

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

## 1. Survey Introduction

This survey is being conducted by the American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators (<http://aapse.org>), an association of extension educators, pesticide regulators, and industry professionals providing science-based pesticide safety education, training, and certification programs across the U.S.

The purpose of this survey is to research how pesticide users feel about a specific kind of web-distributed labeling (i.e., streamlined). To take the survey, you must have already seen the Virtual Pilot web site. If you haven't, please go to <http://wdl.greenbook.net>, test it, then click on the survey link to return here.

This survey has 14 questions and will take about 10 minutes. Personal information that would allow individual identification, will NOT be collected. Questions about your age and work location help us understand issues common to larger user groups.

The benefits of sharing your information with us are simple: help us convey to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and to chemical manufacturers, dealers, regulators, and educators how applicators view the idea of streamlined web-distributed labeling.

**\* I am 18 years old or older and I am voluntarily participating in this survey. I understand that I may exit the survey at any point without sharing my information.**

Yes

## 2. Demographic- Age

### \* What is your age?

18-20 years

21-35 years

36-45 years

46-55 years

Over 55 years

### 3. Demographic- Primary Job

\* **What is your primary job as it relates to pesticides, including herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, etc.?**

I'm a grower, farmer or forester.

I work in a nursery or greenhouse business.

I'm an agricultural pesticide applicator for hire.

I'm a non-agricultural pesticide applicator for hire.

I'm a pesticide applicator for a public agency.

I'm a pesticide dealer or crop advisor.

Other (please specify)

## 4. Demographic- Work Location

\* In which U.S. region(s) does your work with pesticides take place? (Select all that apply.)

- Western (includes AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY, and Pacific Islands)
- Southern (includes AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, and Puerto Rico)
- North Central (includes IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, and WI)
- North East (includes CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VA, VT, and WV)

## 5. Demographic: Internet Use

\* Please respond to the statements below by indicating how strongly you agree or disagree with each.

	Strongly agree	Agree	No opinion	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Not applicable
Before now I've not accessed pesticide labels or labeling on the Internet.	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
I find it difficult to access pesticide labels or labeling on the Internet.	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
I'm comfortable accessing pesticide labels or labeling from the web site of a commercial label provider.	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
I'm comfortable accessing pesticide labels or labeling from the web site of a regulatory agency.	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
I'm comfortable accessing pesticide labels or labeling from the web site of a pesticide registrant.	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

## 6. Introduction to Streamlined Web-Distributed Labeling: Sources

Before continuing, we want to define the term “streamlined web-distributed labeling”.

Many web sites offer PDF versions of labels that are exact copies of labels accompanying the product container. This is NOT what we are talking about when we say streamlined web-distributed labeling.

EPA is considering making labeling for some pesticide products available as Internet pages that can be quickly updated and that enable users to print out or save just the use directions that they need for their crops. Such labeling would be both streamlined and web-distributed.

If such a system were adopted, pesticide containers would have only the FIFRA (Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act) and safety information necessary for shipment. Use directions would no longer physically accompany the pesticide container.

To use the product, you would go to a web site listed on the container and enter the product registration number, the state where you plan to use the product, and the crop. The web site would then provide crop-specific labeling that would include everything you need to know about application to that crop (plus the information found on the container). The information could be read online, printed, or downloaded and saved. This labeling would be provided free of charge, meaning there would not be a subscription fee to access the web site.

In the future, there may be additional delivery mechanisms, such as phone, U.S. mail, and fax, for users who can't access the Internet.

**\* From whom or where did you FIRST hear about streamlined web-distributed labeling?  
(Select all that apply.)**

- Friend, neighbor or colleague
- Industry association news release or meetings
- Pesticide distributor, dealer or crop advisor
- For-hire applicator
- Extension educator news release or meeting
- Labeling web site
- State regulatory agency newsletter or meeting
- This survey is the first time I've heard the term.

## 7. Introduction to Streamlined Web-Distributed Labeling: 1st Opinion

Continue to think about your initial introduction to the concept of accessing streamlined web-distributed labeling. Your answer to the question below should reflect your opinion on the general concept, not on the specifics of any particular web site.

\* **What was your first opinion? How willing were you (or the friend/family member who might help you) to access a web site to obtain labeling?**

	I'm willing	I would consider it	I'm not sure	I'm not very willing	I would not consider under any circumstances
My first opinion was that...	ja	ja	ja	ja	ja



## 8. Accessing Streamlined Web-distributed Labeling: Specific Site

Earlier questions focused on your opinions of the general concept of streamlined web-distributed labeling. The next questions focus on your opinions of the practicalities of accessing streamlined web-distributed labeling.

