



# PEP-TALK

# **OSU Pesticide Education Programs**



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# **Triazine Special Review**

I. Cyanazine phaseout: A preliminary determination to end a special review of cyanazine, a restricted use pesticide sold under the brand names "Bladex" and "Cynex," was made by EPA March 1, based on the pesticide registrants' decisions to voluntarily cancel their products.

Herbicide cyanazine products will be gradually phased out over seven years. The schedule for the phaseout is as follows:

July 25, 1996 - Dec. 31, 1999: Labels on all products shipped by a manufacturer after July 25, 1996, will state that the product may not be sold or distributed after Sept. 30, 2002.

Dec. 31 1999 - Sept. 30, 2002: Products may continue to be distributed or sold in the channels of trade in accordance with labels through Sept. 30, 2002.

After Sept. 30, 2002 - Dec. 31, 2002: Existing stocks of cyanizine products in the channels of trade to be used, thereby precluding the need for recall and disposal of the unused product.

(P & T Chem. News, 3/6/96)

II. Atrazine, Simazine Special Review: A special review on two triazine herbicides, atrazine and simazine, could be completed as early as December 1997.

The special review on the triazine herbicides is unique in that it represents the EPA's first attempt to calculate additive risks from various exposures of workers and the public. The agency's concern regarding "additive risks" results from eating plants treated with triazines combined with minute quantities of the herbicides found in drinking water wells.

In response to questions about how benefits and risks of triazines are being weighed by the agency, an EPA spokesperson said that if the benefits of a particular pesticide are great then the agency tries to lower the risks of its usage by mandating best available technology for applicators and other highly exposed groups.

(P & T Chem. News, 3/27/96)

# **Ohio SMP Process**

The Ohio Pesticide and Ground Water State Management Plans (SMP's) process is underway. The U.S. EPA requires that each state develop a generic plan that will integrate all ground water related programs, authorities, and statutes into a comprehensive program.

It is the intention of the program for states to promote the sound use of pesticides, address pesticide use in all areas, and describe the policies, management programs, and regulatory approaches that the Agency will use to protect ground water from risks of contamination by pesticides. Due to groundwater concerns specific SMP's will be required of 5 pesticides in the future including: atrazine, alachlor, cyanazine, metachlor and simazine.

Until the development of the "Pesticide and Ground Water Strategy" and the SMP Guidance, EPA's policy for pesticides that pose an unreasonable threat to ground water despite national labeling and restricted use designations probably would have been to cancel them nationally or not register them. National prohibition based on a national risk/benefit assessment may not fully consider the variability in the groundwater situation in each state.

SMP is the mechanism that will allow states to continue to use a pesticide that would otherwise be unavailable due to cancellation or lack of registration. Ideally, it will allow states to tailor pesticide management to local conditions.

In developing SMP's States address: Local ground water vulnerability, current use and value of ground water, future trends of ground water use for various locations, and social and economic values of alternative preventive strategies.

The Ohio Department of Agriculture has been holding monthly meetings to allow the public to comment on proposed drafts of the plan. There will be two more public meetings to gather input for the final draft which will be submitted to the Region 5 EPA office by Sept. 30, 1996. (EPA, "Guidance for Pesticides and Ground Water State Management Plans," Dec. 1993)

# Chemical & Label Update

# I. Ohio Issues 24(c) for Sevin®brand XLR Plus Carbaryl Insecticide for Apple Thinning

The purpose of the 24(c) is to allow earlier application at petal fall of Sevin and to allow time for a second application if needed. (ODA memo, 4/9/96)

#### II. Delaney Action

Nine food tolerances for five pesticides were proposed for revocation Feb. 27, 1996 by EPA, another in a series of Delaney clause-related actions. In an agreement in February 1995, EPA agreed to make decisions by April 1997 concerning 81 raw food or animal tolerances and whether they should be revoked. The nine tolerances proposed for revocation in February were dicofol on apples, grapes and plums; mancozeb on oats and wheat; propargite on apples and figs; simazine on sugarcane, and triademefon on wheat. The same proposal includes 31 raw food tolerances that the agency decided were not necessary to revoke.

