

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

## A Recommended Standard for Occupational Exposure to.....

### Carbaryl

A complete criteria document for occupational exposure to carbaryl has been prepared by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). NIOSH recommends adherence to the present Federal standard of 5 milligrams of carbaryl per cubic meter of air as a time-weighted average for up to a 10-hour workday, 40-hour workweek.

Carbaryl is the generic name for the 1-naphthyl ester of N-methylcarbamic acid or 1-naphthyl N-methyl carbamate. Carbaryl manufactured in the United States is produced synthetically and is used primarily as an insecticide for agricultural purposes. Approximately 53 million pounds of carbaryl were produced in 1972 in the United States, of which 25 million pounds were used domestically, and the remainder was exported. NIOSH estimates that approximately 100,000 workers in the United States are potentially exposed to carbaryl. As applicable under the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the proposed standard would apply to the processing, manufacture, and use of carbaryl.

The major health problem associated with occupational exposure to carbaryl is related to its inhibition of the enzyme cholinesterase in the central, autonomic and peripheral nervous systems. The inhibition of cholinesterase allows acetylcholine to accumulate at these sites and thereby leads to overstimulation of innervated organs. The signs and symptoms observed as a consequence of exposure to carbaryl in the workplace environment are manifestations of ex-

cessive cholinergic stimulation, e.g., nausea, vomiting, mild abdominal cramping, dimness of vision, dizziness, headache, difficulty in breathing, and weakness.

NIOSH recommends that workers subject to carbaryl exposure have comprehensive preplacement medical examinations, with subsequent annual medical surveillance. Engineering controls should be used wherever feasible to maintain carbaryl concentrations below the prescribed limits, and respirators should only be used in certain nonroutine or emergency situations. During certain agricultural applications, however, respirators must be used.

The recommended standard is part of a continuing series of criteria documents developed by NIOSH in accordance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. The document was transmitted to the Department of Labor September 30, 1976, for review and consideration in the standard setting process. The criteria document was reviewed by seven consultants, two professional societies, and Government agencies having interest and responsibility for occupational safety and health. The proposed standard is considered appropriate and no additional information that would affect the recommended standard is available.

The following is the first chapter of the criteria document. It contains the NIOSH recommendations for controlling worker exposure to Carbaryl.

## I. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A CARBARYL STANDARD

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recommends that employee exposure to carbaryl in the workplace be controlled by adherence to the following sections. The standard is designed to protect the health and safety of employees for up to a 10-hour work shift, 40-hour workweek, over a working lifetime. Compliance with all sections of the standard should therefore prevent adverse effects of carbaryl on the health and safety of employees. The recommended standard is measurable by techniques that are valid, reproducible, and available to industry and government agencies. Sufficient technology exists to permit compliance with the recommended standard. The criteria and standard will be subject to review and revision as necessary.

The criteria and the recommended standard apply to any manufacturing, formulating, or applying operation in which carbaryl is produced, packaged, processed, mixed, blended, handled, or used, or where employees are otherwise potentially exposed. "Carbaryl" is the generic name for the 1-naphthyl ester of N-methylcarbamic acid or 1-naphthyl N-methylcarbamate. "Action level" is defined as one-half the recommended time-weighted average (TWA) environmental exposure limit for carbaryl. "Occupational exposure to carbaryl" is defined as exposure to airborne carbaryl at concentrations greater than the action level. Exposure to carbaryl at concentrations less than or equal to the action level shall not require adherence to the recommended standard, except for Sections 3, 4(a,b), and 7(b). If employees are potentially exposed to other chemicals, such as pesticide vehicles, diluents, or emulsifiers or other pesticides, provisions of any applicable standards for such chemicals shall also be followed.

### Section 1 — Environmental (Workplace Air)

#### (a) Concentration

Occupational exposure to carbaryl shall be controlled so that no employee is exposed to carbaryl at concentrations greater than 5 mg/cu m in air determined as a TWA concentration for up to a 10-hour work shift, 40-hour workweek.