\* **Please indicate how hard it was to get the information that you wanted from the Virtual Pilot web site you tested.**

No difficulty, information was easy to locate	Minor difficulty but I found what I needed	Major difficulty but I was eventually able to find what I needed	Not able to find what I needed	Did not view this site so cannot evaluate
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**Additional comments?**

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## 9. Access Point

### \* Where did you access the Internet to visit the Virtual Pilot web site(s)?

Your home

The home or work site of another (e.g., friend or family member)

A public site (e.g., library)

A government agency (e.g., NRCS, FSA, state agency, Extension office, etc.)

A pesticide dealer/distributor or commercial applicator's place of business

No specific location but used a smartphone, Blackberry, or similar device for access

Other (please specify)

## 10. Benefits: Concise Information

The next few questions focus on your opinions now, after 'test-driving' the Virtual Pilot web site.

\* **Would it be more beneficial to access labeling specific to a single crop or application site (streamlined labeling), rather than labeling that contains all of the allowable crops/sites?**

- Great benefit and worth the effort to obtain streamlined labeling.
- Good idea but not worth the hassle of obtaining streamlined labeling.
- Not sure at this time.
- Would have to try a pilot with my specific products before I'd have an opinion.
- Bad idea and I would not use it.

## 11. Ease of Compliance

\* **Would you be more likely to read and follow streamlined, site-specific labeling from the web as compared to traditional container-affixed labeling?**

I'd be more likely to read and follow directions

It wouldn't change how I read and follow directions

Not sure

Streamlined web-distributed labeling would make it more difficult for me to read and follow label directions

## 12. Labeling Storage

\* If streamlined web-distributed labeling becomes a reality, what would you do with the labeling that you retrieved? (Select all that apply.)

- Print only the section(s) I'm interested in
- Print the entire web-distributed labeling
- Save the electronic copy of only the section(s) I'm interested in
- Save an electronic copy of the entire web-distributed labeling
- Nothing. I would not print a hard copy or save an electronic copy

### 13. View of Other Tools or Amenities

\* If streamlined web-distributed labeling becomes a reality, additional features could be incorporated. Please indicate how useful each feature would be to you.

	A great benefit	A moderate benefit	Not sure	Not very useful	Not useful at all
Ability to access via wireless technology (e.g., smartphone or iPad)	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Flexibility to increase font size (i.e., print larger type)	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Links to nozzle selection guides	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Access to calibration calculators	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Links to mapping tools	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Access to buffer (width) calculators	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Links to weather station data	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Access to Worker Protection Standard training resources	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Links to application recordkeeping forms/databases	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Access to pesticide recertification meeting schedules	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Links to state waste disposal programs	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Links to plastic container recycling programs	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

**Additional comments?**

## 14. Future Access Point

\* If streamlined web-distributed labeling is implemented, where would you (or the person who is obtaining labeling for you) most likely access it? (Select one.)

- Internet at home or work, using a dial-up modem
- Internet at home or work, using faster access than dial-up modem
- Internet at someone else's home (e.g., friend or family member)
- Internet at public site (e.g., library or copy shop)
- Pesticide dealer or commercial applicator would print it for me or give me an electronic copy
- Toll-free number to request web-distributed labeling be mailed or faxed to me
- Wouldn't access web-distributed labeling even if it meant I had to change my business practices or use different products

## 15. Streamlined Web-Distributed Labeling: Current Opinion

We asked earlier about your first opinion regarding streamlined web-distributed labeling. In this question, we want to know your opinion AFTER you visited the Virtual Pilot web site.

\* **What is your current willingness to access a web site to obtain streamlined web-distributed labeling?**

I'm willing.

I would consider it.

I'm not sure.

I'm not very willing.

I would not consider under any circumstances.



## 16. Open Comment Opportunity

Please share additional comments regarding what you like or dislike about the current system (i.e., paper labeling accompanying the product container) and what you like or dislike about the proposed system of streamlined web-distributed labeling. (Optional)

## 17. Survey Contact Information

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. We appreciate your investment of both time and energy and look forward to sharing user opinions with EPA and other interested parties.

If you have further questions about the survey or would like a copy of the results, please contact Dr. Catherine Daniels, Washington State University Pesticide Coordinator, at [cdaniels@wsu.edu](mailto:cdaniels@wsu.edu) or (253) 445-4611.