In the wake of this proposal, industry and grower organizations renewed their pleas for congressional action to junk the Delaney clause. Comments may be submitted to EPA through May 30.

The revocation measure is one in a series of actions to implement a 1992 U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals decision upholding literal application of the Delaney clause. (P & T Chem. News, 2/28/96 & 3/13/96)

#### III. Apple Tolerance

Feb 21, EPA issued a final rule establishing a tolerance for the combined residues of the acaricide hexythiazox (Savey), in or on the raw agricultural commodity apples at 0.02 ppm. (Federal Register)

#### IV. 2, 4-D Up-date

EPA issued a proposal to extend to December 31, 1998, the 0.1 ppm tolerance for residues resulting from the preplant use of 2,4-D ester or amine in or on the raw agricultural commodity soybeans.

The agency has not yet completed the regulatory assessment of science findings and is therefore proposing to extend the tolerance until 1998. (P & T Chem. News, 2/14/96)

# V. Tolerance Exemption for Meat Meal, Red Pepper

In a final rule issued March 27, EPA established an exemption from he requirement of a tolerance for residues of the active ingredient biochemicals meat meal and red pepper in or on all raw agricultural commodities when applied as animal repellents in accordance with good agricultural practices. (P & T Chemical News, 4/3/96)

# **DuPont Marketing Squabble**

Regulation of marketing and pricing of pesticides is not within EPA's domain, so EPA's OPP will not intervene in a dispute between DuPont Chemical Corp. and the North Dakota Dept. Of Agriculture over disparate pricing of the company's Harmony extra and Pinnacle pesticides, said Assistant Administrator Lynn Goldman.

Goldman was responding to a complaint that DuPont had deliberately added a soybean killer, tribenuron-methyl, to its Harmony product, in an attempt to persuade farmers to buy its higher-priced Pinnacle. Harmony Extra has a higher level than Pinnacle of the active ingredient that would make it effective as a pesticide for soybeans, but is only one-third the cost of Pinnacle. (P & T Chem. News, 2/28/96)

# Lorain Co. Contamination

A Lorain County man pleaded guilty Friday March 28, 1996 to multiple counties of violating Ohio's pesticide laws which contributed to one of the nation's worst household pesticide contamination incidents. The defendant pleaded guilty to 12 counts including possession of criminal tools, vandalism, making a false statement concerning the use of pesticides, applying pesticides inconsistent with its label and using a restricted-use pesticide without an Ohio applicators license.

The man was indicted after an ODA investigation found he was operating without a license while possessing and applying methyl parathion to dwellings in the Lorain County, Ohio area. (Continued)

The largest pesticide contamination case of its kind in U.S. history has cost taxpayers more than \$21 million dollars. Approximately \$360,000 in analyzing samples in state laboratories has been spent by the ODA. Sentencing is expected in approximately six weeks. (ODA News Release, Denise Wible, 4/2/96)

### Tick...Tock

Time passes quickly. For those of you who have conducted winter schools for certification or recertification training, please send us your attendance numbers and evaluations. The PAT office needs these numbers for the annual Report of Results. Big thanks to those of you who have already sent them to us!

### **Testing**

Spring is the busy applicator exam season. ODA offers testing at the Reynoldsburg office every Wednesday. Please call ahead for an appointment to ensure testing space.

ODA phone: 614-728-6987

If counties would like to share their testing sites / dates we would be happy to list this information in PEP-Talk!

### Psst.....

Here are some great places to visit regarding pesticide education and regulation on the Internet.

Http://ianrwww.unl.edu/ianr/pat/ephome.html - University of Nebraska-Lincoln Pesticide Education Resources

Http://cherryhill.ext.vt.edu/htmldous/sitelist.html - Virginia

Tech Pesticide Program including a great list of links to other sites including Federal government, state educational and industry.

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