

PEP-Talk, March, 2006

Pesticide Education Program
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Risk Assessment for Rotenone

EPA is releasing the human health and environmental fate and effects risk assessment for rotenone, an insecticide used in agricultural crops, home and garden use, domesticated animals and in lakes and streams to eradicate unwanted species. There is concern with occupation exposure by handlers and to adults, youth and children when rotenone is used around the home, garden and on pets. More information is at: <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-PEST/2006/February/Day-10/p1902.htm> The comment period will end on April 11, 2006. (Source: EPA Office of Pesticide Programs Federal Register Document.)

National Use Pesticide Database

The fungicide and herbicide components of the National Pesticide Use Database: 2002 have been released by the CropLife Foundation. The database is available at: http://www.croplifefoundation.org/cpri_npud2002.htm and contains information about pesticide use in the United States. (Source: CropLife Foundation)

Risk Assessment for Lindane

EPA has released the risk assessment for lindane and other hexachlorocyclohexane (HCH) isomers. There is a comment period for the risk assessment until April 10. Lindane is used for public health as an active ingredient in shampoos and creams to treat lice and scabies. Lindane is also used as a seed treatment for barley, corn, oats, rye, sorghum and wheat and as a soil treatment for some ornamentals.

This is a follow-up to the 2002 Lindane Reregistration Eligibility Decision which kept the remaining lindane seed treatment uses, provided certain conditions were met. There were public comments that EPA had not considered the other HCH isomers.

Lindane and the other HCH isomers are members of the organochlorine family. The HCH isomers are considered persistent, bioaccumulative, toxic and mobile in the environment. EPA will release any changes after the public comment period. More information is available

at: http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/REDs/factsheets/lindane_isomers_fs.htm (Source: EPA Office of Pesticide Programs fact sheet: Lindane and Other HCH Isomers)

Lawsuit Regarding Azinphos-methyl and Phosmet

EPA reached a settlement with the United Farm Workers and other plaintiffs who brought a lawsuit against EPA regarding the interim reregistration eligibility decision (IRED) for azinphos-methyl (AZM) and phosmet, both organophosphate insecticides used on orchard fruits, berries, nuts and other crops.

The IRED outlined cancellation or phase out of 35 uses of AZM over a four-year period. The remaining ten registrations were to be time-limited and available for reregistration for a period of four years after which EPA would evaluate the data for a renewal of the registrations. Phosmet had three uses cancelled and nine uses in a similar time-limited situation. There were 33 uses of phosmet that were reeligible for registration.

The lawsuit alleged the IREDs were not consistent with federal law for pesticides and EPA should be forced to reconsider the "time

limited" uses of the pesticides. The settlement outline says that EPA will make a final determination on the AZM registrations by August 3, 2006 and also establish a REI for the nine phosmet uses on the same day. More information is at:http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/op/azm/settlement_fs.htm (Source: EPA Office of Pesticide Programs factsheet: Settlement Agreement Regarding Azinphos-methyl and Phosmet)

Pesticide Crop Watch

Herbicides

Sodium chlorate – EPA has released the risk assessment for inorganic chlorates and has a comment period until April 3, 2006. Sodium chlorate is a non-selective herbicide and a soil sterilant and is can be used on corn, soybeans, dry beans, sunflowers, grain sorghum, wheat and other crops. The proposal is label restrictions for discharge into surface water, irrigation or sewage systems along with application rate clarification on the label. For more information, go to:<http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-PEST/2006/February/Day-01/p841.htm>

Fumigants

Methyl bromide – EPA has finalized a rule that eight million kilograms of methyl bromide are allowed for approved critical uses during 2006, which is 32 percent of the U.S. methyl bromide use in 1991.

(Sources for Pesticide Crop Watch: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 34, No. 16; EPA Office of Pesticide Programs website)

Upcoming Events

Wood-Destroying Insect Inspection

March 9, 2006

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Taught at ODA in Reynoldsburg

Commercial New Applicator School

March 16, 2006

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Taught at ODA in Reynoldsburg

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