



Central Farm, Cayo District, Belize, Central America Tel: 501-824-2640 Fax: 501-824-3486 E-mail: <u>pcbinfo@btl.net</u> www.pcbbelize.com



## NOTICE

20 May 2020

The Pesticides Control Board thanks its clients, stakeholders and the general public for the cooperation demonstrated during its implementation of precautionary measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Clients, stakeholders and the general public are hereby advised of the following measures that remain in place in order to maintain operational continuity during the national State of Emergency for prevention of the spread of COVID-19.

- 1. Registration and renewal of pesticide registration
  - All registration processes remain ongoing via electronic submission of documents, including proof of bank payment of applicable fees.
  - Confidential data may now be delivered in person by Local Representatives of registration applicants on Tuesdays and Thursdays and by appointment only.
- 2. Permits for importation of unregistered pesticides (Experimental Permits and Minor-Use Authorization)
  - All permitting processes remain ongoing via electronic submission of documents, including proof of payment of applicable fees.
- 3. Pesticide Importation
  - All importation processes remain ongoing via electronic submission of documents, including proof of payment of applicable fees.
- 4. Training and Certification of users of Restricted-Use Pesticides
  - An RUP may be bought at pesticide distributors countrywide provided that interested persons can demonstrate a justified need for the product, and follow the guidelines provided in the PCB's illustrated training guide.
  - Training sessions for certification in the use and handling of RUPs shall resume at centralized locations upon further notice by registration only.

- i. There will be a limited number of participants at each session based on the size of the training venue.
- ii. Interested persons will be duly advised of the requirements for registration and participation in these sessions.
- 5. Face to face contact between clients and personnel at the PCB Secretariat in Central Farm and at district offices is being kept at a minimum, and with the exception of small farmers needing immediate assistance, preferably by appointment.
- 6. The general public is encouraged to continue contacting us to report cases of pesticide practices that may be causing adverse effects on human health and the environment.
- 7. Please call us at 824-2640 or write to us at <u>pcbinfo@btl.net</u> to be put in contact with appropriate PCB personnel.
- 8. Some general tips for pesticide users:
  - Always read, understand and follow instructions on label and pamphlet.
  - Exercise caution at all times: Ensure that climatic conditions are appropriate when using pesticides, never spray with a leaking sprayer.
  - Practice good personal hygiene: after spraying, wash hands before eating and drinking water, wash work clothes separately, take a bath after spraying pesticides.
  - Ensure that appropriate personal protective equipment is used when handling pesticides.

End.

"Rational Pesticide Management for Sustainable Food Systems" Regulating pesticides in Belize since 1988 For the protection of human health and the environment