

# Merced County Permit Conditions for Rice

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**One-page  
summary**

Table A<sup>1</sup> summarizes the water-holding permit conditions for thiobencarb. This summary can be used as a quick reference. Please refer to the specific permit conditions and pesticide labeling for a complete explanation of the requirements.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>See Table</b>
Rice Pesticides Water Management Requirements Summary (Water-holding permit conditions for and thiobencarb)	A

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**Emergency  
release forms**

Form A is used for an emergency release request. Form B is used for reporting the emergency release.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>See Form</b>
Rice Pesticides Water Management Requirements, Emergency Release Request Form	Form A
Rice Pesticides Water Management Requirements, Emergency Release Report Form	Form B

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*Continued on next page*

**Table A**

## Rice Pesticides Water Management Requirements Summary

<b>Water must be held for the indicated number of 24-hour periods on the treated field, or within the containment area specified below before release into State waters.</b>		<b>Thiobencarb</b>		<b>Thiobencarb Plus Imazosulfuron</b>
		<b>Bolero<sup>®</sup> UltraMax</b>	<b>Abolish<sup>®</sup> 8 EC</b>	<b>League<sup>®</sup> MVP</b>
		Hold	Hold	Hold
<b>S O U T H  S A C  &amp;  S J  V A L L E Y  (a)</b>	All water on treated fields must be retained on the treated fields.	19	19	19
	Release into tailwater recovery system or ponded onto fallow land or contained in other systems appropriate for preventing discharge.	19	19	19
	System controlled by one permittee, then water may be discharged in manner consistent with product labeling.	14	14	14
	System includes drainage from more than one permittee, then water must be retained on site.	6	6	6
	Water on fields within bounds of areas that discharge negligible amounts of drainage onto perennial streams. Commissioner must evaluate such sites and verify the hydrologic isolation of the fields.	6	6	6
CAC may authorize emergency release of tailwater.	19	19	19	

(a) – South Sacramento & San Joaquin Valley defined as: South of the line defined by Roads E10 and 116 in Yolo County and the American River in Sacramento County.

**FORM A**

**RICE PESTICIDES WATER MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS,  
Emergency Release Request Form**

*Thiobencarb*

Grower: \_\_\_\_\_ Permit No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Field Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Site No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Chemical applied: \_\_\_\_\_

Chemical applied: \_\_\_\_\_

Rate of application: \_\_\_\_\_

Rate of application: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of application: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of application: \_\_\_\_\_

Average water depth  
at time of application: \_\_\_\_\_

Average water depth  
at time of application: \_\_\_\_\_

Starting date of emergency release: \_\_\_\_\_

Acres treated in field: \_\_\_\_\_ Laser leveled: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Type of irrigation system: Flow through \_\_\_ Recycle \_\_\_ Static \_\_\_ Other Date flooding  
began: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of days it takes to fill field: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe problem that led to emergency release: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Steps that can be taken to prevent emergency releases from this field in future years: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation by (attached): \_\_\_\_\_

Applications by: \_\_\_\_\_

Grower's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Agricultural Biologist



## General Water-Holding

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- I. The following seepage\*\* control requirements apply to all rice pesticides having mandatory water-holding requirements such as thiobencarb, etc. Non-compliance with seepage requirements is considered a water-holding violation.
  - A. Rice pesticides, such as thiobencarb, shall not be applied to rice fields exhibiting visible water seepage that moves offsite into drains that are considered state waters.
  - B. Borders surrounding each rice field shall be compacted before water is allowed to fill the field; the degree of compaction shall be sufficient to prevent water from seeping through the border. For example, compaction may be achieved by driving the tires or tracks of a tractor, or other heavy vehicle, on one side of the border.
  - C. This requirement applies to new or reworked existing borders for the current rice season.
  - D. A common border between two existing rice fields does not need to be compacted.

