

Washington Farm Bureau

Injury and Illness
Perspectives in WA
Production
Agriculture:

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Director - WFB

Industry Perspective

- Pesticides are needed tools
- Tools are being phased out
- Alternatives have marginal results
- Trade barriers for pest populations in shipments; codling moth, cherry fruit fly
- Lawsuits by environmental groups
- Ag economy struggling

Growers Perspective

- Worker Protection Standard utilized; decontamination supplies for handlers
- PPE is working; change-out and replacement schedules, cleaning & maintenance of PPE
- Training & Education; Handler, Train-the-Trainer, etc.
- “New regulations are killing us”

WFB Claims Data

- PPE is working
- Best practices required
- Low claims for pesticide illnesses (WFB)

Cultural and Legal Issues

- Language and educational barriers
- Under-reporting due to legal status
- Rules and Regulations; WPS, ChE, Respiratory Protection, Chemical Haz-Com
- Worker's Comp., fears – Employers/Employees