

## FORWARD

The primary purpose of this Manual is to assist Federal inspectors who are involved in pesticides enforcement. This Manual may also be helpful in orienting and training State, Territorial, and Tribal inspectors and other Regional staff. This Manual provides the necessary guidance, policies, authorities, and objectives for carrying out standard field procedures. However, it does not (and obviously is not intended to) cover every possible situation that may be encountered. This Manual is simply a reference to aid in more efficient and effective pesticide inspections.

The mission of the Regional FIFRA field staff is to assist EPA in the protection of human health and the environment from unsafe and ineffective pesticides by enforcing the pesticide laws. A rigorous and fairly administered enforcement program will guarantee the success of this mission. Such an enforcement program is dependent on well-trained, qualified field personnel who both (1) conduct inspections and investigations that discover violations of the laws and regulations; and (2) collect the evidence necessary to prosecute violators successfully.

In order to help us update the Manual so that it remains a viable working tool, readers are encouraged to offer suggestions, amendments, and constructive criticism generated by their field experience and use of the Manual. Comments should be forwarded to Mickey Post at EPA Headquarters ([post.mickey@epa.gov](mailto:post.mickey@epa.gov) or 202-564-4157).

This Manual was compiled by a work group of representatives from Headquarters, the Regions, States, and Tribes. Assistance, comments, and suggestions were provided by all Regions, Headquarters, States, and Tribes. The work group held several conference calls to discuss, revise, and finalize the Manual. The work group included the following individuals:

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