

Field Fumigation & Pesticide Regulatory Update

2025 UCCE Annual Strawberry Meeting

**Santa Cruz County
Agricultural Commissioner's Office**

500 Westridge Drive
Watsonville, CA 95076
(831)763-8080

www.agdept.com

2024 FUMIGATION SEASON REVIEW FOR SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

- 2024 field fumigation season statistics
- Inspection observations and areas of improvement
- Brief regulatory update

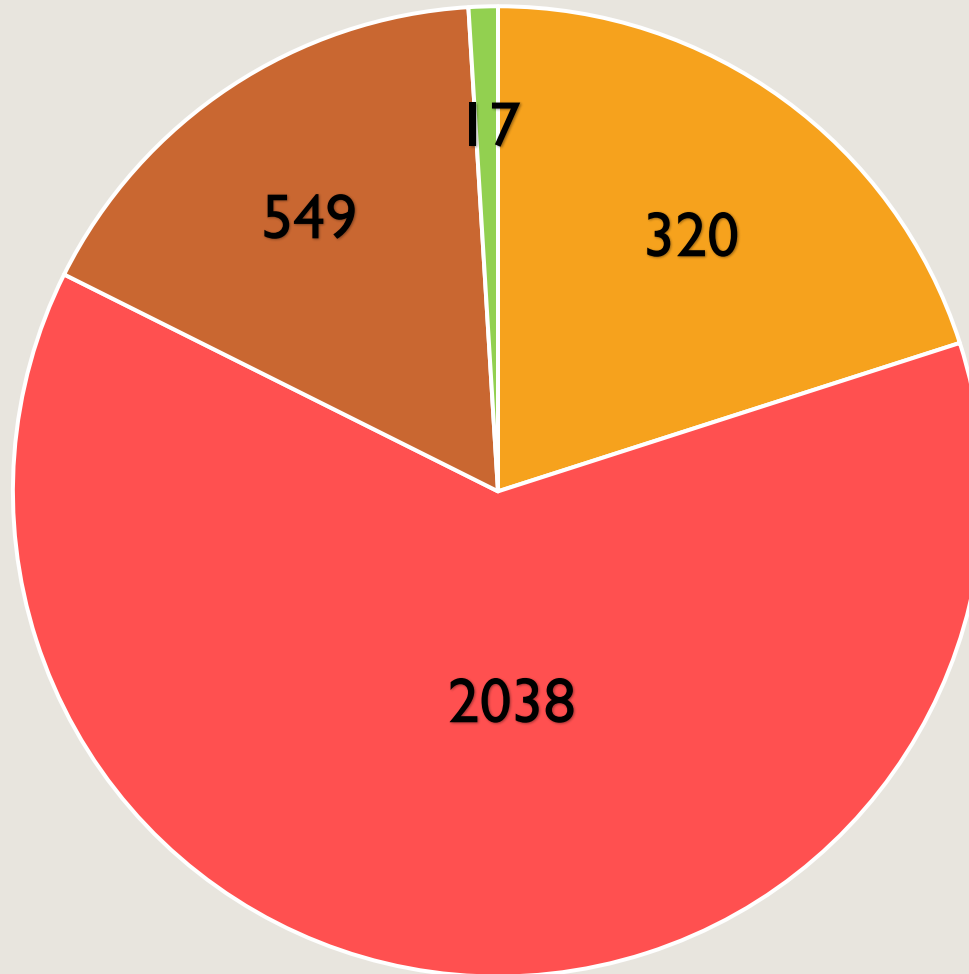


