

concern for exposures below 100 percent of the RfD because the RfD represents the level at or below which daily aggregate dietary exposure over a lifetime will not pose appreciable risks to human health. Ciba concludes that there is a reasonable certainty that no harm will result from aggregate exposure to cyprodinil residues.

#### J. Safety to Infants and Children

Developmental delays (reduced pup weight and ossification) were observed in the rat teratology study and 2-generation rat reproduction study at maternally toxic doses. The lowest NOEL for this effect was established in the 2-generation study at 100 mg/kg (1,000 ppm). The finding is judged to be a nonspecific, secondary effect of maternal toxicity. No developmental toxicity was observed in the rabbit teratology study.

**Reference dose.** Using the same conservative exposure assumptions as employed for the determination in the general population (100 percent stone fruit acres treated and tolerance level residues), Ciba has calculated the utilization of RfD by aggregate exposure to residues of cyprodinil to be 9 percent for nursing infants less than 1 year old, 17 percent for non-nursing infants less than 1 year old, 4 percent for children 1 to 6 years old, and 3 percent for children 7 to 12 years old. Under the scale of this EUP (0.25 percent stone fruit acre treated) the utilization of RfD by aggregate exposure to residues of cyprodinil is estimated to be 0.023 percent for nursing infants less than 1 year old, 0.043 percent for non-nursing infants less than 1 year old, 0.011 percent for children 1 to 6 years old, and 0.007 percent for children 7 to 12 years old. Ciba believes that under the worst case assumptions which overestimate exposure to infants and children, there is a reasonable certainty that no harm will result to infants and children from aggregate exposure to cyprodinil residues. Under the scale of this EUP resultant exposure will be proportionately less.

#### K. Estrogenic Effects

Cyprodinil does not belong to a class of chemicals known or suspected of having adverse effects on the endocrine system. Developmental toxicity studies in rats and rabbits and a reproduction study in rats gave no indication that cyprodinil might have any effects on endocrine function related to development and reproduction. The chronic studies also showed no evidence of a long-term effect related to the endocrine system.

## II. Public Record

EPA invites interested persons to submit comments on this notice of filing. Comments must bear a notification indicating the docket control number [PF-696]. All written comments filed in response to this petition will be available, in the Public Response and Program Resources Branch, at the address given above from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays.

A record has been established for this notice under docket control number [PF-696] (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 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The public record is located in Room 1132 of the Public Response and Program Resources 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 of filing, 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.

#### List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Agricultural commodities, Pesticides and pests, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: January 22, 1997.

Stephen L. Johnson,

Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 97-2468 Filed 1-4-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

[OPP-181031; FRL 5584-3]

## Azoxystrobin; 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 Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (hereafter referred to as the "Applicant") to use the pesticide azoxystrobin (CAS 131860-33-8) to treat up to 85,000 acres of rice to control benomyl-resistant rice panicle blast and sheath blight. The Applicant proposes the use of a new chemical; therefore, in accordance with 40 CFR 166.24, EPA is soliciting public comment before making the decision whether or not to grant the exemption.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before February 20, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Three copies of written comments, bearing the identification notation "OPP-181031," 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-181031]. 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 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** By mail: Libby Pemberton, Registration Division (7505W), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location, telephone number, and e-mail address: Floor 6, Crystal Station #1, 2800 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, (703) 308-8326; e-mail: pemberton.libby@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 azoxystrobin on rice to control rice panicle blast and sheath blight. Information in accordance with 40 CFR part 166 was submitted as part of this request.

The Applicant states that widespread use of benomyl has reportedly resulted in the development of pathogen resistance to the chemical and consequent loss of benomyl as a chemical disease management measure in some crop production areas. Benomyl is the only recommended fungicide for blast and has not been effective consistently nor is it an effective treatment for severe blast occurrences. Data show that azoxystrobin is effective for controlling blast. Although sheath blight is considered the most important rice disease in Louisiana, rice blast may be more severe in individual fields. Yield losses of 80 percent have been experienced in individual fields planted to susceptible varieties. The Applicant estimates that treating the requested 85,000 acres of rice would prevent losses of at least 1,000 lb/acre that would be valued at \$92 per acre, or \$7.8 million for the entire acreage.

The Applicant proposes to apply azoxystrobin, manufactured by Zeneca Ag Products, as Quadris, at a maximum rate of 0.3 lbs. active ingredient (a.i.) [6 oz. of product] per acre by ground or air, with a maximum of two applications per season. A 28-day PHI will be observed. Use under this exemption could potentially amount to a maximum 51,000 lbs. of azoxystrobin.

This notice does not constitute a decision by EPA on the application. The regulations governing section 18 require publication of a notice of receipt of an application for a specific exemption proposing the use of a new chemical. Such notice provides for opportunity for public comment on the application.

A record has been established for this notice under docket number [OPP-181031] (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 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The public record is located in Room 1132 of the Public Response and Program Resources 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, accordingly, will review and consider all comments received during the comment period in determining whether to issue the emergency exemption requested by the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

#### List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests, Crisis exemptions.

Dated: January 21, 1997.

Stephen L. Johnson,  
*Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.*

[FR Doc. 97-2497 Filed 2-4-97; 8:45 am]

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[OPP-181030; FRL 5583-2]

#### **Cymoxanil, Propamocarb Hydrochloride and Dimethomorph; 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 New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (hereafter referred to as the "Applicant") to use the pesticides cymoxanil (CAS 57966-95-7), propamocarb hydrochloride (CAS 25606-41-1) and dimethomorph (CAS 110488-70-5) to treat potentially up to 30,000 acres of potatoes to control immigrant strains of late blight which are resistant to historically used control materials. The Applicant proposes the use of either new (unregistered) chemicals or the first food use of an active ingredient therefore, 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 February 20, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Three copies of written comments, bearing the identification notation "OPP-181030," 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-181030]. 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