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Turf Uses of Clopyralid Deleted

Dow AgriSciences is deleting the residential turf uses from the clopyralid product label. This follows debate over the presence of clopyralid in composted material. The herbicide, used to kill dandelions, clover and other broadleaf plants, typically breaks down in 24 days.

However, when yard waste is composted, the heat produced kills the bacteria responsible for degrading the chemical. Traces of the chemical that remain in compost can damage sensitive plants such as tomatoes, legumes and sunflowers. The product will still be available for non-residential turf, such as golf courses, but the amended label will dictate that clippings from treated grass can not be composted. (*Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 30, No. 40*)

Methoprene for Controlling Mosquitoes in Water Troughs

The product label for methoprene states that the biopesticide can be used to control mosquitoes in water-holding receptacles and other artificial water-holding containers. The Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division at EPA has determined that the

product can be used in animal watering troughs because methoprene is also registered as a feed-through pesticide for control of flies in livestock manure.

Bt Crop Update

EPA is investigating possible pollen drift by two biotech companies. EPA has alleged the companies violated FIFRA by failing to take measures to prevent the spread of experimental crops. The violations were discovered in Hawaii in experimental Bt field trials where the companies failed to adhere to provisions in their experimental use permits designed to curb pollen drift. Specifically, EPA alleges that one company neglected to isolate experimental Bt corn with a border crop of hybrid corn and a row of wind-breaking trees. The other company will be charged with planting Bt corn at an unapproved location too close to other crops. Both corn varieties were engineered to resist the corn rootworm. (*Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 30, No. 43*)

In an unrelated story, a research project sponsored by USDA, Pioneer HiBred and Mycogen Seeds is pointing to the possibility that genetically engineered crops could provide weeds with insect resisting genes. The study used sunflowers to try to find if genetically engineered sunflowers passed their genes to non-engineered sunflowers. The study has preliminarily found that non-engineered sunflowers had more insect damage when grown by other non-engineered plants. Non-engineered plants grown near engineered plants had less insect damage. (*Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 30, No. 44*)

WPS Update

WPS - Debate over Multiple REI's

Recently, several agencies and groups met to discuss the implications of multiple re-entry intervals (REI's) on labels. The multiple REIs would impact Worker Protection Standards (WPS) for these products. Those involved in the discussions included USDA, EPA, state regulatory departments, grower groups and farm worker advocate groups.

Those in favor of multiple REIs on the label indicated the system would be more flexible for growers, allowing for products to be used in multiple crop situations. Another option would be to list a single REI, but allow exemptions for certain crops or growing situations. The concern of multiple REIs or exemptions was the difficulty of enforcement action compared to the single REI.

Colorado Farm Workers Recieve Little Training

A report released by the Colorado Legal Services' Migrant Farm Worker Division found that nearly 60 percent of migrant farm workers in Colorado have not received safety training for working with pesticides and don't understand the potential health effects related to exposure. The Worker Protection Standard (WPS) requires that either a certified pesticide applicator or someone who has completed a train-the-trainer program conduct safety training.

The survey was modeled around elements of the WPS to determine the level of compliance on Colorado farms. Of the 88 farm workers surveyed, 49 percent said they had experienced skin irritation, headaches or inflamed eyes after working in the fields and 22 percent said they had experienced difficulty breathing. Nearly half of the respondents said they had been sent to work in treated fields before they believed it was safe to enter. (*Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 30, No. 44*)

Carbaryl Assessment Available

The preliminary, health and ecological assessment of carbaryl has been published in the *Federal Register*. Carbaryl is an N-methyl carbamate and is one of the most widely used insecticides in the U.S. Annual applications of carbaryl total 3.9 million pounds of active ingredient with 59 percent used in agriculture, 34 percent in residential and the remaining 7 percent in nursery, landscape and golf course sites.

The risks from carbaryl are largely limited to residential uses and possibly drinking water exposures. None of the agricultural uses has led to any concerns over dietary risk, however acute drinking water exposures has led to concerns. Carbaryl is the second-most widely detected insecticide in surface water, leading to surface water concerns. Copies of the preliminary assessment are [available electronically](#) . (*Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 30, No. 45*)

Urban Pesticide Survey

In August, the New York Attorney General's office released a report on pesticide use in public parks and housing developments. As a result of the survey, the attorney general plans to distribute brochures on alternative pest management practices and increase efforts to curb the sale of unregistered pesticides by retailers.

