



Understanding the Mitigation Menu Website

June 18, 2024

Christian Bongard
Pesticide Re-evaluation Division, Office of Pesticide Programs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Tips for Participants

Understanding the Mitigation Menu Website for Mitigation Measures

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EPA

Questions

Ask the staff a question

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Webinar Goals

1. Provide background on EPA's mitigation menu website
2. Learn how to navigate EPA's pesticide mitigation menu website in combination with instructions on the physical label
3. Learn how the website supports current FIFRA decisions
4. Get public feedback on the mitigation menu website
5. Talk about version 1.0 and 2.0

Why a Mitigation Menu Website?

- Allows for flexibility in achieving required mitigation in "Directions for Use" on the label
- New mitigation measures can be added to the website more easily than physical labels
- Reduces potential complexity of having different mitigation menu options across labels

Background

November 2022:

- EPA issued an update to its [ESA workplan](#) to include FIFRA Interim Ecological Mitigation (IEM) to protect nontarget species (EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0908*)
- EPA developed the mitigation menu to address non-target impacts to species (including listed species)
- Proposed a menu of runoff/erosion mitigation measures on an EPA website referenced on the label

December 2022:

- EPA published Proposed Interim Decisions (PIDs) that propose the use of an EPA runoff/erosion mitigation menu on labels (i.e., norflurazon, EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0565*)

*Go to www.regulations.gov and search for this docket number to view EPA materials

Background (continued)

July 2023:

- EPA released a Draft Herbicide Strategy for public comment (EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0365*)
- Identified additional runoff/erosion mitigation menu measures

April 2024:

- EPA released an update on the Herbicide Strategy with a summary of major themes from public comments and potential changes (docket number EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0365)
- Included refined approach to accounting for areas less prone to runoff
- Identified potential new additions to the mitigation menu

In the near future, EPA is publishing PIDs on www.regulations.gov that propose label directions referencing EPA's runoff/erosion mitigation menu website

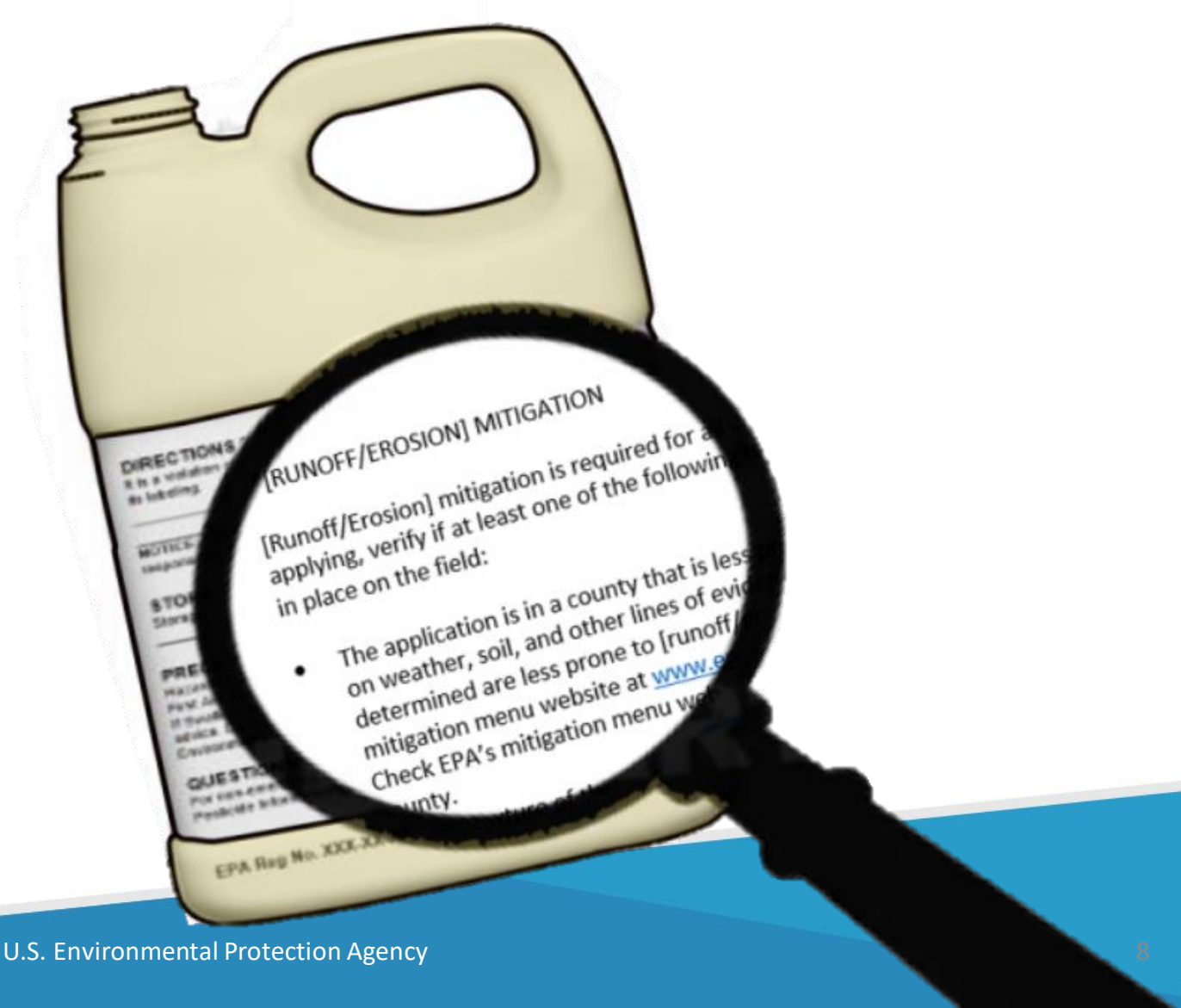
*Go to www.regulations.gov and search for this docket number to view EPA materials