#### (b) Sampling and Analysis

Procedures for sampling and analysis of environmental samples shall be as provided in Appendices I and II, or by any methods shown to be at least equivalent in accuracy, precision, and sensitivity to the methods specified.

### Section 2 — Medical

Medical surveillance shall be made available as outlined below to workers subject to occupational exposure to carbaryl.

Physicians responsible for workers who may be occupationally exposed to carbaryl shall be familiar with the information contained in Appendix III which describes the suggested treatment of intoxication by this compound.

(a) Medical examinations shall include:

(1) An initial or interim work history.

(2) A comprehensive initial or interim medical history to include at least any history of frequent headaches, dizziness, tightness in the chest, dimness of vision, and difficulty in focusing eyes.

(3) A physical examination which shall be directed toward at least the cardiorespiratory system, central nervous system (CNS), vision, and kidneys. A complete urinalysis including microscopic examination shall be performed.

(4) Those workers with a history of glaucoma, cardiovascular disease, hepatic disease, renal disease, central nervous system (CNS) abnormalities, and those using anticholinergic drugs shall be counseled about working in jobs involving exposure to carbaryl. Workers shall be advised that a review of the available scientific data warrants consideration of possible effects of carbaryl on the reproductive system. Initial information based on experimental animal studies indicates possible effects on the developing fetus, as well as on other reproductive processes in both men and women. Female workers shall be further informed that the status of present toxicologic information does not necessarily indicate the need for avoiding exposure to carbaryl during pregnancy but suggests that appropriate steps be taken to minimize exposure wherever possible. In addition, nursing mothers who may be exposed to carbaryl shall be informed of the possibility that the baby may ingest the compound from the maternal milk and shall be counseled to minimize exposure in the workplace.

(5) Initial medical examinations shall be made available to all workers within 60 days of the promulgation of a standard based on these recommendations.

(6) Periodic examinations shall be made available on a yearly basis or at some other interval determined by the responsible physician.

(7) At the time of the preplacement examination, it is recommended that a preexposure baseline erythrocyte cholinesterase activity be determined.

(8) A judgment of the worker's physical ability to use negative or positive pressure respirators.

(b) Emergency first-aid services shall be established, under the direction of the responsible physician, to provide care to any worker acutely intoxicated by carbaryl (See Appendix III).

(c) Appropriate medical services and surveillance shall be provided to any worker with adverse health effects from exposure to carbaryl.

(d) Pertinent medical records shall be maintained for all workers occupationally exposed to carbaryl for at least 5 years after termination of employment. These records shall be available to the designated medical representatives of the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, of the Secretary of Labor, of the employee or former employee, and of the employer.

### Section 3 — Labeling and Posting

#### (a) Labeling

Containers of carbaryl shall bear the following label in addition to, or in combination with, labels required by other statutes, regulations, or ordinances:

CARBARYL

CAUTION!

HARMFUL IF INHALED, SWALLOWED, OR  
LEFT ON THE SKIN  
NO SMOKING

Avoid breathing dust or spray mist.  
Avoid contact with eyes, skin, and clothing.  
Wash hands and face thoroughly before eating.  
Wear long-sleeved work clothes.  
Shower or bathe and change into clean clothing  
after work.

**First Aid:**On skin contact with carbaryl, wash with soap and water. On eye contact, flush eyes with copious amounts of water. If inhaled or swallowed, consult a physician.

**Note to Physician:**Carbaryl is a moderate, reversible cholinesterase inhibitor. Atropine sulfate is the antidote. Do not use pralidoxime chloride (2-PAM).

#### (b) Posting

The following sign shall be posted in a readily visible location at or near entrances to manufacturing and formulating areas containing carbaryl, and at other areas in which there is a risk of exposure:

CARBARYL

CAUTION!

