



**US Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Pesticide Programs**

**Table 6: Container Labeling  
(40 CFR Part 156 Subpart H)**

**October 2010**

**Table 6: Container Labeling (40 CFR Part 156 Subpart H)**

Short Description	Reg Cite	Requirement
<b>SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY</b>		
Who must comply?	40 CFR Part 156	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registrants must ensure that their labels comply with the standards.</li> <li>• Pesticide users must follow the new label directions.</li> </ul>
Which pesticides must comply?	40 CFR Part 156	In general, all pesticides must comply with the label instructions in 40 CFR Part 156. However, see the applicability description in each section of the table for more details.
<b>Compliance date</b>		
When is compliance required?	156.159	Any pesticide product released for shipment after August 16, 2011, must have labels that comply with these requirements. This date was established by a October 8, 2010 final rule.
<b>IDENTIFICATION OF CONTAINER TYPE AND REUSE STATEMENT FOR NONREFILLABLE CONTAINERS</b>		
Which pesticides must comply?	156.140 (introductory paragraph), 156.140(d), 156.140(e)  156.140(a)(5)	<p>All pesticide products in nonrefillable containers, other than the following, must identify the container as a nonrefillable container per §156.140(a)(1) and include a statement about reuse per §156.140(a)(2):</p> <p>Plant-incorporated protectants, pesticidal articles that are not exempted from FIFRA regulation by §152.25(a) and transport vehicles are exempt from these two requirements.</p> <p>In addition, pesticide products packaged in the following types of containers are exempt from these two requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• aerosol cans;</li> <li>• devices as defined in § 152.500;</li> <li>• one-time use caulking tubes and squeezable containers;</li> <li>• foil packets for water-soluble packaging, repellent wipes, and other one-time use products;</li> <li>• one-time use portion control packages, such as polyethylene sleeve packages, or rodenticide placepacks;</li> <li>• one-time use bait stations;</li> <li>• one-time use cages for repellent or trapping strips;</li> <li>• pet collars or animal ear tags, such as cattle ear tags;</li> <li>• one-time use semiochemical dispersion devices;</li> <li>• any container that is destroyed by the use of the product contained; and</li> <li>• any container that would be destroyed if reuse of the container were attempted.</li> </ul>
Location of the information	156.140 (introductory paragraph)	These statements must be on the label or the container. If placed on container, they must be durably marked on the container anywhere other than the closure. If placed on the label, the required text must be under the heading "Storage and Disposal."
Nonrefillable containers - Identification	156.140(a)(1)	The phrase "Nonrefillable container" is required.

<p>Nonrefillable containers – Reuse statement</p>	<p>156.140(a)(2)</p>	<p>One of the following statements is required. Products with labels that allow household/residential use must use (1) or (3):</p> <p>(1) “Do not reuse or refill this container.”</p> <p>(2) “Do not reuse this container to hold materials other than pesticides or dilute pesticides (rinsate). After emptying and cleaning, it may be allowable to temporarily hold rinsate or other pesticide-related materials in the container. Contact your state regulatory agency to determine allowable practices in your state.”</p> <p>(3) The following statement may be used if a product is “ready-to-use” and its directions for use allow a different product (that is a similar, but concentrated formulation) to be poured into the container and diluted by the end user: “Do not reuse or refill this container unless the directions for use allow a different (concentrated) product to be diluted in the container.”</p>
<p><b>RECYCLING OR RECONDITIONING STATEMENT AND BATCH CODE FOR NONREFILLABLE CONTAINERS</b></p>		
<p>Which pesticides must comply?</p>	<p>156.140 (introductory paragraph), 156.140(d), 156.140(e)</p>	<p>All pesticide products in nonrefillable containers, other than the following, must include a statement about recycling or reconditioning per §156.140(a)(3) and a lot number or other code to identify the batch per §156.140(a)(4):</p> <p>Plant-incorporated protectants, pesticidal articles that are not exempted from FIFRA regulation by §152.25(a) and transport vehicles are exempt from these two requirements.</p>
<p>Location of the information</p>	<p>156.140 (introductory paragraph)</p>	<p>These statements must be on the label or the container. If placed on container, they must be durably marked on the container anywhere other than the closure. If placed on the label, the required text, other than the batch code, must be under the heading “Storage and Disposal.”</p>
<p>Nonrefillable containers – Recycling or reconditioning statement</p>	<p>156.140(a)(3)</p>	<p>One of the following statements is required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Offer for recycling if available.”</li> <li>• “Once cleaned, some agricultural plastic pesticide containers can be taken to a container collection site or picked up for recycling. To find the nearest site, contact your chemical dealer or manufacturer or contact [a pesticide container recycling organization] at [phone number] or [web site].” For example, this statement could be “Once cleaned, some agricultural plastic pesticide containers can be taken to a container collection site or picked up for recycling. To find the nearest site, contact your chemical dealer or manufacturer or contact the Ag Container Recycling Council (ACRC) at 1-877-952-2272 (toll free) or <a href="http://www.acrecycle.org">www.acrecycle.org</a>.”</li> <li>• A recycling statement approved by EPA and published in an EPA document, such as a Pesticide Registration Notice.</li> <li>• An alternative recycling statement that has been reviewed and approved by EPA.</li> <li>• “Offer for reconditioning if appropriate.”</li> </ul>
<p>Nonrefillable containers – Batch code</p>	<p>156.140(a)(4)</p>	<p>A lot number or other code used by the registrant or producer to identify the batch of the pesticide product which is distributed or sold is required.</p>

