

Worker Clothing Acceptability Criteria

Chapter 8: MATRIX SAMPLES

AHETF-8.G.2.

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1.0 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

- 1.1 This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) describes the criteria to follow when evaluating individual workers' outer work clothing prior to participation in an Agricultural Handlers Exposure Task Force (AHETF) worker exposure study.
- 1.2 These criteria were selected based upon the criteria presented in the Worker Protection Standards (WPS) 40 CFR 170, and in the spirit of product stewardship.
- 1.3 This SOP was revised to allow the workers the choice to wash their own clothing prior to participation on an AHETF study or have their work clothes laundered by AHETF designated personnel as in section 2.1.5. and to add this section as an explanation.

2.0 ACCEPTANCE/REJECTION CRITERIA

- 2.1 The Study Director will evaluate each worker's outer (work) clothing prior to his or her participation in an AHETF worker exposure study using the following criteria as guidance:
 - 2.1.1 **Condition:** Work clothing should be in relatively good condition. Clothing that does not comply with the spirit of the WPS (e.g. clothing with large tears, holes, rips, several missing buttons, or other defects that present a significant exposure to the worker's skin or inner dosimeter) will not be accepted for use during the study. In such cases, if the Study Director feels appropriate, the AHETF will provide the worker with new outer work clothing.

- 2.1.2 **Coverage:** Only long sleeves and long pants are acceptable. Sleeves and pant legs may not be rolled-up during the exposure phase of the study. Rolled-up sleeves, T-shirts, and shorts will not be accepted for use during the study.
- 2.1.3 **Fit:** The outer clothing must completely cover the inner dosimeter. Clothing that is too short, whether during movement or at rest will not be accepted for use during the study.
- 2.1.4 **Size:** Work clothing must be loose enough to allow for wearing an inner dosimeter under the work clothing, and still completely cover the inner dosimeter. Clothing that is too tight to allow the use of the inner dosimeter garment or does not sufficiently cover the inner dosimeter will not be accepted for use during the study.
- 2.1.5 **Cleanliness:** Workers' clothing should be reasonably clean prior to participation. Clothing should be free from fresh soiling or chemical exposure. Stains and discolorations might be acceptable, if from a previous event. Any clothing that is freshly or grossly soiled, or has any distinct pesticide odors or stains will not be accepted for use during the study.
- 2.2 All articles of a worker's outer clothing must be laundered prior to participation in an AHETF exposure study. Workers will be notified in advance of this criterion and should make arrangements to have their work clothes laundered. If necessary, clothing will be collected by the AHETF prior to the start of the study, laundered with detergent by the AHETF, and returned to the worker at the start of their exposure period.
- 2.3 Should the Study Director deem any article of a worker's clothing unacceptable, that specific article shall be replaced with a clean, new garment provided by the AHETF.
- 2.4 The Study Director will document each article of clothing replaced and the reasons for the rejection of the original workers' clothing in the raw data.
- 2.5 For exposure scenarios where low exposure is expected (e.g., closed-system mixing and loading), only AHETF-provided outer garments will be worn.