*\*\*Seepage is defined as the lateral movement of irrigation water through a rice field levee or border to an area outside the normally flooded production area. Seepage can occur through levees into adjacent dry fields or into adjacent drains and canals*

# Thiobencarb

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## Water Management

- I. Rice fields treated with thiobencarb in the Sacramento/San Joaquin Valley (south of the line defined by Roads E10 and 116 in Yolo County and the American River in Sacramento County), except those treated with Abolish® 8EC:
  - A. Except as listed below, all water on treated fields must be retained on the treated fields for at least 19 days following application. When drainage begins, water discharge must not exceed two inches of water over a drain box weir for an additional seven days. Unregulated discharges from these fields may begin after 26 days.
    1. When water is contained within a tailwater recovery system, ponded on fallow land, or contained in other systems appropriate for preventing discharge, the system may discharge 19 days following the last application of thiobencarb within the system unless:
      - (a) The system is under the control of one permittee, then water may be discharged from the application site in a manner consistent with product labeling (14-day water-hold period).
      - (b) The system includes drainage from more than one permittee, then water must be retained on the site of application for six days before discharged from the application site into the system.
      - (c) Water is on fields within the bounds of areas that discharge negligible amounts of rice field drainage into perennial streams until fields are drained for harvest. Water-hold may be reduced to six days, if the commissioner evaluates such sites and verifies the hydrologic isolation of the fields.
- II. Fields treated with Abolish® 8EC:
  - A. Except as listed below, all water on treated fields must be retained on the treated fields for at least 19 days following application. When drainage begins, water discharge must be released at a volume not to exceed two inches of water over a drain box weir for an additional seven days. Unregulated discharges from these fields may begin after 26 days.
    1. For water contained within a tailwater recovery system, ponded on fallow land, or contained in other systems appropriate for preventing discharge, the system may discharge 19 days following the last application within the system unless:
      - (a) The system is under the control of one permittee, then water may be discharged from the application site in a manner consistent with product labeling (14-day water-hold period).
      - (b) The system includes drainage from more than one permittee, then water must be retained on the site of application for six days before discharged from the application site into the system.
      - (c) Water is on fields within the bounds of areas that discharge negligible amounts of rice field drainage into perennial streams until fields are drained for harvest, then water-hold may be reduced to six days if the commissioner evaluates such sites and verifies the hydrologic isolation of the fields.

## Thiobencarb, Continued

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### III. Emergency release requirements (Salinity damage):

The county agricultural commissioner may authorize the emergency release of field water after a minimum 19-day water-hold period after the last thiobencarb application, following the review of a written application that demonstrates salinity levels are damaging to the crop.

- A. Applicants for such emergency releases must provide the following information:
  - 1. All information indicated on the emergency release request (Form A), including a description of the severity and extent of salinity damage.
  - 2. Electrical conductivity (EC) measurements, expressed as deciSiemens per meter (dS/m) or microSiemens per centimeter ( $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ ), from field water in each paddy suspected of having salinity problems. To most effectively demonstrate salinity problems, measurements should be taken wherever salinity problems are evident.
  - 3. The instrument (make and model) used to determine EC measurements. The instrument must have a sensitivity range that accommodates the full range of EC values in intake and paddy water (usually a range of 0-5.0 dS/m or 0-5,000  $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$  should be sufficient) and should have a resolution of not less than five percent. The instrument must be calibrated according to the manufacturer's instructions. The applicant must specify the method of temperature compensation (i.e., automatic, conversion table).
  - 4. Who made the EC measurements.
  - 5. The source of irrigation water (e.g., district supply canal, drainage canal, well, etc.).
- B. An emergency release may be granted only if all of the following conditions are satisfied:
  - 1. All required information is provided.
  - 2. Water management requirements for rice pesticides other than thiobencarb are satisfied.
  - 3. EC of paddy water exceeds 2.0 dS/m or 2,000  $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ .
  - 4. The county agricultural commissioner or his/her staff inspects the site.
- C. Water may be released from paddies where EC measurements exceed 2.0 dS/m or 2,000  $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$  and from paddies down gradient from such paddies within the same field. Water shall only be released in an amount necessary to mitigate the salinity problem.
- D. Those issued an emergency release must submit to the county agricultural commissioner, a report (Form B) indicating the time and duration of the emergency release and data that can be used to calculate the total amount of water released during the emergency release.