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Pesticide Education Program
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Section 18 Exemption for Soybean Rust

The U.S. EPA has granted a Section 18 for the use of tebuconazole, formulated as the product Folicur 3.6 Foliar Fungicide, on soybeans to control soybean rust. With the Section 18, there is a maximum of two applications and a maximum of 4.3 million acres in Ohio that may be treated under the soybean rust emergency exemption. The letter from U.S. EPA detailing the emergency exemption is available on the Pesticide Education Program website at <http://pested.osu.edu> Follow the link for "General Information" for the Section 18 information.

Proposed Section 18 Reforms

EPA has issued a proposed rule to streamline the application and review process for pesticide emergency exemptions. The proposed revisions would allow applicants for emergency exemptions to generally re-certify that emergency conditions continue in the second and third years for certain repeat requests. This way the requesting state or federal agency will not have to submit full renewal applications. Also, the revision would use a loss-based approach to substantiate the significance of economic losses and adjust the data requirements for documenting the loss. The proposed reforms are currently under a public comment period that closes on November 2, 2004. For more information, visit <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-PEST/2004/September/Day-03/p20038.htm> (Source: U.S. EPA website and AAPSE news)

What is Global Harmonization of Pesticide Labels?

U.S. EPA is involved with the global harmonization of pesticide labels, an initiative to promote a common, consistent criteria for classifying chemicals worldwide. The harmonized pesticide labels would use widely recognized symbols and warnings for physical hazards and key environmental and health effects such as toxicity, signal words, and hazard statements. Currently, the Agency has created a white paper about the global harmonization process that is available at <http://www.epa.gov/oppfead1/international/global/global-whitepaper.pdf> There is a public comment period for feedback about the paper until October 25, 2004. A summary of the global harmonization is available at <http://www.epa.gov/oppfead1/international/globalharmon.htm>

The U.S. involvement in the global harmonization would be voluntary. The scope of the harmonization effort includes all hazardous chemicals, including pesticides. The United Nations and World Summit committees involved with the process have set a goal of 2008 for implementation of the new system. If the U.S. decides to implement the new system, it would mean a change in the look and organization of all pesticide labels, and new terms regarding human and environmental safety statements on the label. (*Source: U.S. EPA website*)

2, 4-D Doesn't Cause Cancer

In June, EPA released the draft health and environmental risk assessment ([PEP Talk - July 2004](#)) for the reregistration of the herbicide 2, 4-D. In the risk assessment, EPA concluded the 2,4-D would not exceed the Agency's level of concern and based on the review of the 2,4-D studies, the Health Effects Division concluded that there is no additional evidence that 2,4-D causes cancer. A 2,4-D industry task force has compiled research information on 2,4-D that is available on their web site at <http://www.24d.org> The website chronicles studies on the widely-used herbicide as well as provide information on the registration process of the product. (*Source: Chemically Speaking, July, 2004*)

Soil Fumigants Cluster Review

EPA has begun work on a Soil Fumigant Cluster Assessment. Several soil fumigants will be reviewed concurrently because they are used in similar ways and may be expected to result in similar human exposure. The review is part of the Food Quality and Protection Act (FQPA) reregistration process for pesticides. The assessment will include methyl bromide, metam sodium, chloropicrin and dazomet. EPA is planning to publish its comparative risk assessment of these fumigants for public comment in January, 2005. (*Source: EPA Pesticide Program Update*)

Children and Pesticides

There are several studies under way to evaluate children's exposures to chemicals, including pesticides. One study is a coordinated effort between EPA and the American Chemistry Council. Entitled "A Children's Environmental Exposure Research Study - CHEERS" the study is developing more reliable exposure measurements on infants and toddlers for several household chemicals including flame retardants and pesticides. More information is available at <http://www.epa.gov/cheers>

The University of North Dakota received a grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to study pesticide exposure for children between seven and 12 years of age. The children will be divided into two groups: one group of 64 that live on a farm and one group of 64 that live at least one mile away from a farm. The children are tested during the summer months and the project has already tested 20 children this past summer. The remainder will be tested this coming summer.

