

**Simplifying Respiratory Safety at Nurseries and Greenhouses:  
How to use the new  
MSU Respiratory Protection Toolkit**

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**Disclaimer**

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**Respiratory Hazards**

- Dusts & fibers**
  - Wood, grain, dirt (silica)
- Welding Fume**
- Mists**
- Gases**
- Vapors**
- Biological Hazards**
  - Mold spore, bacteria, fungi
- Oxygen deficiency**
- Temperature extremes**



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**Why Respiratory Protection is Important**

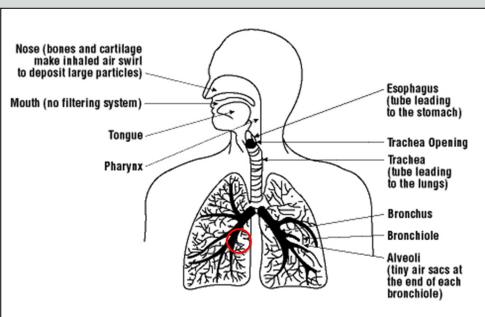
Asthma	Silo filler's disease
Bronchitis	Breathing nitrogen dioxide, a <b>silo gas produced during silage fermentation</b> , can react to form nitric acid in the lungs.
COPD	Asphyxiation (acute) and pulmonary edema (chronic)
Farmer's lung	Grain fever
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inhalation of mold spores, typically from moldy hay, grain or straw, triggers this allergic disease.</li> <li>a.k.a. farmer's hypersensitivity pneumonitis (FHP)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>toxic alveolitis or pulmonary mycotoxicosis</li> <li>Exposure often occurs in areas such as cotton processing areas, grain storage, and poultry &amp; hog barns. Can lead to lung damage.</li> <li>a.k.a. organic dust toxicity syndrome</li> </ul>

*Farmer's lung*, Michael McFadden, MSU Extension  
April 29, 2011 [https://www.can.msu.edu/news/farmers\\_lung](https://www.can.msu.edu/news/farmers_lung)

*Respiratory hazards on the farm* Southern Illinois University  
(August 1, 2022) <https://www.siumed.edu/blog/respiratory-hazards-farm>

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**Deposition in the Lung**



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**Common Air Contaminants**

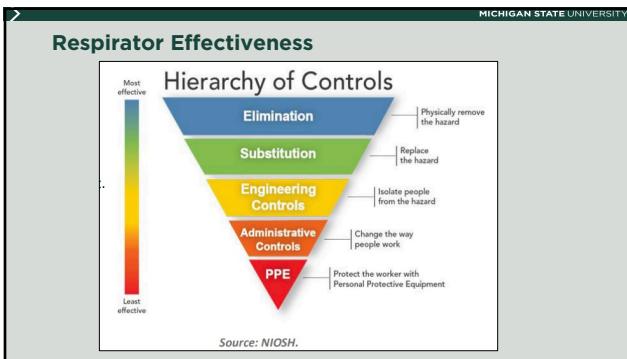
Particle Size		
Visible with an Electron Microscope	Visible with a Microscope	Visible with the Human Eye
Household Dust	Dust Mites	Woolen
Wood & Tobacco Smoke	Mold Spore	
Bacteria	Plant Spores	
Insecticide Dust	Fumes	
Sugar	Skin Flakes	
Chemical Vapor	Animal Dander	
Virus	Lead Paint Dust	
Doking & Grease Smoke		Hair

HEPA Filters Remove 99.97% of Particles at 0.3 Microns and Larger and also Remove Particles Below 0.3 Microns

