



# Using Soil Fumigants in Wisconsin: What Certification Do You Need?

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE & CONSUMER PROTECTION

Soil fumigants are restricted use pesticides, so applicators and others must be certified in the appropriate categories to use them. Use is defined as applying, mixing and loading pesticides, as well as some other activities related to application, mixing and loading.

Under Wisconsin law, you must pass a base certification exam before seeking certification in a soil fumigation subcategory (supplemental certification). The subcategory would be either 25.0 for commercial applicators or 107.0 for private applicators. Wisconsin law **does not** allow use by someone under direct supervision of a certified applicator.

During soil fumigation, handlers who are not certified in the subcategory or not certified at all may be able to do some limited tasks. The chart below describes what certification(s) would be necessary for a wide range of tasks. Note: Worker Protection Standard (WPS) training is still required for each person performing a task that is covered under WPS.

Task	Base certification required?	Supplemental certification required?
Unloading soil fumigant containers that are unopened and delivered from the registrant at a licensed commercial pesticide business location – for example, unloading a rail car or semi-trailer. Pad and dike are required.	No	No
Delivery to a field application site truck or nurse tank from another truck	No, if only driving	No, if only driving
Loading application equipment. (Note: Dry locks often required)	Yes	No
Preparing site for application, including pre-application mandatory good agricultural practices (GAPs)	No, but certified soil fumigant applicator must sign off on GAPs	No, but certified soil fumigant applicator must sign off on GAPs
Posting, removing or adjusting warning signs	No, but the supervising certified soil fumigant applicator is responsible when others do posting.	No, but the supervising certified soil fumigant applicator is responsible when others do posting
Application tasks--shank injecting, spray blade, rotary tiller, tractor drivers, supervisors, tractor co-pilot, shoveler, cross ditcher	Yes	Yes
Installing, monitoring, repairing, perforating, or removing tarps	Yes	Yes

(over)

Task	Base certification required?	Supplemental certification required?
Monitoring air concentrations during application	Yes	Yes
Scouting, crop advising, or other monitoring tasks not listed in this table that occur inside the application block during the entry restricted period, or inside the buffer zone during the buffer zone period	Yes	Yes
Chemigation application	Yes	Yes, plus Chemigation supplemental categories 26.0 or 109.0
Water sealing, when a roller is used to seal the soil during an application	Yes	No
Water sealing, when a roller is NOT used to seal the soil during an application. Includes Installing, repairing, operating, calibrating, or removing irrigation equipment.	Yes	Yes
Post-application field checks, buffer zone monitoring	Yes	No
Clean up spills	Yes (except for emergency personnel)	No, if handled by emergency personnel not associated with the application
Handling or disposing of empty soil fumigant containers, not triple rinsed	Yes	Yes
Handling or disposing of empty soil fumigant containers, triple rinsed	No	No
Repairing, handling, adjusting, or cleaning equipment that has fumigants, or fumigant residues inside	Yes	No