PEP-TALK

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CHEMICAL & LABEL UPDATE

The following information provides registration status of particular pesticides and should not be considered as pesticide recommendations by OSU Extension.

FRUITS

Danitol (fenpropathrin)--Valent--EPA established time limited residue tolerances to cover a specific exemption on currants. (Federal Register, July 14, 1997)

JMS Stylet Oil (petroleum oil)--JMS Flower Farm--Added to their label the usage on apples to control European red mites. (Federal Register, July 14, 1997)

FUNGICIDES

Kocide 2000 (copper hydroxide)--Griffin--The signal word has been changed from danger to warning. (Ag. Chem. News, August 15, 1997)

Propiconazole--Novartis--EPA has established time-limited tolerances for this product in or on grain sorghum, grain; grain sorghum, stover; and sorghum aspirated grain fractions. This action is in response to EPA's granting of emergency exemptions under section 18 authorizing use of the pesticide on grain sorghum in Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. (Federal Register, August 13, 1997)

ORNAMENTAL & TURF

Conserve SC (spinosad)--DowElanco-- Received EPA registration to use on turf and ornamentals. It controls leaf eating insects such as leafminers, thrips and lepidoptera insects. On turf it is used to control sod webworms, armyworms and cutworms. (Ag. Chem. News, August 15, 1997)

Cyclocel (chlormequat chloride)--American Cyanamid--Added to their label for this growth regulator the usage on marigolds and gardenias. (Ag. Chem. News, August 15, 1997)

Hormodin (IBA)--The Geiger Co.--Received EPA registration for this growth regulator to use on ornamental plants to improve rooting. (Ag. Chem. News, August 15, 1997)

Mesurol 75W (methiocarb)-Gowan--A new label recommendation for this product includes control of aphids, mites, western flower thrips, snails, and slugs on nursery and greenhouse ornamentals, flowers, shrubs and trees. (Chemically Speaking, August 1997)

Turflon Ester (triclopyr)--DowElanco--Added to their label the suppression of bermudagrass in cool season turf

species. (Federal Register, July 14, 1997)

VEGETABLE

Apron FL (metalaxyl)--Gustafson--Added to their label the usage as a seed treatment on carrots. (Ag. Chem. News, August 15, 1997)

Avermectin--EPA has established time-limited tolerances for avermectin in or on celeriac and spinach. This is in response to EPA's granting of section 18 emergency exemptions authorizing use of the pesticide for the two-spotted spider mite and leafminer in California. (Federal Register, August 19, 1997)

Cyromazine (N-cyclopropyl-1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-triamine)--EPA established a time-limited tolerance for combined residues of cyromazine and its metabolite, melamine in or on dry bulb onions. This action is in response to EPA's granting of an emergency exemption under section authorizing use of the pesticide on onion seed in California. (Federal Register, August 29, 1997)

Danitol 2.4EC (fenpropathrin)--Valent--A new label recommendation is included on this product for mixing with Monitor 4 insecticide to control the silverleaf whitefly on fresh market tomatoes. (Chemically Speaking, August 1997)

Desmedipham—This regulation establishes a time-limited tolerance for the herbicide desmedipham in or on garden beet roots and tops. This action is in response to EPA's granting of an emergency exemption under section 18 authorizing use of the pesticide on red garden beets in New York. (Federal Register, August 29, 1997)

EPTAM 7-E (EPTC)--Zeneca--Added to their label the usage by chemigation on dry beans and to control cutleaf nightshade. (Federal Register, July 14, 1997)

Ronilan (vinclozolin)--BASF--EPA approved this product on snap beans to control white mold and grey mold. (Ag. Chem. News, August 15, 1997)

Paraquat (1,1'-dimethyl-4,4'-bipyridinium-ion)--EPA has established time-limited tolerances for paraquat in or on dry peas and mustard seed. This action is in response to EPA's granting of emergency exemptions under section 18 authorizing use of the pesticide on dry peas in Idaho, Oregon and Washington, and mustard seed in Washington. (Federal Register, August 29, 1997)