EPA's Mitigation Menu Website: Timing and Decision Support

- Version 1.0
- Intended to support FIFRA PIDs, IDs, and registration actions issued in mid-late 2024 that include runoff/erosion mitigation
- For these decisions, unless certain field/application conditions are in place, at least one mitigation measure is needed in U.S. counties that are highly vulnerable to runoff

How do I know if runoff mitigation applies to me?

**Check your
product label**



How do I find runoff/erosion mitigation options?

Visit EPA's Mitigation Menu Website at www.epa.gov/pesticides/mitigation-menu for a full list of runoff/erosion menu measures and determine which mitigation measure to use.

The screenshot shows the EPA website's Pesticides section. At the top, the EPA logo and 'United States Environmental Protection Agency' are visible, along with a search bar and a 'Hide Admin Info' button. Below the header, there are navigation tabs for 'Environmental Topics', 'Laws & Regulations', 'Report a Violation', and 'About EPA'. The main content area is titled 'Pesticides' and includes a sidebar with links to 'Pesticides Home', 'A-Z Index', 'Antimicrobial Pesticides', 'Biopesticides', and 'International Activities Related to Pesticides'. The main content area features a 'Mitigation Menu' section with buttons for 'View', 'Group Dashboard', 'Revisions', and 'Export'. Below these buttons, there is a detailed view of a specific node, showing its ID (287582), revision ID (2249668), the user who saved it (Fdarasen), the review deadline (June 17, 2025), and its moderation state (Published). A 'Date of last update' of May 23, 2024, is also displayed. A 'Helpful Links' sidebar on the right contains links to 'Bulletins Live!', 'ESA Home', and 'USDA's Web Soil Survey tool to determine soil texture'. At the bottom of the page, there is a section titled 'On this page:' with a list of links: 'Purpose', 'Background', 'Runoff Vulnerability Map', 'How do I know if Runoff/Erosion Mitigation is Required?', and 'Runoff/Erosion Mitigation Measures'.

Runoff/erosion mitigation is not needed if...

Check your application area!

Counties that EPA has determined are less prone to runoff/erosion are presented on EPA's mitigation menu website at: www.epa.gov/pesticides/mitigation-menu



The EPA has determined the county is less prone to runoff/erosion



The soil texture is comprised of over 50% sand, loamy sand or sandy loam



The application is occurring as a partial field treatment.



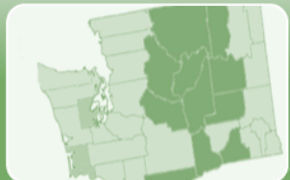
The applied pesticide is incorporated via irrigation or soil.



The treated field has subsurface drainage or tile drains installed with controlled drainage