One Micron is 1/100 the Diameter of a Human Hair

1 Micron = 1/1000 millimeter

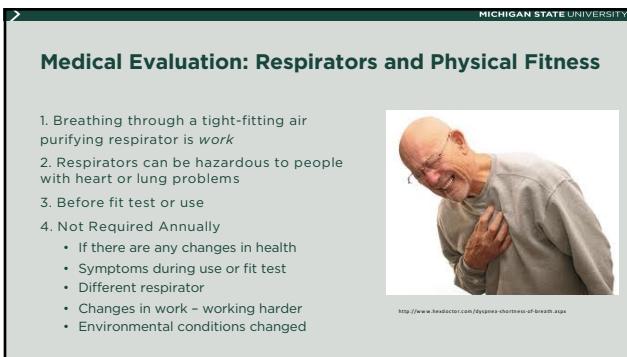
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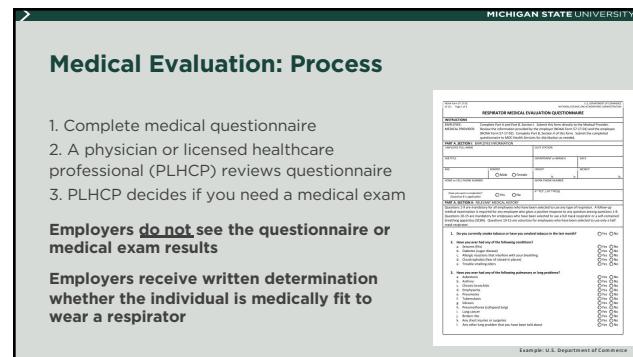
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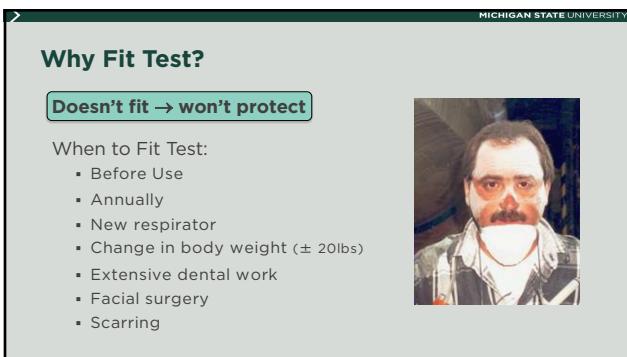
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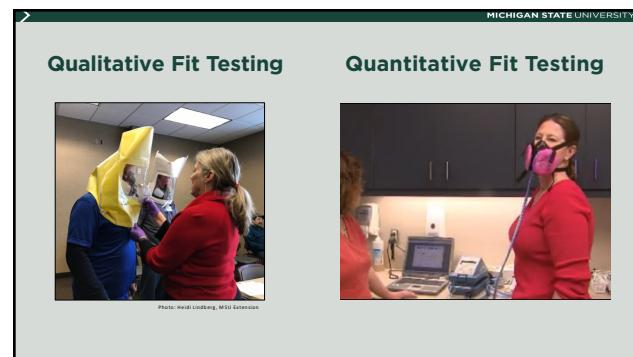
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## Air Purifying Respirators

- ✓ Tight Fitting (**Boards**)
- ✓ Mechanical Filtration
- ✓ Chemical Adsorption









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## Powered Air Purifying Respirators (PAPR)



### Loose Fitting

- ✓ Beards yes!
- Protection Factor  
25 loose fitting  
1000 with neck seal & testing





Photo courtesy of Honeywell International Inc.



Photo courtesy of MSA

### Tight Fitting

#### Beards

Protection Factor  
1000 Full Face  
50 Half Mask

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## Atmosphere Supplying Respirators



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## Introduction to The Guide to Respiratory Protection in Agriculture Tool Kit

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## Program Elements At A Glance

