



GROWER RESOURCE GUIDE: VOC EMISSIONS

The San Joaquin Sustainable Farming Project has created a grower resource guide to help growers navigate useful topics and ideas and sustainable practices from on-line resources. Each topic contains general information and where to find current and pertinent materials and web links to that information. We hope you will find these documents worthwhile and convenient to use.

Volatile organic compounds, more commonly known as VOC's, include a variety of chemicals found in many common products. VOC's are emitted as gases from liquids or solids and can have short and long-term adverse health effects on respiratory systems.

For comprehensive information regarding VOCs, visit the [California Department of Pesticide Regulation VOC website](#). This comprehensive site has sections on tracking pesticide VOC emissions, VOC emissions calculators and reducing pesticide VOC emissions. Regulatory information is below:

To cut smog-producing emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from all pesticides, the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) put regulations into place to reduce VOC emissions from field fumigants. The rules changed how field fumigations could be done in many regions of the state:

- The regulations are designed to keep VOC emissions below a target level from May to October, in certain geographic areas. Depending on the area, this can require emission limits on individual fumigant applications.
- Some high-emission field fumigation methods are prohibited. In certain areas, only low-emission methods can be done.
- Pesticide use reports in five geographic regions must specify the application method for field fumigations.
- Companies that do field fumigations must have a supervisor with special training. This requirement applies statewide. Emissions exceeded the original 2013 regulation, requiring further limitations that went into effect on May 1, 2015.

The rules apply to field fumigations with seven farm fumigants that release VOCs: methyl bromide; 1,3-dichloropropene (brand names, Telone, Inline); chloropicrin; metam-sodium (Vapam, Sectagon); potassium N-methyldithio- carbamate, also called metam-potassium (K-Pam); dazomet, also called tetra- hydro-3,5-dimethyl-2H-1,3,5-thiadiazine-2-thione (Basamid); and sodium tetrathiocarbonate (Enzone)

Sales restrictions apply to: High-VOC products containing abamectin, chlorpyrifos, gibberellins, or oxyfluorfen. Applied in the San Joaquin Valley.

Use restrictions apply to: High-VOC products containing abamectin, chlorpyrifos, gibberellins, or oxyfluorfen. Applied in the San Joaquin Valley, between May 1 and October 31, to alfalfa, almonds, citrus, cotton, grapes, pistachios, or walnuts.