Highlights of the report include that eight out of ten housing developments that were surveyed regularly apply pesticides inside apartments and in common areas. Sixty-nine of the responding residents applied pesticides in their own homes and one-third did so at least once a week, some using pesticides that are illegal in New York. Only two of the 15 institutions surveyed have adopted written pest management policies

and of the 73 stores located near public housing facilities, 12 sold illegal pesticides in 2000. (Source: *Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News*, Vol. 30, No. 44)

European Group Gets Cooked Up about Herbicides

A Swedish study published last spring linked the chemical acrylamide to cancer in rats, believed to also act as a nerve toxin in humans. The London-based Institute of Science in Society (ISS) is contending that herbicides may be causing acrylamide to appear in cooked food.

The ISS has stated they believe glyphosate herbicides interact with the polymer polyacrylamide which is added to reduce spray drift and act as a surfactant. The group says that adding heat and light to products treated with this combination causes acrylamide to be released and present in the cooked food.

Monsanto has stated that it's impossible to make the link from glyphosate herbicides to acrylamide in cooked foods. A spokesperson stated that Monsanto does not add polyacrylamide to any of its glyphosate herbicide formulations - including Roundup. (Source: *Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News*, Vol. 30, No. 43)

Snakehead Drama Plays Out

A northern snakehead fish, a non-native predatory fish native to China, had produced high drama in a Maryland pond. The fish is considered an invasive specie as it can eat fish up to one-third of its body length, live in oxygen-depleted waters by gulping air at the surface and survive several days out of the water.

The fish was released in the pond by the fish owner who will not be charged as the two-year statute of limitations has expired. The Department of Interior has proposed to add the species to the list of injurious species, which would prohibit the importation of the fish anywhere in the U.S. and make it illegal to transport the fish across state lines. The pond was treated with pesticides to kill the fish. (Sources: *Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News*, Vol. 30, Nos. 42 & 43)

Australia Plans to Compensate for Environmental Regulations

The Australian Federal Cabinet will pursue a plan to compensate farmers if the value of their property depreciates due to environmental regulations. According to ABC News Online, the plan would be discussed before the end of the year at a meeting between the Commonwealth and state governments. (Source: *Pesticide & Toxic News*, Vol. 30, No. 44)

Pesticide Crop Watch

Insecticides

Alco Equine Spray (dipropyl isocinchomeronate; piperonyl butoxide; pyrethrins; N-octyl bicycloheptene dicarboximide) - AMVAC Chemical Corp. has deleted use on animals intended for human consumption.

Esteem (pyriproxyfen) - Valent added to their label usage on nut crops.

Fulfill (pymetrozine) - Syngenta added to their label the usage on hops, pecans, cole crops and leafy vegetables.

Knack (pyriproxyfen) - Valent added to their the label the usage on stone fruits.

Lindane 40% (lindane) - Crompton Mfg. has deleted use on cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, Brussels sprouts and radishes

Rimon (novaluron) - Makhteshim Agan added to their label the usage on ornamentals grown in shadehouses and outdoor nurseries.

Surround (kaolin) - Engelhart Corp. added to their label the usage on leafy vegetables, cereal grains, brassica vegetables and ornamentals.

TCI Captan-Lindane Seed Treatment (lindane) - Trace Chemicals has deleted use on spinach, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, Brussel sprouts and radishes.

Herbicides

Goal (oxyfluorfen) - Dow AgroSciences added to their label the use by chemigation and the usage on garbanzo beans, garlic and non crop use sites.

Trilin 10G (trifluralin) - Griffin has deleted use on eggplant and onion

Fungicides

AllPro Exotherm Termil (chlorothalonil) - Value Gardens Supply has deleted use on greenhouse tomatoes.

Elevate (fenhexamid) - Arvesta will add to their label the foliar application on bushberries.

Misc.

Bird Shield (methyl anthranilate) - EPA has granted Bird Shield Corp. with an exemption from residue tolerance requirements on all agricultural commodities for this bird repellent.

Ditera (myrothecium verrucaria) - Valent BioSciences added to their label for this nematocide the usage on grapes.

Smart Fresh (1-MCP) - Agro Fresh/Rohm & Haas have received EPA registration on apples to prevent the formation of ethylene after harvest. Registration on other fruits and vegetables is being pursued.

(Sources for Pesticide Crop Watch: Agricultural Chemical News, Vol. 276 and Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 30, No. 45)

Upcoming Events

Agent Inservice

January 8 & 9, 2003, OSU, Columbus

Commercial Recertification Conference

General Conference (turf, ornamental, industrial vegetation, general pest, termite)

November 26, 2002 - Cleveland, Holiday Inn Independence

December 17, 2002 - Dayton Columbus Center

January 15, 2003 - Perrysburg, Holiday Day Inn French Quarters

February 6, 2003 - Columbus Convention Center

Commercial Recertification Conference

Field Crop Conference (agricultural pest, agronomic weed)

January 29, 2003 - Columbus, OSU Fawcett Center

February 12, 2003 - Lima Holiday Inn