Pesticide Use on Medical Marijuana

What is a pesticide?
A pesticide is a substance or mixture of substances intended for defoliating or desiccating plants, preventing fruit drop, inhibiting sprouting, or for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any insects, rodents, fungi, bacteria, weeds, or other forms of plant or animal life or viruses, which the Board declares to be a pest, except viruses on or in humans or animals.

Pesticide Labeling Requirements
The Oklahoma Combined Pesticide Law and Rules prohibits the use of a pesticide in a manner inconsistent with the product labeling. The product labeling is the law regarding the use of each pesticide. Product labeling includes but is not limited to written, printed, or graphic matter on, or attached to the product. Product labeling also includes all written, printed, or graphics material: (a) accompanying the product at any time (b) to which reference is made on the label or in literature accompanying the pesticide.

What pesticides are available for legal use on medical marijuana?
Pesticides registered with ODAFF may be used in accordance with their label or labeling directions for the cultivation of medical marijuana in OK under the following conditions:

A) For products registered by the Environmental Protection Agency under Section 3 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, Rodenticide Act:

1) Only those products approved for use on hemp are available for use on medical marijuana.
2) When the product is labeled for hemp and the pesticide product label permits the use for the intended site of application.
3) All labeling directions and precautions are followed for the application.

B) The pesticide product label specifically allows for its use on medical marijuana.
C) For 25(b) minimum risk pesticide products as defined in 40 CFR 152.25(f); the pesticide product label permits the use for the intended site of application, and permits the use on crops or plants intended for human consumption.

Pesticide Registration
Any pesticide used in the production of medical marijuana must be registered with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry. To see if a pesticide is registered in Oklahoma, you can conduct a product search at this Oklahoma Pesticide Registration Search Link.

Questions?
For additional questions about the use of pesticides on medical marijuana please contact ODAFF by emailing damardray.williams@ag.ok.gov