Pyridate--EPA has established a time-limited tolerance for combined residues of pyridate in or on chickpeas. This action is in response to EPA's granting of an emergency exemption under section 18 authorizing use of the pesticide in central Washington and north-central Oregon due to broadleaf weed infestations. (Federal Register, August 22, 1997)

Sethoxydim--BASF--EPA has established a time-limited tolerance for residues of sethoxydim in or on horseradish. This action is in response to EPA's granting of an emergency exemption under section 18 authorizing use of the pesticide on horseradish in Illinois. (Federal Register, August 22, 1997)

MISCELLANEOUS

Replicase Protein of Potato Leaf Roll Virus--Monsanto Co.--EPA has established an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for residues of the biological pesticide Replicase Proteins of Potato Leaf Roll Virus and the genetic material necessary for its production in or on all raw agricultural commodities. (Federal Register, August 15, 1997) This is quite a significant event as it is the first tolerance exemption for a plant virus replicase protein signed by the EPA Office Director. The replicase proteins from the potato leaf roll virus are produced by potatoes through genetic engineering of the potato. These proteins prevent virus infection of the plant and thereby eliminate the need for high rates of chemical insecticides. Under the proposed plant-pesticide rule, a registration for this use is not needed, but a tolerance exemption under FFDCA was required. (John Ward, USEPA, August 15, 1997)

Coat Protein of Potato Virus Y--Monsanto Co.--EPA has established an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for residues of the biological pesticide Coat Proteins of Potato Virus Y and the genetic material necessary for its production in or on all raw agricultural commodities. (Federal Register, August 15, 1997)

Coat Protein of Cucumber Mosaic Virus and the Genetic Material Necessary for its Production--Asgrow Seed Company--EPA has established an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for residues of this biological pesticide in or on all raw agricultural commodities. (Federal Register, August 22, 1997)

Coat Protein of Papaya Ringspot Virus and the Genetic Material Necessary for its Production--EPA has established an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for residues of this biological pesticide in or on all raw agricultural commodities. Cornell University submitted the exemption petition. (Federal Register, August 22, 1997)

Coat Proteins of Watermelon Mosaic Virus-2 and Zucchini Yellow Mosaic Virus and the Genetic Material Necessary for its Production--EPA has established an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for residues of this biological pesticide in or on all raw agricultural commodities. Cornell University submitted the exemption petition. (Federal Register, August 22, 1997)

Requests to Delete Uses in Certain Pesticide Registrations

Unless a request is withdrawn, the EPA will approve the following use deletions and they will become effective on February 23, 1998. The use deletions are for trees and ornamentals, except as noted. Highlights of the list of mostly carbaryll containing products include:

Bonide Vegetable-Floral Dust or Spray

Bonide Sevin 5% Dust

Kill-Ko 10% & 5% Sevin Dust

ORTHO Sevin 10 Dust

Sevin Brand Carbaryl Insecticide Dust

10% Sevin Dust

Royal Gard 5% Sevin

R&M Garden & Kennel Dust 5% & 10%

SMCP Sevin 5% & 105 Dust

Miller 1.75% Sevin Dust

Science 5% Sevin Dust

Green Light Sevin 10% Dust

Black Leaf Liquid Flowable & Fruit Tree Spray

Agway Sevin Garden Dust

Freshgard 20

Ford's Sevin 5% & 10% Dust

Security Brand Big 10% & 5% Dust

Acme 1% Rotenone Garden Guard--Use on Terrestrial food crops

DIBROM Concentrate--Rangeland use (use for horn fly control on range cattle)

(See Federal Register for complete listing, August 27, 1997)

Requests to Voluntarily Cancel Certain Pesticide Registrations

Unless a request is withdrawn by February 23, 1998, orders will be issued cancelling all of the following registrations.

