

disposition dates will be given in the cancellation orders.

Existing stocks are those stocks of registered pesticide products which are currently in the United States and which have been packaged, labeled, and released for shipment prior to the effective date of the cancellation action. Unless the provisions of an earlier order apply, existing stocks already in the hands of dealers or users can be distributed, sold or used legally until they are exhausted, provided that such further sale and use comply with the EPA-approved label and labeling of the affected product(s). Exceptions to these general rules will be made in specific cases when more stringent restrictions on sale, distribution, or use of the products or their ingredients have already been imposed, as in Special Review actions, or where the Agency has identified significant potential risk concerns associated with a particular chemical.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests, Product registrations.

Dated: February 15, 1996.

Oscar Morales,

Acting Director, Program Management and Support Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 96-4970 Filed 3-5-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

[OPP-180993; FRL 5349-9]

Bifenthrin; Receipt of Applications for Emergency Exemptions, Solicitation of Public Comment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA has received specific exemption requests from the California Environmental Protection Agency and the Arizona Department of Agriculture (hereafter referred to as the "Applicants") to use the pesticide bifenthrin [CAS 82657-04-3 (cis isomer) and CAS 83322-02-5 (trans isomer)] to treat up to 113,000 and 28,000 acres, respectively, of cucurbits (cucumbers, melons, pumpkins, and squash) to control the sweet potato whitefly. In accordance with 40 CFR 166.24, EPA is soliciting public comment before making the decision whether or not to grant the exemptions.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 21, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Three copies of written comments, bearing the identification

notation "OPP-180993," should be submitted by mail to: Public Response and Program Resources Branch, Field Operations Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person, bring comments to: Rm. 1132, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by sending electronic mail (e-mail) to: opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov. Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data will also be accepted on disks in WordPerfect in 5.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket number [OPP-180993]. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail. Electronic comments on this notice may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries. Additional information on electronic submissions can be found below in this document.

Information submitted in any comment concerning this notice may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as (CBI). Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be provided by the submitter for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by EPA without prior notice. All written comments filed pursuant to this notice will be available for public inspection in Rm. 1132, Crystal Mall No. 2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Andrea Beard, Registration Division (7505W), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location and telephone number: Floor 6, Crystal Station #1, 2800 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, (703) 308-8791; e-mail: beard.andrea@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 18 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) (7 U.S.C. 136p), the Administrator may, at her discretion, exempt a State agency from any registration provision of FIFRA if she determines that emergency conditions exist which require such exemption. The Applicants have

requested the Administrator to issue specific exemptions for the use of bifenthrin on cucurbits to control the sweet potato whitefly. Information in accordance with 40 CFR part 166 was submitted as part of this request.

The sweet potato whitefly (SPWF) is a relatively new pest on cucurbits. The SPWF has caused severe economic damage to several other commodities nationwide including cotton, lettuce, squash, beans, peanuts, and ornamentals. SPWF causes damage through feeding activities, and also indirectly through the production of a honeydew, which encourages growth of sooty mold and other fungi. This pest also causes a physiological disorder resulting in irregular ripening of fruit, believed to be caused by transmission of a geminivirus. The Applicants claim that adequate control of the SPWF is not being achieved with the currently registered compounds. The Applicants claim that significant economic losses are expected in California and Arizona cucurbit production if the SPWF is not adequately controlled, and are therefore requesting this use of bifenthrin.

The Applicants propose to apply bifenthrin at a maximum rate of 0.1 lb. active ingredient (a.i.) (6.4 oz. of product) per acre with up to three applications allowed, and a maximum of 0.3 lb. a.i. per acre per season, on a total of 113,000 acres of cucurbits in California, and 28,000 acres of cucurbits in Arizona. It is possible to produce two cucurbit crops per calendar year on a given acre, and therefore, the acreage could potentially receive 6 applications, (maximum of 0.6 lb. a.i. per acre) per calendar year. Therefore, use under these exemptions could potentially amount to a maximum total of 60,000 lbs. of active ingredient in California and 8,400 lbs. of active ingredient in Arizona.