Pesticide Respirator Program Elements At-A-Glance	
1	<b>Rules</b> EPA 40 CFR 152 (Pesticide registration and classification procedures) and 40 CFR 170.507 (Worker Protection Standard [WPS]); MDARD Regulation 637 Rule 4 (Pesticide Use). Ag Use: Must Use WPS. Safety Data Sheets (SDS) Non-Ag Use: use label, SDS
2	<b>Selection</b> Label prescribes NIOSH respirator type: TC-84A – N, R, P filtering facepiece, air purifying respirator (APR) with particulate or chemical cartridge with particulate filter. TC-245 – Powered APR (APR) with chemical cartridges. TC-21C – N or R respirator filter (HE). TC-19C – Supplied air respirator (SAR). TC-13F – Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) or SAR with a SCBA escape bottle.
3	<b>Medical Evaluation</b> Must occur before fit testing or use. Medical questionnaire completed by healthcare professional. (Sections 1 and 2, part A of Appendix C in MIOSHA Part 4511910.134.)
4	<b>Fit Testing</b> Initial (before use) and annually for each type used per WPS. Use MIOSHA Part 4511910.134 Appendix A test procedures.
5	<b>Training &amp; Information</b> Before use and annually per WPS. Training should cover routine use, emergency use, and limitations of use.

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## Program Elements At A Glance

6	<b>Cartridge Change Schedule</b> Particulate: If breathing resistance becomes excessive. If filter element has physical damage or tears. If product labeling specifies less time. Maximum = 8 hours per WPS. Gas/Vapor: Manufacturer advice based on known exposure level. OEM Product label if less. OEM Maximum = 8 hours per WPS. In addition, OEM recommends cartridge with End of Service Life Indicator (ESLI) be used. Tractor/Sprayer Cab Filter Cartridges: See Part B Guidance in this document.
7	<b>Hygiene &amp; Condition</b> Procedures for cleaning, disinfecting, storing, inspecting, repairing, discarding, and maintaining PPE. Follow label precautionary statement, manufacturer, and Michigan EGLE for waste requirements.
8	<b>Supplied Air Systems</b> Must meet ANSI Z88.1-1999 Grade D Quality (oxygen 18.5 – 23.5%, hydrocarbon vapor max 5 mg/m <sup>3</sup> , CO <10ppm, CO <sub>2</sub> <1000 ppm, and lack of noticeable odor). CO alarm required to ensure CO <10 ppm. Signed record of most recent sorbent bed and filter change must be attached to compressor.
9	<b>Documentation</b> Minimum 2 years per WPS.
10	<b>Program Review</b> OEM recommends annually

Reference: "Worker Protection Standard (WPS) Respiratory Protection Guide, Requirements for Employers of Pesticide Handlers", Pesticide Educational Resource Collaborative, Revision 2017. (<https://www.pesticideresources.org/migrated/wps/hosted/PERC-WPS-Respirator-Guide.pdf>)

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## Program Assistance and Checklists

Expanded Respirator Program Element Guidance			
Pesticide Agent	Pesticide		
	Agricultural Use	Non-Agricultural Use	Non-Pesticide
Work Examples	Control weeds or trees in agricultural fields and nurseries in agricultural production, including agricultural plants, trees, and shrubs.	Control weeds or trees in non-agricultural areas, such as residential areas, parks, and nurseries, including non-agricultural plants, trees, and shrubs.	Examples include control of weeds or trees in non-agricultural areas, such as residential areas, parks, and nurseries, including non-agricultural plants, trees, and shrubs.

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## Program Assistance and Checklists

Expanded Respirator Program Element Guidance			
Cartridge Change Schedule Required	Pesticide		
	Agricultural Use	Non-Agricultural Use	Non-Pesticide
YES 40 CFR 170.507—Use (WPS Respirator section below).	NO OEM recommends End of Service Life Indicator (ESLI).	YES MIOSHA Part 700, Qualifed Individual to determine when to change.	YES ESLI or objective data in writing.
<b>WPS-Particulate Filter or Cartridge:</b> When breathing resistance becomes excessive After 8 hours of use, or when damage is detected. According to manufacturer's recommendations or pesticide product labeling, whichever is more frequent. In the absence of any other instructions or indications of service life, or the end of eight hours  <b>WPS Gas or Vapor Cartridge:</b> At the first indication of odor, taste, or irritation, due to overexposure. As determined by a change schedule conforming to the provisions of 21 CFR 190.14(d)(3)(iii)(B)(2) based on objective data/breathing zone parameters. According to manufacturer's recommendations or pesticide product labeling instructions. In the absence of any other instructions or indications of service life, or the end of eight hours When breathing resistance becomes excessive			

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## Choosing the Right Respirator and ...