The Oregon Child Development Coalition has recently completed a series of tests to measure the effects of second-hand pesticide exposure in the young children of migrant farm workers. The study tested 43 four and five-year-olds in Oregon. Half of the children's families worked in agriculture and the other half did not. The children were tested for neurological functions such as attention, memory and coordination. The final results are expected at this time next year. (*Sources: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 32, No. 47 and No. 46, EPA Office of Pesticide Programs*)

Beyond the Drift

The State of Maine has decided to postpone a rule that would mandate implementation of an IPM plan for public places such as restaurants, grocery stores and nursing homes. The rule was modeled after Maine's IPM requirement for schools that includes an individual, detailed plan for each school along with the designation of an IPM coordinator.

The proposed rule would have required implementation of the IPM plan, notification of pesticide use and the requirement that employees and customers could not be present when pesticides were in use. Opponents of the rule pointed out that the measures would not allow for routine, preventative pesticide use and open the door to insect and rodent infestations in food service establishments. (*Source: Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 32, No. 47*)

Pesticide Crop Watch

Insecticides

Admire (*imidacloprid*) - Bayer Crop Science has added to their label the usage on watercress.

Avaunt (*indoxacarb*) - DuPont has changed the preharvest interval on apples to 14 days from 28 days. Diazinon - Retailers are reminded that Dec. 31, 2004 is the stop-sale date for all outdoor diazinon home, lawn and garden products. It will be unlawful to sell these products after the stop-sale date. Consumers will be able to use the product they have already purchased according to the label directions.

Lindane - A coalition of environmental groups have sent a letter to EPA urging the agency to cancel registration for lindane. Currently, lindane is used as a seed treatment in agriculture and in consumer shampoos and lotions to treat lice and scabies.

Herbicides

Benflurin - EPA has released the reregistration eligibility decision for benflurin, which is a pre-emergent dinitroaniline herbicide used on residential and commercial turf, alfalfa, clover, birdsfoot trefoil, lettuce, non-bearing fruit and nut trees, non-bearing berries, non-bearing vineyards, ornamentals, non-cropland areas and Christmas trees. EPA is calling for reduced application rates and fewer applications for many uses of the herbicide. Oxadiazon - EPA has released the reregistration eligibility decision for oxadiazon, which is a wettable powder used to control pre-emergent or early post-emergent grassy and broadleaf weeds on golf courses, commercial turf, ornamental plants and shrubs in nurseries. EPA was concerned about potential surface water contamination from oxadiazon, so the maximum annual application has been reduced to 6 lbs. of active ingredient per acre. To reduce human exposure during mixing and loading, the product packaging must be water-soluble and handlers must wear chemical-resistant gloves. The public comment period for the reregistration eligibility decision are due by October 29 and more information is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-PEST/2004/August/Day-30/p19711.htm>

Snapshot 2.5TG (*isoxaben/trifluralin*) - Dow AgroSciences has added to their label more weeds controlled and the usage on more ornamentals

Fungicides

Accure (*spiroxamine*) - Bayer Crop Science has recently received registration for use on hops to control powdery mildew.

Cygnus (*kresoxim-methyl*) - BASF has added to their label the usage on Norway maple.

Misc.

EPA has finalized rules for aerial pesticide applicators for Pesticide Worker Protection Standard (WPS). The WPS rules have been amended to permit optional use of separable glove liners beneath chemical-resistant gloves and makes optional the provision that agriculture pilots wear gloves when entering or leaving aircraft.

Upcoming Events

Wood-Destroying Insect Inspection Training

October 14, 2004, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg

Agent Inservice for Pesticide Applicator Training

January 5 - 6, 2006
Agriculture Administration Building, OSU Campus, Columbus

Ohio Commercial Recertification Schools

General Schools (turf, ornamental, industrial vegetation and pest control)

Cleveland - November 22, 2004
Perrysburg - December 16, 2004 (notice switch to December)
Dayton - January 19, 2005 (notice switch to January)
Columbus - February 17, 2005

Field Crop Conferences (agronomic pest control)

Lima - December 9, 2004
Columbus OSU Fawcett Center - February 2, 2005

Fumigation Workshop

December 1 & 2, 2004
Ohio Department of Agriculture, Reynoldsburg

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