

# **Pesticidewise: mixing your pesticide spray**

Pesticide usage and application on the crops affects the quality and quantity of yield produce in a given field in a given period of time.

Mixing of pesticides of one's own require to take precautions such as choosing a mixing site that is away from animals, children and drinking water source and consider the buffer zone as well for safe guarding the ecosystem.

## **Pesticide management**

To mix pesticides, you need container of pesticides, knapsack sprayer, clean water, pesticide box, planing notice, measuring cylinders, spill kit, plastic bag and personal protective equipments. When filling knapsack sprayer, leave 5% unused space to avoid leaks and accidents and the mixing site should be flat and weather conditions must be stable before mixing.

Similarly, position all the equipments needed to make pesticides and safely transport pesticides in non permeable box. Remove sprayer's lid and place it on mixing tray upside down and using clean water and filter basket, add water to sprayer and use container cups to measure pesticides amount to use.

Pour product in water, replace pesticide container cup immediately and rinse measuring cylinder 3 times with clean water and pour it into tank . Properly agitate pesticide with water and later remove lid which is placed upside down on mixing tray again to fill the tank to recommended capacity. Replace lid and agitate spray solution now and place contaminated material into plastic bag and label for later disposal.

Furthermore recheck label for additional PPE needed for the way to apply product then spray and return pesticide container to store box and lock it. Make up little spray solution needed for last sprayer load and leave small un spread area to spray it using water used to lean sprayer.

Rinse measuring cylinder 3 times, add it to spray liquid, replace tank lid and agitate sprayer to mix product with water. Check that all pesticide container lids are replaced securely and place containers in the box and finally put clean mixing equipments away ready for next use.