt with the California Department of Fish and Game in Yountville. His phone number is (707) 944-5544.

The Unsung Pollution Fighter



Beneficial dung beetles

When we think of beneficial insects, the image that usually comes to mind are ladybugs or lacewings. However, there are many insects that don't fit the typical image. One of these obscure beneficials was the center of a recent news article. Researchers discovered that dung beetles could play a beneficial role when it comes to Cryptosporidium (Crypto) pollution.

Crypto is a microscopic parasite that lives in the intestines of infected animals. Crypto is very common and it becomes a problem when infected animals drop manure in watersheds. Crypto is shed in large numbers in animal dung and is a very hardy parasite that can live outside the body for long periods of time. When it rains, Crypto spores can be washed into watersheds, where it can find its way into drinking water.

Researchers in Australia are currently studying the benefits of the *Bubas bison* dung beetle and their behavior of balling up dung and depositing it up to a half-meter under ground for their young. Researchers are looking at the beneficial effects of the beetles' behavior of burying the dung so deep in the ground that Crypto spores do not have a chance to wash into waterways. They are also looking into the interesting possibility that the gut of the dung beetle may actually kill Crypto spores.

Our New Web Address

We have a new domain name!

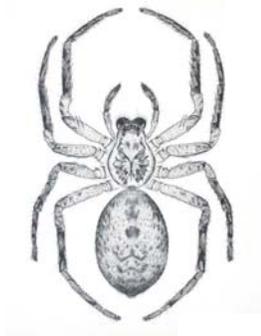
When we were given our original web address, our "user friendly" website wasn't so user friendly when it came to navigating to it! For your convenience, we recently obtained a new address. You can now be directed to our website by simply typing: <http://sccagriculture.org>

If you have any questions, comments or would like to suggest a subject for an article in the Pesticide Review, feel free to write to: Santa Clara County Agriculture 1553 Berger Drive, San Jose, CA 95112

The New Spider In Town

Zoropsis spinimana

Special thanks to the California Academy of Sciences for the use of the illustration. Illustration by Michelle Louise Schwengel.



Our office was first introduced to *Zoropsis spinimana* in the fall of 1992. A homeowner that lived in the area for many years had never seen a spider this large, so they brought a specimen into our office for identification. We sent the spider to the state laboratory, which identified it as *Zoropsis spinimana*. *Z. spinimana* is originally from the Mediterranean and is not native to California. Following our submission of this spider to the State, a researcher from the Academy of Sciences contacted our office. He informed us that this spider was new to the area and had recently established a population in the town of Alameda. The Academy wanted to track the spread of this spider species and requested that all future specimens be sent to them. Since 1992, our office has sent the Academy several spiders from homeowners in Cupertino, Palo Alto, Santa Clara, North San Jose, and Sunnyvale.

Description

Z. spinimana is an eight-eyed spider that is mostly brown with black and tan markings. Measuring from the front to back legs, adult *Z. spinimanas* are approximately 1½ - 2 inches long, their body taking ½ to ¾ of an inch of this length.

Z. spinimana can easily be mistaken for a wolf spider due to similarities in their markings and behavior. However, wolf spiders have much larger eyes and many of the wolf spider species in this area do not grow as large as *Z. spinimana*.

Behavior

Like a wolf spider, *Z. spinimana* does not spin a web to catch prey, but rather uses its strength and speed to capture its meals. Common food items would be crickets, cockroaches, and other spiders.

The behavior that brings this spider to the attention of most homeowners is its tendency to move indoors. This spider catches on quickly that being inside a warm house during the winter sure beats being outside in the cold! Opening a closet or toy

chest to find one of these large spiders can give any person a shock. Some of these spiders get so large and heavy, we have been told that you can even hear them running across cardboard boxes in a closet!

Even though its size may be formidable, it is a non-aggressive species. It prefers to run away rather than to bite. It is believed this spider is no more toxic than a common wolf spider and we have not heard reports of anyone being bitten.



← 1-½ inches →

The Department of Pesticide Regulation's Proposed 2003-04 Budget

State's budget woes hits DPR

As a result of the State's budget crisis, DPR will reduce its budget by almost 25% compared to 2001-2002 levels. The State also decided that DPR could no longer rely on the General Fund support to run its programs. Instead, the State is requiring DPR to fund its activities through a pesticide mill assessment.

What is a mill assessment?

A mill assessment is a tax on pesticides. Currently, pesticide manufacturers pay 17.5 mills (\$0.0175 per dollar of sales). The State has set in motion a regulation change to increase the mill assessment to 27 mills. Since the budget process is ongoing, the mill assessment rate is subject to change.

Will there be other fee increases?

Unfortunately, yes. DPR has not raised examination or licensing fees since the mid-1980's. In order to help fund their licensing department, most fees will be increased.