This notice does not constitute a decision by EPA on the applications themselves. This is the sixth year that this use has been requested under section 18. The regulations governing section 18 require that the Agency publish notice of receipt in the Federal Register and solicit public comment on an application for a specific exemption proposing use of a pesticide if an emergency exemption has been requested or granted for that use in any 3 previous years, and a complete application for registration of that use and/or a petition for tolerance for residues in or on the commodity has not been submitted to the Agency [40 CFR 166.24(a)(6)].

A record has been established for this notice under docket number [OPP-180993] (including comments and data

submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI is available for inspection from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The public record is located in Room 1132 of the Public Response and Program Resource Branch, Field Operations Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:

opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

The official record for this notice, as well as the public version, as described above will be kept in paper form. Accordingly, EPA will transfer all comments received electronically into printed, paper form as they are received and will place the paper copies in the official record which will also include all comments submitted directly in writing. The official record is the paper record maintained at the address in "ADDRESSES" at the beginning of this document.

Accordingly, interested persons may submit written views on this subject to the Field Operations Division at the address above. The Agency will review and consider all comments received during the comment period in determining whether to issue the emergency exemptions requested by the California Environmental Protection Agency and the Arizona Department of Agriculture.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests, Crisis exemptions.

Dated: February 23, 1996.

Peter Caulkins,

Acting Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 96-4971 Filed 3-5-96; 8:45 am]

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[OPP-180994; FRL 5350-1]

Mancozeb; Receipt of Application for Emergency Exemption, Solicitation of Public Comment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA has received a specific exemption request from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (hereafter referred to as the "Applicant") to use the pesticide, mancozeb to treat up to 4,167 acres of ginseng to control stem and leaf blight. An emergency exemption for this use has been requested for the previous 3 years, and a complete application for registration of this use and tolerance petition has not been submitted to the Agency. In addition, this emergency exemption has been subject to a Special Review. EPA is soliciting public comment before making the decision whether or not to grant the exemption.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 21, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Three copies of written comments, bearing the identification notation "OPP-180994," should be submitted by mail to: Public Response and Program Resource Branch, Field Operations Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person, bring comments to: Rm. 1132, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by sending electronic mail (e-mail) to: opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov. Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data will also be accepted on disks in WordPerfect in 5.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket number [OPP-180994]. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail. Electronic comments on this notice may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries. Additional information on electronic submissions can be found below in this document.

Information submitted in any comment concerning this notice may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as (CBI). Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be provided by the submitter for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by EPA without prior notice. All written comments filed pursuant to this notice will be available for public inspection in Rm. 1132, Crystal Mall No. 2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA,

from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Margarita Collantes, Registration Division (7505W), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location and telephone number: Floor 6, Crystal Station #1, 2800 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, (703) 308-8347; e-mail: collantes.margarita@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 18 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) (7 U.S.C. 136p), the Administrator may, at her discretion, exempt a state agency from any registration provision of FIFRA if she determines that emergency conditions exist which require such exemption. The Applicant has requested the Administrator to issue a specific exemption for the use of mancozeb on ginseng to control stem and leaf blight.

Information in accordance with 40 CFR part 166 was submitted as part of this request. According to the Applicant, *Alternaria* blight rarely kills the ginseng root, which is the marketed portion; however, loss of the foliage results in significant root yield loss in a harvested crop, and retards root growth and overwintering ability in younger crops. Infestations of *Alternaria* blight in one season greatly increase the potential for epidemics in subsequent seasons, since the fungus remains in the infected plant debris. Rovral 50W, the only fungicide carrying a section 3 label for use against *Alternaria* blight on ginseng, is no longer effective since *Alternaria* panax has developed resistance to it. If not controlled, *Alternaria* blight can be expected to infest all of Wisconsin's 5,000 acres of ginseng and growers will suffer significant economic loss.

Under the proposed exemption 2.0 lbs of product [(1.5 lbs of active ingredient (a.i.)) per acre will be used on 4,167 acres. A maximum of 12 applications at a minimum of 7-day intervals will be made by ground equipment using a minimum of 80 gallons of water per acre. A 28 day pre-harvest interval will be observed.

This notice does not constitute a decision by EPA on the application itself. The regulations governing section 18 require that the Agency publish notice of receipt in the Federal Register and solicit public comment on an application for a specific exemption if an emergency exemption has been subject to a Special Review, and is intended for a use that could pose a risk similar to the risk posed by any use of the pesticide which is or has been