CALIFORNIA SCHOOL AND CHILD CARE
PESTICIDE USE REPORT SUMMARY
THE HEALTHY SCHOOLS ACT

Food and Agricultural Code section 13182: It is the policy of the state that effective least toxic pest management practices should be the preferred method of managing pests at schoolsites and that the state, in order to reduce children's exposure to toxic pesticides, shall take the necessary steps, pursuant to this article, to facilitate the adoption of effective least toxic pest management practices at schoolsites.

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The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) received the specific details of 81,039 schoolsite pesticide applications for 2015. For the purpose of this report, DPR defines a pesticide application as one product applied at one schoolsite on one date. The 2015 records provide pesticide use information for approximately 80% of school districts representing 95% of the public school student population in California. This report shows the 2015 data and will help readers understand the Who, What, Where, and When of schoolsite pesticide applications in California. DPR’s School and Child Care IPM Program will use this data for targeted outreach and training in order to facilitate the adoption of effective least toxic pest management practices at schoolsites in California.
This map shows who submitted all of the 2015 reports. Orange lines represent school districts while blue lines represent businesses. The thickness of each line is correlated to how many reports came from that location. School pesticide use reports were submitted for 7,452 schoolsites from 56 counties.

752

number of school districts and businesses DPR received reports from.
Each circle represents an active ingredient and the size of the circle is correlated to the number of applications reported at schoolsites in 2015. The ten active ingredients with the most applications are named. Glyphosate, the largest circle, was the active ingredient with the most applications reported for 2015. Glyphosate is a non-selective herbicide used for weed control, mostly on hardscaped areas like sidewalks, building perimeters, and parking lots around schools. Strychnine was the active ingredient with the second most applications reported for 2015. Strychnine is in bait products placed in gopher burrows underground.

178

number of active ingredients used at schoolsites statewide
This pie chart shows the locations where applications were made. ‘Multiple locations’ was the most common location reported, but is not very specific. The most common outdoor locations reported were Landscape (Outdoor) and Building, Exterior. The two most common indoor locations reported were Cafeteria/Kitchen and Classroom.

58.3% percent of applications reported specifically outdoors.
This graphic shows the number of schoolsite pesticide applications reported for each month, broken down by the day of the week. The largest percentage of schoolsite pesticide applications occurred on a Saturday. August was the month with the most applications reported. March and April were the months when most of the applications targeting weeds occurred, while October-December was when most applications targeting gophers were made.

22.5% percent of applications made on a Saturday.
Our mission is to protect human health and the environment by regulating pesticide sales and use, and by fostering reduced-risk pest management.

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