TOP COMMODITIES FUMIGATED

- Strawberry
- Brussels Sprouts
- Raspberry
- Blackberry

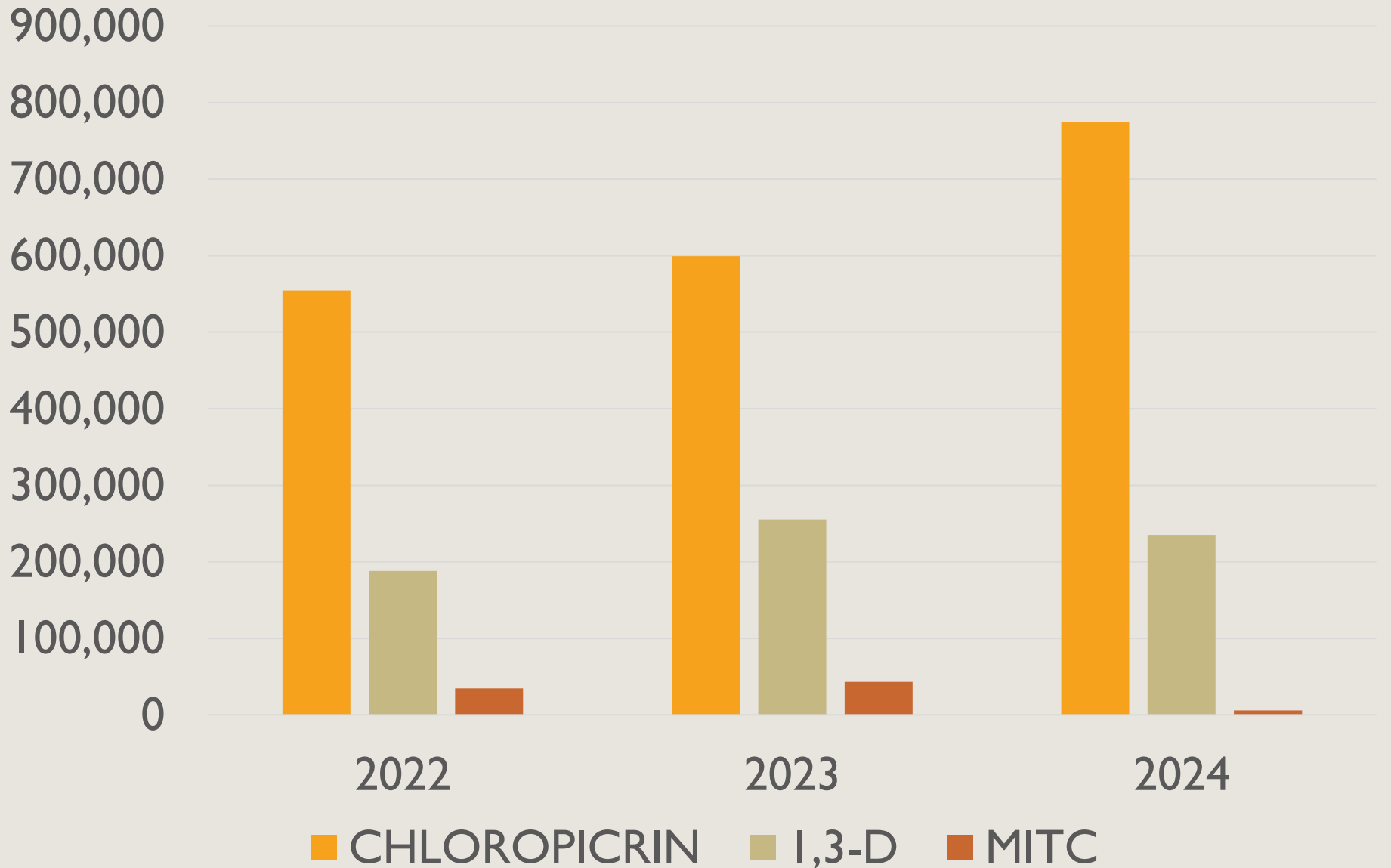


Fumigated Acres in Santa Cruz County by Commodity in 2024

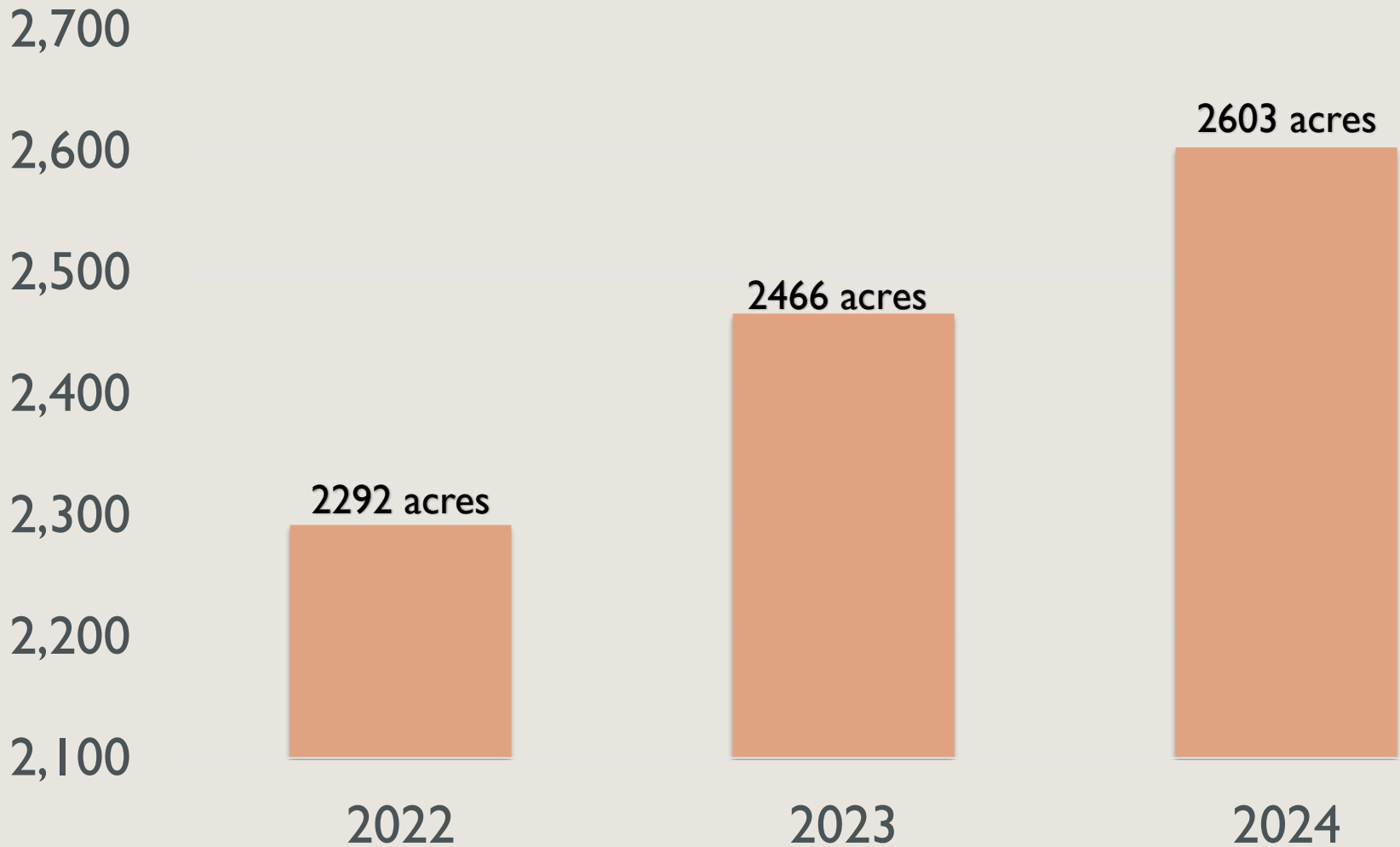