Caparol & MSMA Surfactant Herbicide

Caparol Accu-Pak

Fenoxycarb MG2E

D.Z.N Diazinon 14g

Riverdale MCPP LV

Du Pont Lannate & Lannate LV Insecticide

Du Pont Vydate L Insecticide/ nematicide

Rockland Rabon Livestock Dust

Morestan 25% Wettable Powder Miticide, Fungicide, Insecticide

Methyl Parathion 4EC

Helena ``Clean-Up" Weed and Brush Killer

Sk-368 Weed Killer

CO-Ral (Coumaphos) Cattle Insecticide Pour-On & Spray Foam

Clean Crop Dimethoate 400

Mitac WP

Setre Simazine-Bromacil 90 W.P.

Several Whitmire pet and household products

Several Ectogard pet and household products

Several Shaw weed and feed products (See Federal Register for complete listing, August 27, 1997)



THIDIOCARB UPDATE

The EPA has completed an evaluation of risks associated with residues of thiodicarb and its metabolite methomyl. Based on this evaluation, EPA has re-established the tolerances (except Brassica vegetables) for combined residues of thiodicarb and its metabolite methomyl on broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, and leafy vegetables. (Federal Register, August 22, 1997) These tolerances were set to expire on August 15, 1997. Instead, these tolerances are being re-established at the same levels that were in place previously.

EPA has made this decision after working with the registrants of thiodicarb and a related pesticide (methomyl) to conduct a specialized risk assessment. This cooperative effort resulted in EPA being able to make the scientific determination that there is a reasonable certainty of no harm from aggregate exposure to the potential residues.

In addition, existing tolerances for soybeans, soybean hulls, sweet corn, cottonseed, and cottonseed hulls remain in effect. (John Ward, USEPA, August 18, 1997)

PESTICIDE TOLERANCE REASSESSMENT LIST AVAILABLE

EPA has released its schedule for reassessment of pesticide tolerances. Under the FQPA, EPA must reassess 9,728 tolerances within the next ten years. Pesticides have been divided into three groups for reassessment. If you would like a copy of the time table for reassessment, the list of groups of pesticides, or the Federal Register notice announcing the reassessment procedures please call the Ohio PAT office. (Federal Register, August 4, 1997)

EU TO REQUIRE LABELING OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED SOYBEANS

The European Union's Standing Committee on Food accepted a proposal on July 31 that requires specific labeling for genetically modified soybeans and maize. This regulation goes into effect on November 1. Because corn and soybeans are not considered novel food items by the EU, it was difficult to enact a labeling regulation.

The guidelines require labeling for all products that contain genetically modified organisms (GMO's) regardless of

whether the product is intended for human consumption. Furthermore, if it can not be determined whether or not a product contains GMO's, the labeling must say "may contain GMO's." This requirement will affect U.S. soybeans that are exported to Europe because conventional produce is currently mixed with genetically modified seed. (P & T News, August 13, 1997)

USDA TO CERTIFY PESTICIDE-FREE 'ORGANIC' FOODS

On August 4, a USDA official said that comprehensive rules governing the production of "organic" produce, meat and processed foods without synthetic pesticides will be determined very soon.

"Let there be no doubt, we will have a proposed rule, and it will be published sooner than you know" said a USDA official. (P & T News, August 13, 1997) "The Organic Foods Production Act, included in the 1990 federal farm bill, mandated the establishment of national standards for the production and handling of foods labeled as "organic." (P & T News, August 13, 1997) These organic rules will control all aspects of organic production and punish those who misapply pesticides that effect 'organic' products.

All synthetic pesticides would be banned in products labeled as organic except particular products like pheromones which are impossible to produce naturally. Other exceptions include black plastic and "synthetics like baking powder and baking soda...which are created by a synthetic procedure that changes their natural chemical basis." (P & T News, August 13, 1997) The exemption may also allow use of GMO's in organic foods.

