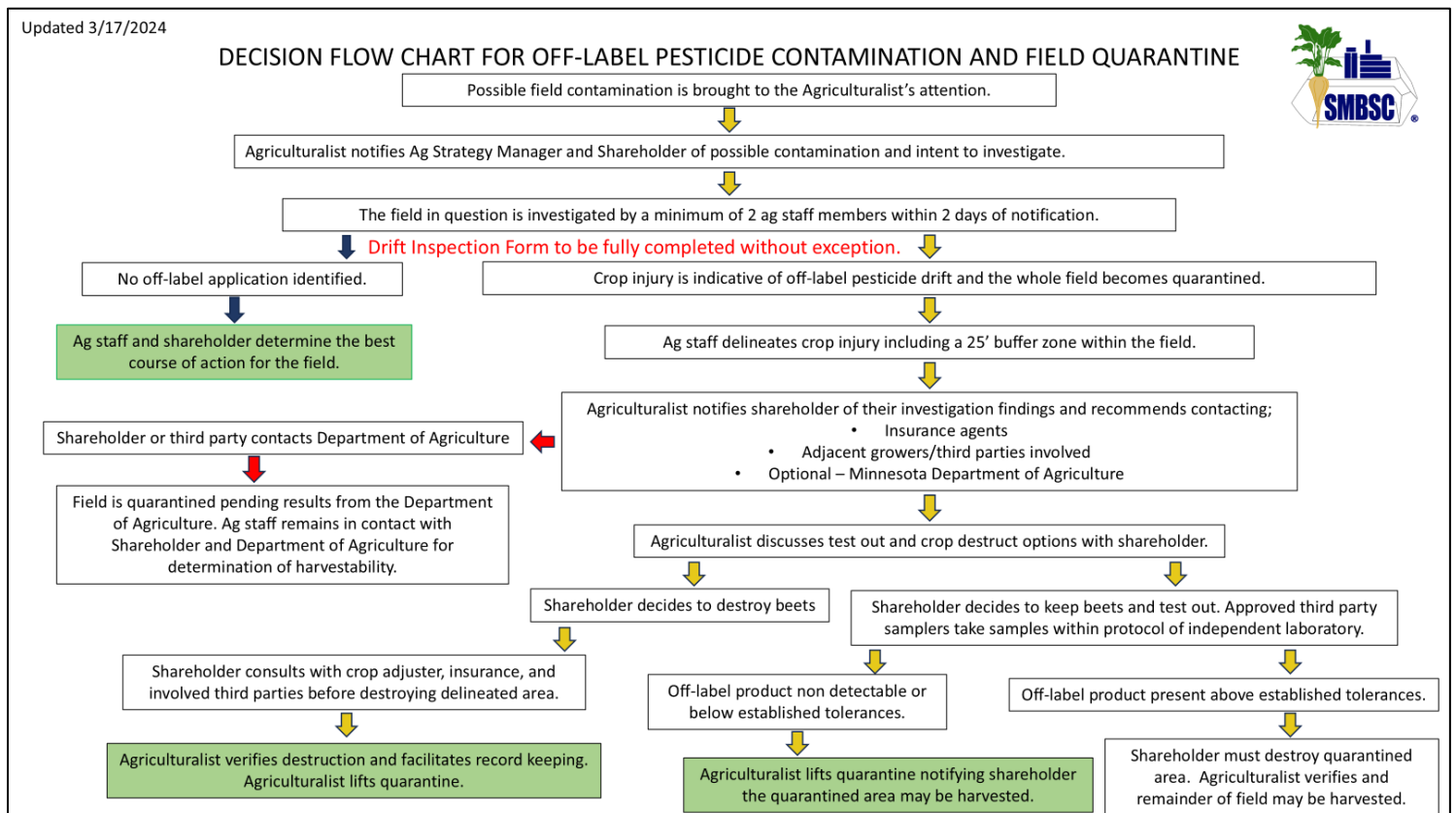


Spray Drift Quicksheet

SMBSC sits in a highly productive crop growing region consisting of shareholders and non-shareholders. These farmers choose pesticides best fit for their own operations and crop rotations. Many products used in the growing area are not labeled for sugarbeet and may cause injury to the crop. Spray drift onto your sugar beet field is a serious situation. In addition to potential yield loss, there is a food safety component for SMBSC's sugar and by-product sales.

Common drifts occur from HPPD products containing mesotrione or tembotrione, and growth regulators containing dicamba or 2,4-D. Sprayer contaminations also result typically from products that are hard to clean out such as flumioxazin, or adjuvants and other active ingredients may pull another active ingredient from sprayer components.

In situations where you suspect contamination has affected your sugar beet field, immediately contact your Agriculturist to start the SMBSC Spray Drift Protocol. This protocol was developed to ensure the safety and integrity of the sugar and by-products produced at SMBSC. Several steps need to occur in order to determine the fate of each situation, but the Ag staff will work with growers to streamline the process. Below is the decision tree SMBSC will use to determine how shareholders will proceed with a contamination situation in an SMBSC field.



Following analysis of the field, the affected area will test above or below threshold tolerance values for the product that was involved in the contamination. Sugar beets metabolize everything efficiently including herbicides, so it is likely that the affected beets will test below established tolerances by late summer. For this reason, it is important for the grower to maintain care of the beets, even if yield loss is a concern.

If and when you are allowed to harvest the affected area, you will want to estimate the yield loss that has occurred on the affected portion of the field. SMBSC will assist with this process; however, we encourage the use of a third party such as your insurance agent and adjusters for the yield estimation process.

Yield Loss Estimation

Yield estimation in spray drift/contamination cases is difficult as the damage may not affect the beets uniformly across the affected area and often does not occur in the direction of the rows. In addition, it is common for parties to disagree on yield loss estimations. SMBSC Agriculturists will assist with evaluating yield loss, but it is ultimately the shareholder's crop to recoup any damages resulting from contamination injury. SMBSC Ag staff will provide assistance to third parties conducting yield loss estimations. Below is a brief protocol for collecting yield samples to establish if and how much yield loss has occurred.

1. Notify Agriculturist and insurance agents of your intent to sample for yield loss estimation.
2. Third party or parties identified and scheduled for collecting harvest samples.
3. Obtain tare bags and sample tickets from your Agriculturist.
4. The sampler should obtain 5-10 yield samples from both the affected area and the unaffected area for the comparison. When sampling, obtaining more samples will better estimate yield than using only a few samples.
5. At each sample point, the sampler should measure 10 feet of row. All the beets in this 10-foot area should be dug, defoliated by hand, have excess dirt removed from the beets, and be placed in a sample bag. Be sure to assign a ticket number to each sample site and place the ticket in the pocket on the side of the bag.
6. Coordinate with the sampler and your Agriculturist on how to deliver the sample bags to the SMBSC tare lab and how to receive the sample results.
7. It is the grower and sampler's responsibility to assign sample tickets to each sample point.
8. Contact your Agriculturist for any assistance in yield calculation.

The information contained in this quicksheet is meant to provide general information regarding spray drift situations. **Consult your Agriculturist and the product label for additional information and guidance.**



Cody Bakker
Mark Bloomquist
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Agricultural Department
Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar
Cooperative