HARMFUL IF INHALED, SWALLOWED, OR  
LEFT ON THE SKIN  
NO SMOKING

Avoid breathing dust or spray mist.  
Avoid contact with eyes, skin, and clothing.  
Wash hands and face thoroughly before eating.  
Wear long-sleeved work clothes.  
Shower or bathe and change into clean clothing  
after work.

**First Aid:**On skin contact with carbaryl, wash with soap and water. On eye contact, flush eyes with copious amounts of water. If inhaled or swallowed, consult a physician.

Warning signs shall be printed in English and in the predominant language of non-English-reading employees, if any, unless employers use equally effective means to ensure that non-English-reading employees know the hazards associated with carbaryl and the areas in which there is exposure to carbaryl. Employers shall ensure that illiterate employees also know these hazards and the locations of these areas.

### Section 4 — Personal Protective Equipment and Clothing

#### (a) Protective Clothing

Any employee whose work involves likely exposure of the skin to carbaryl or carbaryl formulations, eg, mixing or formulating, shall wear full-body coveralls or the equivalent, impervious gloves, ie, highly resistant to the penetration of carbaryl, impervious footwear, and, when there is danger of carbaryl coming in contact with the eyes, goggles or a face shield. Any employee engaged in field application of carbaryl shall be provided with, and required to wear, the following protective clothing and equipment: goggles, full-body coveralls, impervious footwear, and a protective head covering. Employees working as flaggers in the aerial application of carbaryl shall be provided with, and required to wear, full-body coveralls or waterproof rainsuits, protective head coverings, impervious gloves and impervious footwear.

#### (b) Eye Protection

Safety goggles and face shields, when required, shall conform to 29 CFR 1910.133.

#### (c) Respiratory Protection

Engineering controls shall be used when necessary to maintain airborne carbaryl concentrations below the recommended workplace

environmental limit. Compliance with the workplace environmental limit by the use of respirators is allowed only when airborne carbaryl concentrations are in excess of the workplace environmental limit because required engineering controls are being installed or tested, when nonroutine maintenance or repair is being accomplished, or during emergencies. When a respirator is thus permitted, it shall be selected and used in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) To determine the type of respirator to be used, the employer shall measure, when possible, the workplace air concentration of carbaryl initially and thereafter whenever process, worksite, climate, or control changes occur that are likely to increase the carbaryl concentrations. This requirement does not apply when only air-supplied positive pressure respirators are used. The employer shall ensure that no employee is exposed to carbaryl in excess of the recommended TWA environmental limit because of improper respirator selection, fit, use, or maintenance.

(2) Any employee applying carbaryl by aircraft shall be provided with, and required to carry in the aircraft, a respirator as specified in Table I-1.

(3) Employees working as flaggers shall wear appropriate respirators as specified in Table I-1 when exposure to an airborne carbaryl concentration above that specified in Section 1 is likely to occur. Respirators may also be worn during the time necessary to install or test the required engineering controls, for nonroutine

operations at concentrations in excess of the recommended TWA environmental limit resulting from maintenance or repair activities, or during emergencies when air concentrations of carbaryl may exceed the recommended TWA environmental limit.

(4) The employer shall establish and enforce a respiratory protective program meeting the requirements of 29 CFR 1910.134.

(5) The employer shall provide and ensure employee use of respirators approved under the provisions of 30 CFR 11 and in accordance with Table I-1, except during all agricultural applications of carbaryl in which the dust- or spray-applicator nozzle is directed upward when a chin-style respirator equipped with a full-face gas mask pesticide filter and canister shall be provided regardless of the environmental carbaryl concentration.

(6) Respirators specified for use in higher concentrations of carbaryl may be used in atmospheres of lower concentrations.

(7) The employer shall ensure that respirators are clean and adequately maintained and that employees are instructed on the use of respirators assigned to them.

(8) Canisters shall be discarded and replaced with fresh canisters in accord with the manufacturer's recommendations or if the odor of the insecticide breaks through. Unused canisters shall be discarded and replaced when seals are broken, after 3 years if seals are unbroken, or as recommended by the manufacturer.

