Chemical Labeling Guidance for Cornell Plant Growth Facilities

Why Are Labels Required?

The OSHA Hazard Communication Standard mandates that all chemicals used in the workplace be properly labeled. Chemicals used in plant growth facilities or other non-laboratory areas are required to have more detailed label information than the same materials used in a laboratory setting.

Greenhouse Users Must:

Contact the plant growth facilities manager/supervisor BEFORE bringing any chemicals into the plant growth facility or associated non-laboratory areas such as growth chambers, headhouses, hallways and storage cabinets.

What needs to be on the label?

- Full name of Chemical (no abbreviations, symbols or structures)
- Chemical name, a harmonized signal word approved GHS pictogram, hazard statement for each hazard class/category, a precautionary statement, and supplier identification.
- Owner’s name and telephone number

Materials Covered:

All containers in the workplace must be properly labeled. This includes:

- Laboratory Chemicals
- Growth Regulators
- Rooting Hormones
- Cleaning Products
- Water Containers must be labeled “Water” to avoid confusion with other solutions
- Containers containing residues must be labeled
- Bleach and Tri-Sodium Phosphate solutions greater than 1% concentration

Additional Compliance Requirements for the Hazard Communication Standard:

- Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) must be readily available to people on site and can be accessed at https://ehs.cornell.edu/research-safety/chemical-safety/safety-data-sheets-chemwatch
- A Current Inventory of All Chemicals must be kept where they are used. You must work with manager to determine location of SDS and inventory records are to be kept.
- All chemical bottles must be properly labeled and in compliance with Globally Harmonized System of Classification and

Chemwatch is a tool that can be used to print proper labels https://ehs.cornell.edu/research-safety/chemical-safety/safety-data-sheets-chemwatch

Users of the CALS- Ithaca Greenhouses can find Greenhouse Policy and other greenhouse related information at http://greenhouses.cals.cornell.edu

v. 4/25/18 updated 3/8/2022
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YES!
This is the CORRECT way to label!

NO!
This is the WRONG way to label!