- Filter (N, R, P, HE)
- Chemical Cartridge
- Gas Mask Canister
- Atmosphere Supplying System

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## Outdated Label Language

**Outdated Respirator Terms.** In some cases, obsolete language may be used on pesticide labels. These are pesticide labels where the label language was approved by the EPA prior to 1995. Older labels will include the phrase "MSHA/NIOSH". The translation to the updated (post 1995) respirator and cartridge type are provided below. If the outdated terms are on the label, use the current terms and the tables in Part B-4 and B-5 of this document to select the correct respirator.

<b>OUTDATED Respirator terms used on EPA pesticide labels</b>	<b>Current NIOSH respirator terms used on labels*</b>
NIOSH/MSHA	NIOSH
Dust/Mist	Use a particulate filter
Pre-filter approved for pesticides	N, R or P filter (particulate), to be used in combination with a chemical cartridge
Canister approved for pesticides	Use a gas mask with a contaminant specific canister. For many pesticides this will be a black organic vapor (OV) or black and pink (P100) combination canister
N, R, P or HE filters	N, R or P (particulate) filter or HE filters (can only be used on Powered Air-Purifying Respirators [PAPR]).

\*For liquid pesticides, MSU recommends always using a P100 rated filter, in combination with an organic vapor cartridge or canister. Check with the manufacturer for the correct combination cartridge or canister for your mask.

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Protection From	Haz ID #	Respirator Use	Color	Particulate	Cartridge/Canister Type
Liquid Particle	TC-84A	Non-Powered-Electrician • Half or Full-Face • Tight-Fitting	Black	Black	Combination respirator with P100 (2000) and P100 (2000) filter cartridge
Painting, Feed or Gran Dust, Most Organic Dust, painting, Welding, Grinding, Sanding	TC-140S	Non-Powered-Glass Mask • Half or Full-Face • Tight-Fitting	Orange	Black	Combination respirator with organic vapor and P100 (2000) filter cartridge
	TC-23C	Powered Air Purifying (PAPR) • Half or Full-Face • Tight-Fitting	Black	Black	Powered Air Purifying respirator canister plus P100 (2000) filter
Solid Particle	TC-84A	Non-Powered-Electrician & Welder • Half or Full-Face • Tight-Fitting	Black	N, R, or P 100 particulate filter	
Feed or Gran Dust, Most Organic Dust, painting, Welding, Grinding	TC-21C	Powered Air Purifying (PAPR) • Half or Full-Face • Loosely-Fitting	Black	Nose - N or N95 respirator if mists. If oil mists, use PAPR or P100 (2000) filter	H1 filter
	TC-140	Non-Powered-Electrician • Full Face • Tight-Fitting	Black	Black	Combination respirator with organic vapor and P100 (2000) filter cartridge
Liquid + Solid Particle	TC-84A	Non-Powered-Electrician • Full or Half Face • Tight-Fitting	Black	Black	Combination respirator with organic vapor and P100 (2000) filter cartridge
Disinfectants, Bleach, Ammonium Hydroxide, Ammonium, ammonia, ammonia monohydrosulfide, ammonia monohydrosulfide, ammonia vapors	TC-23C	Non-Powered-Electrician • Half or Full Face • Tight-Fitting	Black	Black	Multi-gas - Ammonia, Chlorine, Chlorine Dioxide, Chlorine Monoxide, Chlorine Pentafluoride, Hydrogen Fluoride, Hydrogen Sulfide, Methyl Chloride
Ammonium Ammonia, ammonia from livestock, hogs, poultry	TC-23C	Non-Powered-Electrician • Full or Half Face • Tight-Fitting	Black	Black	Ammonia chemical cartridge
Disinfectant, Bleach	TC-23C	Non-Powered-Electrician • Full or Half Face • Tight-Fitting	Yellow	Black	Acid gas chemical cartridge