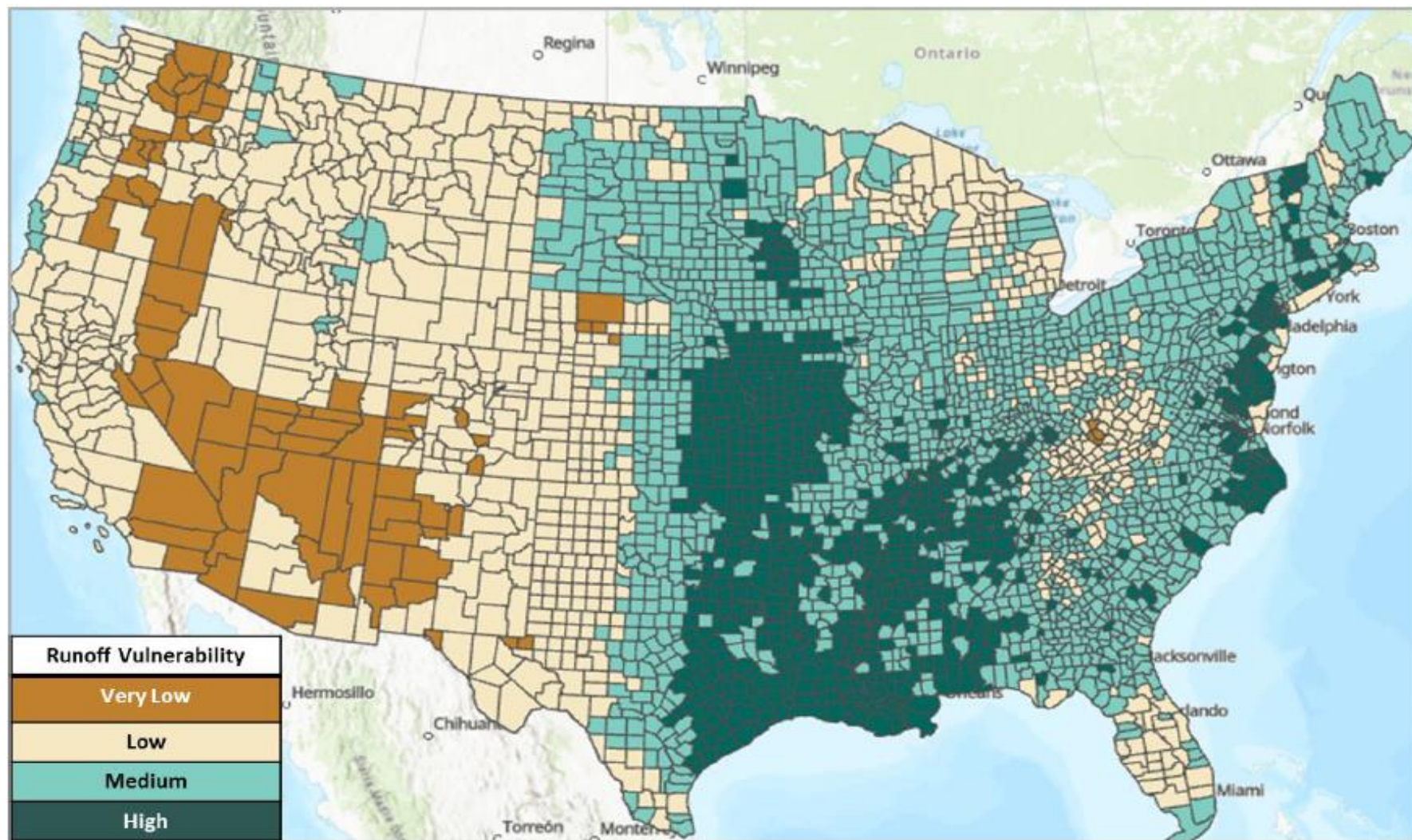
The application area has a slope $\leq 3\%$ or has a perimeter berm system.

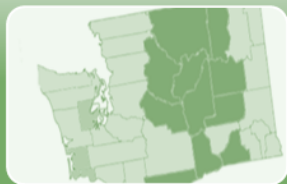


The EPA has determined the county is less prone to runoff/erosion

Scroll down to the Runoff Vulnerability Map section of the website. There you will find two Excel files:

- Counties With Reduced Runoff (xlsx)
- Counties With High Runoff Vulnerability (xlsx)





The EPA has determined the county is less prone to runoff/erosion

- Open the Excel files to find your county.
- EPA counties with high runoff vulnerability may be subject to additional FIFRA IEM runoff/erosion mitigation.
- Those areas with very low, low, and medium runoff vulnerability are currently not subject to additional FIFRA IEM runoff/erosion mitigation.

Runoff/erosion mitigation is not needed if...

See USDA's Web Soil Survey tool to determine soil texture, which is found here:

<https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>



The EPA has determined the county is less prone to runoff/erosion



The soil texture is comprised of over 50% sand, loamy sand or sandy loam



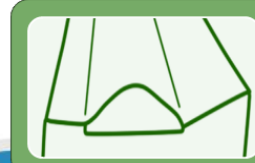
The application is occurring as a partial field treatment.



The applied pesticide is incorporated via irrigation or soil.



The treated field has subsurface drainage or tile drains installed with controlled drainage



The application area has a slope $\leq 3\%$ or has a perimeter berm system.

Runoff/erosion mitigation is not needed if...

Verify if at least one of the following Field/Application Parameters is in place on your field.

