From:	Bueno, Jose@CDPR
To:	County Ag Commissioner, Kern@CDPR; CDPR-Priority Notification
Cc:	Lanette Bankston (bankstonl@kerncounty.com); Monica Haskell (mhaskell@kerncounty.com)
Subject:	PENR: 58-KER-17 (Alleged pesticide exposure to 60-70 fieldworkers harvesting garlic)
Date:	Wednesday, August 02, 2017 5:43:07 PM
Attachments:	58-KER-17 PENR.pdf

On August 2, 2017, at 7:15 a.m., the Kern County Agricultural Commissioner's (CAC) Office received notification from the Kern County Fire Department of a possible pesticide exposure to fieldworkers that were harvesting in a garlic field. Kern County Fire Department had responded to the site and decontaminated 14 of the workers. It is reported that 60 - 70 workers, employed by three Farm Labor Contractors, had been working in the garlic field when the incident was reported. Kern CAC staff conducted interviews with 23 fieldworkers and they report symptoms of teary eyes, nasal irritation, and eye irritation. It was found that a helicopter application of Vulcan was being performed to an alfalfa field located 3/4 miles southwest of the garlic field. Kern CAC staff also found that a shank application of Vapam HL had been completed on August 1, 2017, at 7:00 a.m. to a site adjacent to the garlic field.

Kern CAC staff will continue to investigate the incident and interview the remaining fieldworkers.

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