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PART B-4: Air-Purifying Respirator Options by NIOSH Testing & Control (TC) Number												
Type	NIOSH TC#	Facepiece	Fit	Reusable	Protects against particulates	Protects against organic vapors	Protects against solvents	Protects against surfactants	For use in atmospheres containing very low levels of organic vapors	Requires fit test	Offers eye protection	Can be used with filter canister
Gas Mask												
	TC-140	Electronic	Tight	Yes	With respirator filter combination (R+P)	With OV cartridge	With OV cartridge	With OV cartridge	Emergency breathing only	Yes	Yes	No
		Powered hood	Loose	Yes	With HE filter	With OV cartridge	With OV cartridge	With OV cartridge	No	No	Yes	Yes
Chemical Cartridge Respirators	TC-29C	Powered breathing apparatus	Tight	Yes	With HE filter	With HE filter	With OV cartridge	With OV cartridge	No	No	Yes	Full mask
		Non powered (breathing apparatus)	Tight	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Full mask
Particulate Respirators	TC-210											
		Powered helmet	Loose	Yes	With HE filter	With OV cartridge	With OV cartridge	With OV cartridge	No	No	Yes	Yes
		Electronic	Tight	Yes	With HE filter	With OV cartridge	With OV cartridge	With OV cartridge	No	No	Yes	Full mask
Non- powered Particulate Respirators	TC-16A											
		Electronic	Tight	Yes	With R+P filter combination cartridge	With OV cartridge	With OV cartridge	With OV cartridge	No	No	Yes	Full mask
		Folding Facepiece	Tight	Yes	With R+P filter combination cartridge	With OV cartridge	With OV cartridge	With OV cartridge	No	No	Yes	Full mask

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Tool Kit Atmosphere Supplying Respirator Options - TC Number												
PART B-5: Atmosphere-Supplying Respirator Options by NIOSH Testing & Control (TC) Number												
Type	NIOSH prefix	Facepiece	Fit	Reusable	Protects against particulates	Oil resistant	Protects against OV	Protects against fumigants	For use inIDL atmospheres	Requires fit test	Offers eye protection	Can be worn with typical hair
Self-contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)	TC-13F	Hood/ helmet <sup>1</sup>	Loose	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Escape only	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
		Elastomeric	Tight	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Supplied-air Respirator (SAR)	TC-19C	Hood/ helmet	Loose	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No <sup>2</sup>	No	No	Yes	Yes
		Elastomeric	Tight	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	At lower than IDL levels, demand breathing with auxiliary escape SCBA	Yes	If full-face mask	No

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# Cab Filter Selection

## When do I need to change my cab filter and what kind should I be using?

### Cab Filter Checklist

- Use a combination particulate and activated carbon filter (original equipment may only include a particulate filter without activated carbon).
- Use only activated carbon filters that meet the ASABE S613-3.1 chemical filter service life testing standard.
- Replace the organic vapor/particulate combination filter based on the filter manufacturer replacement interval. This is often 400 hours or 12 months, whichever is less.
- If the cab air tightness and filtration system does not prevent exposure, wear a respirator inside the cab. Use an organic vapor (OV) cartridge with R or P rated filter.
- Always have respiratory protection required by the pesticide label in the cab for emergencies and leaving the cab. Wear respiratory protection in the cab if required by the label or Worker Protection Standard (WPS) guidance. (See PART B-9 in this document)

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# Program Assistance and Checklists

Explanation of Filter Efficiency and Oil Resistance Ratings (N, R, P and HE)

Respirator Use, Reuse, Cleaning and Disposal Considerations

- Pesticide WPS and Non-Pesticide MIOSHA criteria

Consultation, Education and Training Resources

- Formal training courses
- Online resources to develop training content

Table of Assigned Respirator Protection Factors

Record of Fit Testing Form

Abbreviations List

Glossary of Terms

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## Program Assistance and Checklists

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