If at least one of these parameters is in place, no additional mitigation is currently needed.



The EPA has determined the county is less prone to runoff/erosion



The soil texture is comprised of over 50% sand, loamy sand or sandy loam



The application is occurring as a partial field treatment.



The applied pesticide is incorporated via irrigation or soil.



The treated field has subsurface drainage or tile drains installed with controlled drainage



The application area has a slope $\leq 3\%$ or has a perimeter berm system.

Runoff/erosion mitigation is needed if...

If none of the field/application parameters are in place, **at least one additional on-field or field-adjacent, runoff/erosion mitigation measure is needed.**



The EPA has determined the county is less prone to runoff/erosion



The soil texture is comprised of over 50% sand, loamy sand or sandy loam



The application is occurring as a partial field treatment.



The applied pesticide is incorporated via irrigation or soil.



The treated field has subsurface drainage or tile drains installed with controlled drainage



The application area has a slope $\leq 3\%$ or has a perimeter berm system.

Mitigation Menu Descriptions

- At the Mitigation Menu website click the “Runoff/Erosion Mitigation Measures” link or scroll down to find it.
- The following list are mitigation measures you can choose from to achieve the mitigation required by the label.
- Click on the link for the mitigation measure you are interested in implementing and you’ll be directed to another page with the definition and what practices qualify.
- For this example, we will choose “Contour farming”.

Runoff/Erosion Mitigation Measures

If none of the field conditions/application parameters above are met, the following is a list of the mitigation measures that you may choose from to achieve the mitigation required by the label. See the associated descriptions linked for each measure listed in the table below for the minimum specifications needed to successfully address runoff/erosion concerns. EPA anticipates updating this list based on updates to its ESA Strategies. After this initial update, as EPA receives new information on mitigation measures and their associated efficacy, the Agency may periodically update the Mitigation Menu Website to include additional mitigation options or update the mitigation menu table below or mitigation measure descriptions.

EPA Ecological Mitigation Menu: Runoff/Erosion Mitigation

- **Contour farming**
- [Contour farming with in-field vegetation](#) (e.g., [contour buffer strips](#), [contour strip cropping](#)).
- [Vegetative barriers](#)
- [Cover cropping/continuous ground cover](#)
- [Vegetative filter strip \(20 ft minimum width, in-field or field-adjacent\)](#)
- [Alley cropping](#)
- [Strip cropping](#)
- [Irrigation water management](#), including:
 - Center pivot, overhead sprinklers, flood, and furrow irrigation with runoff reducing technology (e.g., soil moisture sensors or evapotranspiration meters)
 - Micro irrigation (e.g., aboveground drip tape, drip emitters, or micro sprinklers)
 - Subsurface irrigation
- [Mulching with natural materials](#)

Mitigation Menu Descriptions

Once you click on the link, you'll be directed to a new page which provides a description of the mitigation measure you've selected.

Contour Farming (in-field)

Contour farming is the use of ridges and furrows formed by tillage, planting, and other farming operations or the establishment of orchard and other perennial crop rows following the contour to change the direction of runoff from directly downslope to across the slope. The disruption of downslope flow slows the runoff velocity and allows for more time for runoff to infiltrate the field soils, thereby reducing runoff.

The effectiveness of contour farming to reduce runoff and erosion and increase infiltration of runoff is dependent on several factors including the amount of rainfall, the grade and height of rows and row ridges, the steepness and length of the slope, the crop residue and surface roughness, and the soil hydrologic group. Coupling the measure with other mitigation measures, like reduced tillage, cover crops, and in-field vegetated strips, improve the effectiveness of this measure.

For annual crops, orchards, and perennial crops establish and maintain the direction of rows as close to the angle of the contour as possible.

Estimated Timeframe for Mitigation Menu Website Updates

- Fall 2024 - Mitigation Menu Website Updates (Version 2.0)
- Moving forward, transition to pre-announced, regularly scheduled updates to facilitate grower planning

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Pop window on first access –OR–
Scroll to bottom right

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Feedback and Questions

Think of additional feedback or questions?

Please send them to pesticidequestions@epa.gov by July 8, 2024

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a webinar slide. The slide content includes the EPA logo, the title "Understanding the Mitigation Menu Website", the date "June 18, 2024", and the presenter's name "Christian Bongard" along with his affiliation: "Pesticide Re-evaluation Division, Office of Pesticide Programs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency". To the right of the slide is a "Questions" sidebar. The sidebar contains several icons: a microphone (blue arrow), a hand (green arrow), a question mark (green arrow), and an information icon (yellow arrow). Below these icons is a text input field with the placeholder "Ask the staff a question" and a "Send" button (red arrow). The browser's address bar shows a secure connection to a "gotowebinar.com" URL.