**TABLE I-1**  
**RESPIRATOR SELECTION GUIDE**

Concentration	Respirator Type
50 mg/cu m or less	(1) Any supplied-air respirator* (2) Any self-contained breathing apparatus*
250 mg/cu m or less	(1) Any supplied-air respirator with a full facepiece, helmet, or hood (2) Any self-contained breathing apparatus with full facepiece
625 mg/cu m or less	Type C supplied-air respirator operated in pressure-demand or other positive pressure or continuous-flow mode

**TABLE I-1**  
(Continued)  
**RESPIRATOR SELECTION GUIDE**

Concentration	Respirator Type
Greater than 625 mg/cu m, or entry into and exit from unknown concentrations	(1) Self-contained breathing apparatus with full facepiece operated in pressure-demand or other positive pressure mode  (2) Combination respirator which includes Type C supplied-air respirator with full facepiece operated in pressure-demand mode and auxiliary self-contained breathing apparatus operated in pressure-demand or other positive pressure mode
Firefighting	Self-contained breathing apparatus with full facepiece operated in pressure-demand or other positive pressure mode
Emergency escape	(1) Any gas mask providing protection against organic vapors and particulates**  (2) Any escape self-contained breathing apparatus

\* If eye irritation occurs, a full facepiece respirator must be worn.

\*\* Including pesticide respirators meeting the requirements of this class

#### Section 5 — Informing Employees of Hazards from Carbaryl

At the beginning of their employment in a carbaryl area, workers shall be informed of the hazards, relevant symptoms of overexposure, appropriate emergency procedures, and proper conditions and precautions for safety. The information shall be kept on file and shall be readily accessible to the worker at all places of employment where occupational exposure to carbaryl is likely.

Employers shall institute a continuing educational program to ensure that all workers have current knowledge of job hazards, proper maintenance procedures, and cleanup methods, and that they know how to use respiratory protective equipment and protective clothing correctly. Employees should be informed of the possible additive effects from taking anticholinesterase medication.

Information as required shall be recorded on the "Material Safety Data Sheet" shown in Appendix IV, or on a similar form approved by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor.

#### Section Section 6 — Work Practices

##### (a) Emergency Procedures

Emergency procedures shall be formulated in advance for all work areas where a reasonable potential for emergencies exists, and employees shall be instructed in their implementation.

(1) Procedures shall include prearranged plans for obtaining emergency medical care and for necessary transportation of injured workers.

(2) Approved eye, skin, and respiratory protection as specified in Section 4 shall be used by personnel essential to emergency operations.

(3) Employees not essential to emergency operations shall be evacuated from exposure areas during emergencies. Perimeters of areas of hazardous exposures shall be delineated, posted, and secured.

(4) Personnel who have to shut off sources of carbaryl, clean up spills, and repair leaks shall be properly trained in such procedures and adequately protected against the attendant hazards.

##### (b) Engineering Controls

Engineering controls, such as process enclosure or local exhaust ventilation, shall be used when

necessary to prevent airborne concentrations of carbaryl from exceeding the recommended TWA environmental limit. Ventilation systems shall be designed to prevent the accumulation or recirculation of carbaryl in the workplace and to remove carbaryl effectively from the breathing zones of exposed employees. Exhaust ventilation systems discharging to outside air must conform with applicable local, state, and federal air pollution regulations. Ventilation systems shall undergo regular preventive maintenance and cleaning to ensure maximum effectiveness, which shall be verified by periodic airflow measurements.

(c) Disposal

(1) Work areas, fixtures, equipment, etc, contaminated by carbaryl spills shall be cleaned promptly. Liquid carbaryl on floors shall be blotted with absorbing clay which, in turn, shall be removed with a sweeping compound. Dry forms of carbaryl shall be removed by vacuum cleaning, followed by thorough scrubbing of the exposed surfaces.

(2) Disposal of waste material shall conform to local, state, and federal regulations to prevent the exposure of humans and animals as well as the pollution of air and water.

