

FieldWatch® SeedFieldCheck Registry: Best Practices

March 10, 2021

Pesticide Applicators Best Practices

1. Pesticide applicators **must** be registered in FieldCheck to view SeedFieldCheck (SFC) worker locations. FieldCheck is the mobile and computer portal created by FieldWatch for use by applicators.
2. The FieldCheck portal provides a tool for communication, collaboration, and cooperation to minimize incidents where seed field workers are at risk from nearby pesticide applications. SeedFieldCheck use will help ensure safe pesticide applications and work to avoid incidents with potential to create negative perceptions of our respective industries. Cooperation from all parties will protect the agricultural industry, ensuring businesses have freedom to operate in the future.
3. Pesticide applicators doing business in IA, IL, IN, MI, and NE should be utilizing **FieldCheck** daily to ensure safe application of pesticides near seed field workers, apiaries, and specialty crops.
4. In 2021, the SFC registry will be in IA, IL, IN, MI, and NE and allow seed companies to register the location of seed field worker crews. Field locations will be flagged as either **“planned”** or **“occupied”** for field workers and updated daily providing near real-time communications for all seed companies and applicators in a single mapping system.
 - a. **“Planned”** status will indicate worker presence at the start of the following day.
 - b. **“Occupied”** status will indicate worker presence currently.
 - c. Field status will change from **“planned”** to **“occupied”** overnight.
 - d. Seed company field managers will designate fields as inactive as crews finish
 - e. Registered applicators can click on fields that are in “planned” or “occupied” status to get a pop-up with seed company contact information.
5. Pesticide applicators are still expected to use due diligence and ensure fields are free of seed field workers prior to spraying. It's possible that not all ag workers will be registered in SFC. Individuals may still be working in fields that are not in the current registry. The registry is designed for LARGE groups of workers and not small.
6. Pesticide applicators should encourage their software partners to stream FieldWatch data near “real time”.
7. Go to <http://bit.ly/FieldCheck> to register as an applicator for free. OR Apple/iTunes: <http://bit.ly/AppleFieldCk> Android/Google Play: <http://bit.ly/AndroidFieldCk> For a video demonstration of how to sign up and what you will see in SeedFieldCheck, go to: www.fieldwatch.com/applicatordemo.

Seed Companies Best Practices

1. The FieldWatch registry provides a tool for communication, collaboration, and cooperation to protect our agricultural industry and ensure freedom to operate in the future.
2. In 2021, SFC will operate in IA, IL, IN, MI, and NE so that seed companies may status the location of seed field worker crews daily. Field locations will be flagged as either “planned” or “occupied” for seed field workers and be updated daily providing a near real-time communication tool for seed companies and applicators in a single mapping system. All fields will be visible for company administrators, but only planned or occupied fields will be visible to applicators
3. We expect seed producers with field workers to utilize this new feature in FieldWatch.
 - a. Utilize the SFC tool in FieldWatch by setting up their company data and field information.
 - b. Import or draw seed field boundaries to the confidential layer.
 - c. **Daily**, activate fields **“planned”** for seed field workers no more than 24 hours in advance of activity.
 - d. Deactivate fields as crews finish the work to the extent possible allowing near real time data.
 - e. Utilizing this system enables registered pesticide applicators to have the **“Single Source of Trusted Data”** for collecting information prior to scheduling or applying pesticides.
 - f. Improve communication and transparency to better protect seed field workers.
4. In addition to safety benefits, a goal of this system is to replace multiple disparate methods of crew notifications to applicators from your field teams with one program. Our goal with FieldWatch is to have it become the **Single Source of Trusted Data** for safe pesticide application.
5. Success of SFC will be largely dependent upon the performance of the seed companies, so it's imperative that adequate resources be dedicated to maintaining the field status daily.
6. Seed companies should develop a contingency plan to communicate ag worker information if something unforeseen would cause the FieldWatch system to go down.
7. Participating seed companies will access www.seedfieldcheck.org to administer and manage their sites.