Under this regulation, organic farmers would be responsible for buffer zones to prevent drift damage from neighboring conventional farms. (P & T News, August 13, 1997)

U.S. PAYS MILLIONS FOR CLEANUP FROM AMATEUR EXTERMINATORS

MOSS POINT, Miss. (excerpts from article) To his many customers, exterminator Paul Walls Sr. made but one claim about the cola-colored bug spray he peddled from the back of his truck: "It kills them all," he'd say in a near whisper, "and they don't come back."

He was right about that much. In the small towns along Mississippi's southeastern coast, Walls became celebrated for his "cotton poison," a mysterious, odd-smelling concoction that obliterated roaches and anything else that slithered or crawled.

Today, more than nine months after Walls and Eatman were arrested, 1,213 Mississippians remain exiled from their homes because of toxins that seeped into floorboards and clung to fibers and plastics. The interiors of nearly 500 buildings are being stripped to the bare studs and rebuilt, all at U.S. taxpayers' expense. Entire trailer homes are being demolished. Furniture, carpet and appliances are being hauled away and replaced. No one has died, but dozens of people have complained of flu-like symptoms while others are worried about future health problems from a pesticide whose long-term effects are not fully known.

The cost is enormous. The \$22 million spent so far is about half the \$40 million the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency expects to spend this year to clean up the damage and compensate the evacuees. The case already has set a new standard for pesticide misuse, while raising questions about the effectiveness of laws that control the distribution of farm chemicals.

But the problem is not confined to Mississippi. Batches of methyl parathion that originated in the Deep South have apparently been carried north by other amateur exterminators who have created a web of contamination that extends to Louisiana, Arkansas, Tennessee, Ohio, Michigan and Illinois. In Chicago alone, the EPA is expected to spend \$20 million to clean up after Reuben Brown, a retired butcher who sprayed hundreds of homes and apartments with what clients called "the Mississippi stuff."

Nationwide, the epidemic of illegal pesticide-slinging could cost taxpayers \$100 million under the federal hazardous waste cleanup program known as Superfund. The cost is estimated to be three times the amount of Superfund money spent in 1983 to purchase dioxin-tainted Times Beach, Mo.

The government, which promised to shoulder the cost of removing and replacing contaminated material, is paying as much as \$40,000 to rebuild shanties that were on the verge of collapse. At one such house, a pink and purple cottage with a rotting porch and sagging roof, workers struggled to find beams sturdy enough to support new panel walls. Yet the elderly owner insisted on a special textured ceiling speckled with gold glitter.

"Some people sprayed the stuff in their own houses, and now they're trying to collect," said Fernando Mann, a Moss Point man who watched from his porch last week as construction crews completed work on a contaminated house next door. "Those two [Walls and Eatman] weren't the only ones doing it, just the only ones who got caught." (Joby Warrick, Washington Post Staff Writer, August 18, 1997)

PSST...

A one-stop source for environmental regulations will soon be available. The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) says that summaries of state and federal environmental regulations will be listed on the Internet starting in September at: http://www.nasda-hp.org. (Chemically Speaking, August 1997)

CNN Website On Endocrine Disrupters

The CNN website has a very interesting article which summarizes the fall from fame of Dr. John McLachlan of Tulane University - author of several articles in Science which alarmed the world about the possible synergistic effects of estrogenic pesticides. In the last issue of PEP-TALK we reported that Tulane University was retracting its study on endocrine distrupters because their results could not be duplicated.

According to CNN (article posted on their website August 21, 1997 at: 8:18 p.m. EDT), "this environmental bombshell last year has turned out to be a dud." The complete article "Widely Reported Study Deemed Flawed! - Report Linked Pesticides With Estrogen Increase" can be viewed by linking to the CNN site at: "http://www.CNN.com/EARTH/9708/21/research.probe.ap/index.html".

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