Table 1: Demographic information of pesticide applicator workers who participated in the study (n=97)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Variable** | **n** | **%** |
| **Gender** |  |  |
| Male | 82 | 84.5 |
| Female | 15 | 15.5 |
| **Education** |  |  |
| None | 3 | 3.1 |
| Primary | 23 | 23.7 |
| Secondary | 46 | 47.4 |
| Tertiary | 14 | 14.4 |
| Technical/Vocational | 11 | 11.3 |
| **Capacity of Employment** |  |  |
| Self employed | 60 | 61.9 |
| Hired Worker | 37 | 38.1 |
| **Status of Employment**  |  |  |
| Permanent  | 47 | 48.5 |
| Seasonal  | 50 | 51.6 |
| **Number of jobs** |  |  |
| Pesticide Applicator only | 23 | 23.7 |
| Pesticide Applicator and others | 74 | 76.3 |
| **Length of time** |  |  |
| Less than one year | 18 | 18.6 |
| Less than 5 years | 15 | 15.5 |
| Less than 10 years | 21 | 21.7 |
| More than 10 years | 43 | 44.3 |
| **Contribution to Gross Income** |  |  |
| less than 25% | 0 | 0.0 |
| 25-49% | 5 | 5.2 |
| 50-74% | 24 | 24.7 |
| 75% and over | 68 | 70.1 |

Table 2: Frequencies of risky behaviors among participants

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Behavior** | **n** | **%** |
|  |  |  |
| Daily pesticide use | 31 | 32.0 |
| Continuous spraying more than 30 minutes | 49 | 50.5 |
| Never or rarely reading of labels before application | 79 | 81.4 |
| More than the recommended pesticide used in dilution | 51 | 52.9 |
| Occasionally mixing with hands | 2 | 2.1 |
| Always or occasionally mixing with stick  | 37 | 38.1 |
| Mixing by the Agitation of container  | 64 | 66.0 |
| The lack of use of automated/ mechanical equipment | 97 | 100 |
| The application of chemicals with a Bucket and Dipper | 16 | 16.5 |
| The frequent use of Hand operated Hydraulic sprayers | 52 | 53.6 |
| The frequent use of Power-operated hydraulic sprayers | 4 | 4.1 |
| The lack of the Tractor-assisted application method technique | 97 | 100 |
| The delayed washing of one’s person after chemical contact | 66 | 68.0 |
| Occasionally drinking while handling pesticides | 16 | 16.5 |
| Sometimes smoking while handling pesticides | 2 | 2.1 |
| The absence of protective boots | 12 | 12.4 |
| The absence of protective goggles | 92 | 94.8 |
| The absence of Face Guard | 86 | 88.7 |
| The absence of Respirators | 72 | 73.2 |
| The absence of Gloves  | 64 | 66.0 |
| The absence of Coverall | 46 | 47.4 |
| Storage of PPE indoors | 30 | 30.9 |
| The lack of sanitization of Personal Protective Clothing after each use | 65 | 67.0 |
| Sanitization of Personal Protective Equipment among other clothing | 1 | 1.0 |
| The storage of left over pesticides after application | 31 | 32.0 |
| Storage of leftover pesticides in inappropriate containers | 28 | 28.9 |

Table 3: Frequencies of the practice score ratings for the various behavioral practice subcategories

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Table of Frequencies (n)** |
| **Practice Score Rating** | **Good Practice Score** | **Poor Practice Score** |
|  | Pesticide Application & Mixing Techniques | 16 | 81 |
|  |  |  |
| Consumption Practices | 97 | 0 |
|  |  |  |
| Hygienic Practices | 70 | 27 |
|  |  |  |
| Storage | 63 | 34 |
|  |  |  |
| PPE Use | 48 | 49 |
|  |  |  |
| Total Practice Sore | 51 | 46 |

Table 4: Test of Association with Demographic variables and Risky Practices: p-values\*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Variable** | **Hygienic Practices** | **Lack of reading instructions** | **Stronger than recommended doses** | **Poor Mixing Technique** |
| Gender | - | - | - | - |
| Education | - | 0.017 | - | - |
| Capacity of Employment | - | - | - | - |
| Status of Employment | -  | - | - | 0.001 |
| Scale of farming activities | - | 0.002 | 0.042 | 0.004 |
| Length of Time  | - | - | 0.006 | 0.011 |
| Number of Jobs | - | - | <0.001 | 0.025 |
| Contribution to gross income | - | - | - | - |

\*p-value <0.05 indicates significant association -: p-value >0.05 indicates no association

Table 5: One-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) for risky pesticide practices subcategories and demographic factors

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Factors (p)** |
| **Variable** | **Status** | **Scale** |
| Application | 0.228 | 0.185 |
| Consumption | 0.051 | 0.129 |
| Hygiene | 0.808 | 0.354 |
| Storage | 0.091 | ≤ 0.001 |
| PPE Usage | 0.001 | ≤ 0.001 |
| Practices | 0.05 | 0.39 |