■ Brussels sprouts ■ Strawberry ■ Raspberry ■ Blackberry

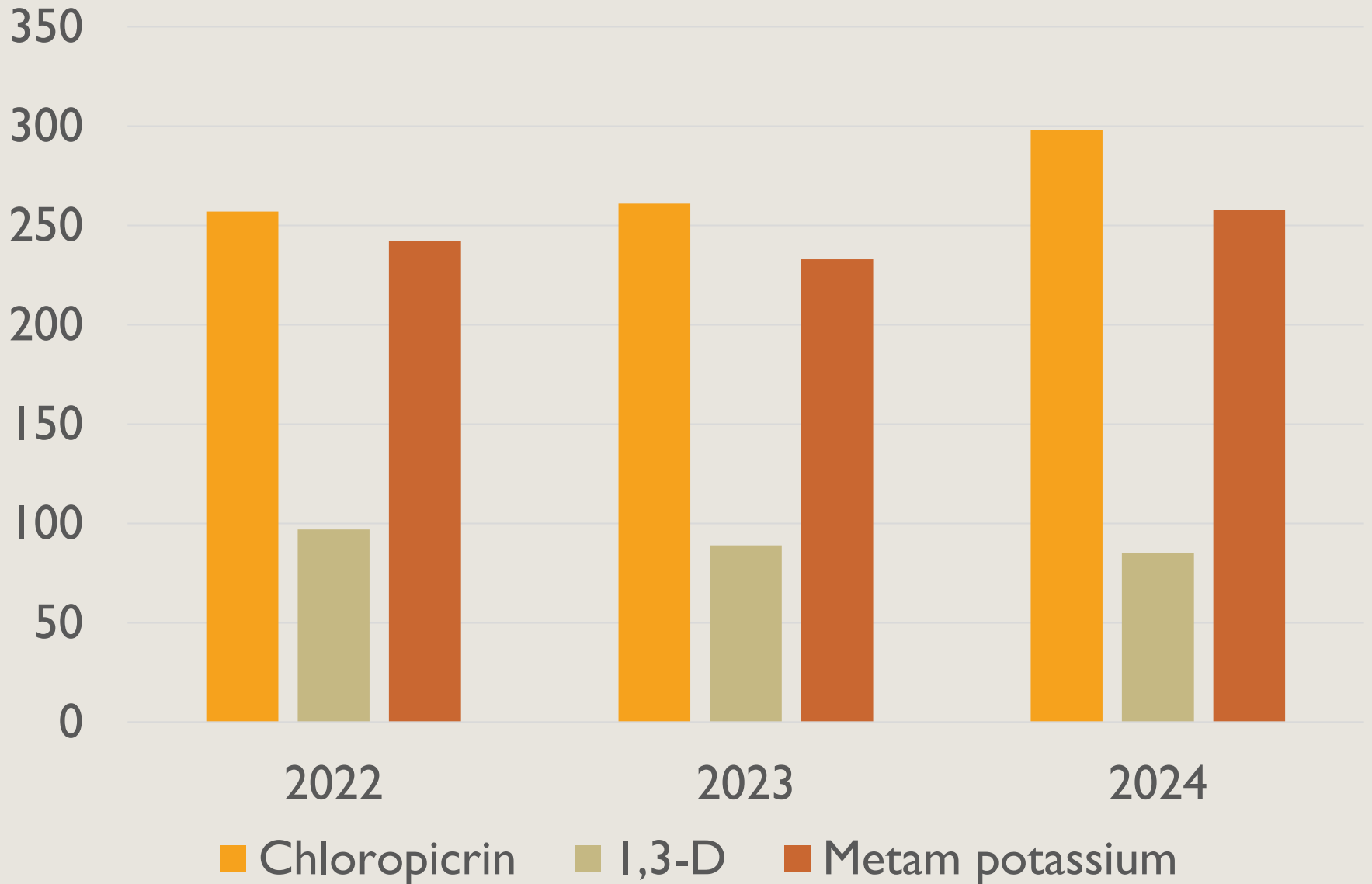
Field Fumigant Use in Santa Cruz County



Total Fumigated Acreage by Year (Berries)



Pounds of Fumigant per Acre (Berries)