IDENTIFICATION OF CONTAINER TYPE FOR REFILLABLE CONTAINERS		
Which pesticides must comply?	156.140 (introductory paragraph), 156.140(d), 156.140(e)	All pesticide products in refillable containers, other than the following, must include a statement that identifies the container as a refillable container and provides some handling restrictions per §156.140(b):  Plant-incorporated protectants, pesticidal articles that are not exempted from FIFRA regulation by §152.25(a) and transport vehicles are exempt from this requirement.
Location of the information	156.140 (introductory paragraph)	This statement must be on the label or the container. If placed on container, it must be durably marked on the container anywhere other than the closure. If placed on the label, the required text must be under the heading "Storage and Disposal."
Refillable containers	156.140(b)	One of the following statements is required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Refillable container. Refill this container with pesticide only. Do not reuse this container for any other purpose."</li> <li>• "Refillable container. Refill this container with <i>[common chemical name]</i> only. Do not reuse this container for any other purpose."</li> </ul>
CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS FOR NONREFILLABLE CONTAINERS		
Which pesticides must comply?	156.144(a), (c), (e), (f) and (g)  156.146 (introductory paragraph)	Residential/household use pesticides, gases, pesticidal articles that are not exempted from FIFRA regulation by §152.25(a), and transport vehicles are exempt from the requirements for cleaning instructions.  For all other pesticides, dilutable pesticides (liquid or dry) in rigid nonrefillable containers must comply with these standards (cleaning instructions for nonrefillable containers).
Location of the information	156.144(b)	All cleaning instructions must be placed under the heading "Storage and Disposal."
Timing of the rinsing procedure	156.146(a)	One of the following statements is required immediately before the rinsing instructions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Clean container promptly after emptying."</li> <li>• "Triple rinse or pressure rinse container (or equivalent) promptly after emptying."</li> <li>• "Triple rinse container (or equivalent) promptly after emptying."</li> </ul>
Which rinsing procedure?	156.146(b)&(c)	The label <b>must</b> include triple rinsing instructions and <b>may</b> include pressure rinsing instructions.

Triple rinsing instructions	156.146(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For liquid dilutable pesticides in containers small enough to shake:  “Triple rinse as follows: Empty the remaining contents into application equipment or a mix tank and drain for 10 seconds after the flow begins to drip. Fill the container ¼ full with water and recap. Shake for 10 seconds. Pour rinsate into application equipment or a mix tank or store rinsate for later use or disposal. Drain for 10 seconds after the flow begins to drip. Repeat this procedure two more times.”</li> <li>• The statement for solid dilutable pesticides in containers small enough to shake is similar.</li> <li>• For containers that are too large to shake:  “Triple rinse as follows: Empty remaining contents into application equipment or a mix tank. Fill the container ¼ full with water. Replace and tighten closures. Tip container on its side and roll it back and forth, ensuring at least one complete revolution, for 30 seconds. Stand the container on its end and tip it back and forth several times. Turn the container over onto its other end and tip it back and forth several times. Empty the rinsate into application equipment or a mix tank or store rinsate for later use or disposal. Repeat this procedure two more times.”</li> </ul>
Pressure rinsing instructions	156.146(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For liquid dilutable pesticides:  “Pressure rinse as follows: Empty the remaining contents into application equipment or a mix tank and continue to drain for 10 seconds after the flow begins to drip. Hold container upside down over application equipment or mix tank to collect rinsate for later use or disposal. Insert pressure rinsing nozzle in the side of the container and rinse at about 40 PSI for at least 30 seconds. Drain for 10 seconds after the flow begins to drip.”</li> <li>• The statement for solid dilutable pesticides is similar.</li> </ul>
Non-water diluent	156.146(d)	If a registrant wants to include instructions to rinse a container with a diluent other than water, the registrant must submit a request, meeting certain criteria, and receive approval from EPA before including such cleaning instructions on the label.
<b>CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS FOR REFILLABLE CONTAINERS</b>		
Which pesticides must comply?	156.144(a), (c), (e), (f) and (g)  156.156	Residential/household use pesticides, gases, pesticidal articles that are not exempted from FIFRA regulation by §152.25(a), and transport vehicles are exempt from the requirements for cleaning instructions.  All other pesticides distributed or sold in refillable containers must comply with these standards (cleaning instructions for refillable containers).
Location of the information	156.144(b)	All cleaning instructions must be placed under the heading “Storage and Disposal.”

