

## **HW. J Health Screening (TN10 4.30)**

**Where applicable, do staff who undertake pesticide applications receive regular health checks in line with guidelines in the Green Code?**

Relevant sections in the Green Code are :

Part 2, Section6 - Paragraphs 93 to 103 - Monitoring exposure and health surveillance.

Part 4, Paragraph 212 - Health surveillance records.

The need for health surveillance will depend on the findings of your COSHH assessment. In practice those most likely to require documented surveillance will be :

- (a). users of organophosphorous pesticides
- (b). users of products labelled as skin sensitisers.

Spraying O.P.s regularly for 2 or 3 days per week or using in enclosed spaces would be classed as high risk and surveillance by an occupational health provider, using blood or urine tests would be necessary.

More typical fruit farm situations involving, say 2 spray rounds of 2 days each per season, with good controls, e.g. carbon filtered cab etc. would be classed as low risk and would not require biological monitoring unless a failure in controls occurred (this point should be made in the COSHH assessment).

For users of skin sensitisers the Green Code states that “health surveillance can be carried out by suitably trained person, who need not be medically qualified”. In practice the operation of a formal system under which employees are told to notify the farm manager of any problems is sufficient.

A record should be kept for every employee undergoing health surveillance. Detailed guidance and a specimen record form are given in Paragraph 212 of the Green Code.