(d) Agricultural Practice

(1) In work areas, including those related to agricultural application where dermal or eye contact with carbaryl may occur, the employer shall make readily available to the employees water, soap or detergent, towels, and extra personal protective equipment, including respirators and clothing as specified in Section 4.

(2) During agricultural use of carbaryl sprays or dusts, all individuals involved shall have available for use as necessary protective clothing (gloves, coveralls, head coverings, footwear) and shall use respiratory protective devices, safety goggles, and face shields as stated in Section 4.

### Section 7 — Sanitation Practices

(a) Employees working in areas where carbaryl is manufactured, processed, handled, or stored shall wash their hands before eating, drinking, smoking, or using restroom facilities during the work shift.

(b) No food or beverages shall be stored, prepared, or consumed in areas where carbaryl is manufactured, processed, handled, or stored.

(c) Contaminated clothing shall be removed before entering areas where food or beverages are consumed.

(d) Smoking shall be prohibited in areas where carbaryl is manufactured, processed, handled, or stored in unsealed containers.

(e) Employees should shower or bathe and change clothing after the workday.

### Section 8 — Monitoring and Recordkeeping Requirements

Workers are not considered to have occupational exposure to carbaryl if airborne concentrations, as determined by an industrial hygiene survey conducted within 6 months of the promulgation of this recommended standard, do not exceed half the recommended TWA environmental limit, ie, action level. Surveys shall be repeated at least once every year and within 30 days after any process change likely to increase the airborne concentration of carbaryl. Records of these surveys, including the basis for concluding that airborne concentrations of carbaryl are at or below the action level, shall be maintained. If the survey indicates that airborne concentrations of carbaryl exceed the action level, then the following requirements apply:

(a) Personal Monitoring

(1) A program of personal monitoring shall be instituted to identify and measure, or permit calculation of, the exposure of all employees who are occupationally exposed to carbaryl. Interim monitoring of employee exposure to airborne concentrations of carbaryl shall be conducted at least every 6 months. If monitoring shows an employee's exposure to be above the recommended TWA environmental limit, the exposure of that employee shall be measured at least once every 30 days, control measures shall be initiated, and the employee shall be notified of the exposure and the control measures being implemented to correct the situation. Such monitoring shall continue until two consecutive samplings, at least a week apart, indicate that employee exposure no longer exceeds the recommended TWA environmental limit specified in Section 1(a). Semi-annual monitoring may then be resumed.

(2) In all personal monitoring, samples of airborne carbaryl shall be collected which, when analyzed, will provide an accurate representation of the concentration of carbaryl in the air which the worker breathes.

(3) For each TWA determination, a sufficient number of samples shall be taken to characterize each employee's exposure during each work shift. Variations in work and production schedules shall be considered in deciding when samples are to be collected. The number of representative TWA determinations for an operation or process shall be based on the variations in location and jobs of employees in relation to that operation or process.

(b) Recordkeeping Procedures

Records shall be maintained for 5 years and shall include sampling and analytical methods, types of respiratory protective devices used, and TWA concentrations found. All employees shall

have access to data on their environmental exposures. These records shall be available to the designated representatives of the Secretary of Labor and of the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare. Pertinent records of required medical examinations shall be maintained for at least 5

years after the worker's employment has ended, and shall be available to the designated medical representatives of the Secretary of Labor, of the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, of the employer, and of the employee or former employee.

**DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE**

**PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE**

**CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH**

**ROBERT A. TAFT LABORATORIES  
4676 COLUMBIA PARKWAY, CINCINNATI, OHIO 45226**

**OFFICIAL BUSINESS**

**PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300**



**POSTAGE AND FEES PAID  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF H.E.W.  
NEW 399**

Single copies of complete criteria document are available from:  
Division of Technical Services, Publications  
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health  
Robert A. Taft Laboratories  
4676 Columbia Parkway  
Cincinnati Ohio 45226  
Please include a self-addressed mailing label to assist in answering your request.