Timing	156.156(a)	<p>One of the following statements is required immediately before the cleaning instructions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Cleaning the container before final disposal is the responsibility of the person disposing of the container. Cleaning before refilling is the responsibility of the refiller.”</li> <li>• “Pressure rinsing the container before final disposal is the responsibility of the person disposing of the container. Cleaning before refilling is the responsibility of the refiller.”</li> </ul>
Cleaning procedure – general standard	156.156(b)(1)	The label must include instructions for cleaning each refillable container before disposal. The instructions must be appropriate for the characteristics of the pesticide and be adequate to protect human health and the environment.
Cleaning instructions	156.156(b)(2)	<p>The instructions for cleaning refillable containers could include any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The refilling residue removal procedure developed by the registrant;</li> <li>• Standard industry practices for cleaning refillable containers;</li> <li>• For pesticides that require dilution prior to application, the following statement:  <p>“To clean the container before final disposal, empty the remaining contents from this container into application equipment or mix tank. Fill the container about 10 percent full with water. Agitate vigorously or recirculate water with the pump for 2 minutes. Pour or pump rinsate into application equipment or rinsate collection system. Repeat this procedure two more times.”</p> </li> <li>• Any other statement the registrant considers appropriate.</li> </ul>
<b>WAIVERS OR MODIFICATIONS TO THE “CONTAINER TYPE” AND RESIDUE REMOVAL STATEMENTS</b>		
Waivers or modifications	156.140(c)	<p>EPA may, on its own initiative or based on data or information submitted by any person, modify or waive the “container type” requirements of §156.140 or permit or allow alternative labeling statements. This applies to all of the requirements of §156.140 including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Nonrefillable container.” for nonrefillable containers;</li> <li>• A reuse statement for nonrefillable containers;</li> <li>• A recycling/reconditioning statement for nonrefillable containers;</li> <li>• A batch code for nonrefillable containers;</li> <li>• The refillable container identification and handling statement for refillable containers.</li> </ul>
	156.144(d)	<p>EPA may, on its own initiative or based on data or information submitted by any person, modify or waive the requirements for residue removal statements or permit or allow alternative labeling statements. This applies to the requirements in §156.144 - §156.156 including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The residue removal statements for nonrefillable containers (specifically for dilutable products in rigid containers);</li> <li>• The residue removal statements for all refillable containers.</li> </ul>

<b>MODIFICATIONS TO OTHER SECTIONS IN 40 CFR PART 156</b>		
Definitions	156.3	Added a new section to define “dilutable” and “transport vehicle”.
Which pesticides must comply?	40 CFR Part 156	In general, all pesticides must comply with the label instructions in 40 CFR Part 156.
Location of the information	40 CFR Part 156	There are no changes to the location of the net contents, EPA establishment number and storage and disposal instructions as specified in 40 CFR 156.10.
Net contents	156.10(d)(7)	Add a paragraph that allows registrants to leave a blank area on labels of pesticides packaged in refillable containers, which would allow refillers to mark in the net contents.
EPA establishment number	156.10(f)	Modify the paragraph to allow registrants to leave a blank area on labels of pesticides packaged in refillable containers, which would allow refillers to mark in the EPA establishment number.
Storage and disposal instructions	156.10(i)(2)(ix)	Modify the paragraph to refer to the new Subpart H (Container Labeling) and other changes made by the container and containment regulations.