United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

WS Directive

2.415 10/07/09

M-44 USE AND RESTRICTIONS

1. PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for the use of the M-44 device by WS personnel.

2. REPLACEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

This directive replaces WS Directive 2.415 dated 02/18/04.

3. POLICY

M-44 sodium cyanide capsules labeled with EPA registration No. 56228-15 and M-44 devices may only be used for control of coyotes, red and gray foxes, and wild dogs that are vectors of communicable diseases or suspected of preying upon livestock, poultry, and federally designated threatened and endangered (T/E) species. M-44 sodium capsules labeled with EPA Registration No. 56228-32 and M-44 devices may also be used for control of arctic fox that depredate federally designated T/E species in the Aleutian Islands, Alaska. M-44's must be used in accordance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 26 use restrictions.

M-44 sodium cyanide capsules labeled with EPA Registration Nos. 56228-15 and 58228-32 containing blaze-orange marker particles produced by the Pocatello Supply Depot (PSD) are for WS official use only. M-44 capsules labeled with an individual State's registration containing light yellow marker particles produced by the PSD are not authorized for WS use.

All M-44 ejectors used by WS personnel will be stamped, marked, or engraved with "US Gov't" or "Property of U.S." By 2011, only Type 4 or newer M-44 ejectors will be used.

All M-44 applicators will physically inventory M-44 capsules under their control at least quarterly during the year using the Controlled Material Inventory Tracking System. Supervisors will review inventory records for accuracy during yearly field inspections and physical inventory. Inventory records may be reviewed more often by supervisors and managers when deemed necessary. For inventory purposes, only capsules that contain sodium cyanide will be reported as part of the available inventory.

Any toxic or adverse human effect which occurs to WS personnel, cooperators, or the public involving the use, storage, or disposal of sodium cyanide is to be immediately reported to the appropriate State Director and Director (as defined in Directive 1.101).

The Director will determine if the incident should be reported to the EPA and to the Director of Environmental Services, APHIS.

4. REFERENCES

WS Directive 2.401, Pesticide Use (01/02/08).
Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.), as amended.
40 CFR Part 153.75 - Toxic or Adverse Effect Incident Reports (a)(1)(i) through (iii).

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