Information available from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR), Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program indicates, between 1982 and 2003, approximately 800 injuries and illnesses were caused by topical pesticide exposure. During the same time period, an additional 1,800 injuries and illnesses were suspected to be related to topical pesticide exposure. DPR defines topical pesticide exposure as health effects to the eyes and/or skin.

Pesticide exposures may be prevented by taking simple several precautions, including protecting your body from pesticides.

For additional information about handling and using pesticides, go to the Clover Safe note at: http://ucanr.org/cloversafe.

Clover Safe Notes are prepared by the UC ANR Office of Environmental Health & Safety, in support of the Statewide 4-H Youth Development Program.