SUMMARY OF FIELD FUMIGATION METHODS IN 2024

TOTAL FUMIGATED ACRES:	2,924
• 47% - TARPED (BROADCAST):	2,171
• 28% - TARPED (DRIP):	433
• 20% - UNTARPED (TELONE II)	320

AREAS TO WORK ON: **COMMUNICATION**

- Buffer zone postings – up at proper intervals and visible.
- When a buffer zone has expired, buffer signs should be removed.
- Communication about posted buffer zones:
 - Fieldworker crews
 - PCAs
 - Neighbors
- Ensure employees and other persons stay outside posted buffer areas.



MANDATORY GOOD AG PRACTICES (GAPs)

Mandatory GAPs (Good Agricultural Practices) are found on registered fumigant labeling.

- *“Soil must be properly prepared and at the surface generally be free of large clods. The area to be fumigated must be tilled to a depth of 5 to 8 inches...”*
- *“For all soil types, pre-application moisture should be dry enough to prevent soil saturation and bed collapse once application and flushing is complete...”*





TAKE TIME TO PREPARE...

Proper field preparation...

- Prevents delays to fumigation schedule.
- Increases the efficiency and efficacy of the fumigant application.
- Reduces potential for exposure to fieldworkers and others.
- Reduces additional work to make repairs.
- Reduces chance that there will be a non-compliance cited by an inspector!



1,3-D Updates

1,3-D Fumigant
Risk Mitigation

- **New** regulations – further restrictions on use; reduces potential residential, non-occupational bystander exposure
- Became effective **January 1, 2024**



Proposed 1,3-D Regulations

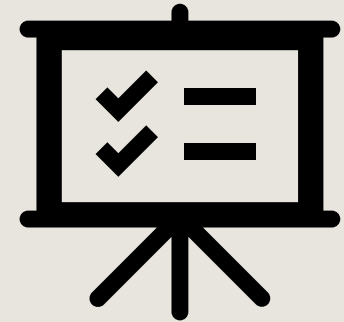
Proposed
1,3-D Fumigant
Risk Mitigation

- Next round of regulatory updates for 1,3-D addresses occupational bystander exposure.
- Proposed regulation effective **January 1, 2026**.
- Establishes **buffer zone** distances for 1,3-D.
- **Requires DPR** to include an evaluation in the 1,3-D Annual Report of whether the 1,3-D air concentration in any township exceeds the acceptable levels

Public Hearings on Proposed 1,3-D Regulations

Proposed
1,3-D Fumigant
Risk Mitigation

- **DPR** held initial **public hearings** on the proposed regulations, both in-person (Salinas, Visalia, Chico) and virtual in January.



1,3-D regulatory hearings in Jan. 2025

**SAVE
THE
DATES**

The California Department of Pesticide Regulation and Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment have developed new draft regulations to reduce occupational bystanders' potential exposure to the pesticide 1,3-D.

Save the date for upcoming regulatory hearings.



▶ Hearing locations ◀

VISALIA

Wednesday, January 8, 2025
5:45 p.m. presentation, 6 - 8 p.m. hearing
Visalia Veteran's Memorial
609 W. Center Ave.
Visalia, CA 93291

SALINAS

Thursday, January 16, 2025
5:45 p.m. presentation, 6 - 8 p.m. hearing
National Steinbeck Center
1 Main St.
Salinas, CA 93901

VIRTUAL

Friday, January 10, 2025
9:45 a.m. presentation, 10 a.m. hearing
Zoom (Virtual)
Direct link: <https://bit.ly/3BT8PqR>
Webinar ID: 845 7679 6884

CHICO

Tuesday, January 21, 2025
5:45 p.m. presentation, 6 - 8 p.m. hearing
Chico Women's Club
592 E. 3rd St.
Chico, CA 95928

Spanish interpretation will be available

To request interpretation in additional languages please email languageaccess@cdpr.ca.gov at least 10 business days before the meeting date.



Thank you.
Questions?

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