

Pesticide Tolerances and Exemptions¹

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When pesticide manufacturers want to register a pesticide for use on food crops, a tolerance must be obtained from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Many pesticides have tolerances, which are defined as the amount of pesticide that can legally exist in a specific commodity. Tolerances can be obtained for a single food item, such as tomato, or for a group, such as the fruiting vegetables, which includes eggplant, pepper, and tomato. If the pesticide does not elicit adverse effects in a battery of tests, it may receive issuance from the EPA of an exemption from the requirement of tolerance. EPA regulations for both tolerances and exemptions are found in *The Code of Federal Regulations*, Title 40, Part 180

(
<http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/regulating/part-180.html>)

Table 1 presents exemptions from the requirement of tolerance for pesticides registered for use in Florida. Although these pesticides are exempted from the requirement of tolerance, some are registered for use on just a few food crops (e.g. imazamox) while others can be used on many if not

all food crops (e.g. ferric phosphate). The common name of the pesticide, its most common trade name (although others may exist), and pesticide type are listed alphabetically. The list is current as of August, 2008.

There are also live organisms that are used as pesticides, such as *Bacillus thuringiensis*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Bacillus pumilus*, *Beauveria bassiana*, phage (bacteria-killing viruses), and caterpillar-selective viruses. All of these are exempt from requirement of tolerance as well.

Florida growers sell to foreign markets, and often, the tolerance is not the same between the United States and the importing country. If you need assistance in comparing tolerances to those for other countries, please contact the UF/IFAS Pesticide Information Office at 352 392-4721, or email: plantdoc@ufl.edu.

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The use of trade names in this publication is solely for the purpose of providing specific information. UF/IFAS does not guarantee or warranty the products named, and references to them in this publication does not signify our approval to the exclusion of other products of suitable composition. Use pesticides safely. Read and follow directions on the manufacturer's label.

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Table 1. Exemptions from the requirement of tolerance for pesticides registered for use in Florida.

Common Name	Trade Name	Pesticide Type
Azadirachtin	Azatin®	Insecticide/Miticide
Boric acid	Prev-Am®	Insecticide/Miticide
Capsaicin	Shotgun®	Animal feeding repellent
Copper	Kocide®	Fungicide
Ferric phosphate	Sluggo®	Molluscicide
Kaolin	Surround®	Insecticide/Fungicide
Imazamox	Raptor®	Herbicide
MCDS	Enquik®	Herbicide
Methyl anthranilate	Rejex-It®	Bird feeding repellent
Methoprene	Extinguish®	Insecticide
Oil	Sunspray®	Insecticide/Miticide
Pelargonic acid	Scythe®	Herbicide
Pheromones (arthropod & plant)	Checkmate®	Attractants
Potassium bicarbonate	Kaligreen®	Fungicide
Potassium phosphite	K-phite®	Fungicide
Pyrethrin +/- rotenone or PBO	Pyrellin®	Insecticide
Soap	M-Pede®	Insecticide/Miticide
Sulfur	Kumulus®	Miticide/Fungicide