

3. Provide copies of any technical information and/or data you used that support your views.

4. If you estimate potential burden or costs, explain how you arrived at the estimate that you provide.

5. Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns.

6. Offer alternative ways to improve the notice.

7. Make sure to submit your comments by the deadline in this document.

8. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, be sure to identify the docket control number assigned to this action in the subject line on the first page of your response. You may also provide the name, date, and **Federal Register** citation.

II. Background

Growth Products Ltd., P.O. Box 1259, White Plains, NY 10602 has requested an EUP for the microbial pesticide Companion™, based on the active ingredient *Bacillus subtilis* Strain GB03. The proposed duration of the proposed program is 2 years. The EUP is being requested to obtain efficacy and phytotoxicity data, evaluate application rates, and evaluate timing to establish disease control. The target pests include root diseases such as *Rhizoctonia*, *Pythium*, *Erwinia*, *Fusarium*, *Phytophthora*, *Verticillium*, *Sclerotinia*, *Botrytis*, *Anthraco*, fire blight, wilt, crown rot, root rot, downy mildew, and damping off.

The proposed experimental program is to cover a total of 200 acres in 5 states, as follows: California, Florida, New York, North Dakota, and Washington. The rate of application of the pesticide is to be: for field crops, 32 oz. per acre in sufficient water to ensure full coverage; for soil drench application, 16 oz. in 100 gallons of water for cell/plug production; and 1 oz. per 30 gallons of water for closed systems (ebb and flow) and hydroponics.

Proposed crop treatment sites include apples, broccoli, celery, citrus, cotton, grapes (raisin, table and wine), herbs and spices, lettuce (iceberg and leaf), melons, onions, potatoes, strawberries, sunflower, tobacco, and tomatoes. Disease severity and intensity will be observed, as well as measurements of root growth in both length and mass, leaf color, and tissue analysis of nutrient levels, all of which are indicators of healthy plants.

Ground methods of application are proposed, including soil drench application by injection into irrigation systems, and closed systems (ebb and flow) and hydroponics by incorporation

into closed continuous recirculation systems.

III. What Action is the Agency Taking?

Following the review of the Growth Products Limited application and any comments and data received in response to this notice, EPA will decide whether to issue or deny the EUP request for this EUP program, and if issued, the conditions under which it is to be conducted. Any issuance of an EUP will be announced in the **Federal Register**.

IV. What is the Agency's Authority for Taking this Action?

The Agency's authority for taking this action is under 40 CFR part 172, subpart A.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Experimental use permits.

December 11, 2001.

Kathleen F. Knox,

Acting Director, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 01-31247 Filed 12-18-01; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7119-6]

Extension of Public Comment Period for EPA Staff White Paper That Explores a Number of Options for Addressing Boutique Fuels in the Longer Term

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Extension of public comment period for EPA Staff White Paper that explores a number of options for addressing boutique fuels in the longer term.

In the November 14, 2001 **Federal Register**, (66 FR 57099) EPA published a notice of availability and requested public review and comment on the Staff White Paper entitled: "Study of Unique Gasoline Fuel Blends ("Boutique Fuels"), Effects on Fuel Supply and Distribution and Potential Improvements." This notice extends the end of the public comment period to January 30, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julia Macallister, Office of Air Quality and Transportation, (734) 214-4131, or by E-mail at macallister.julia@epa.gov.

Dated: December 12, 2001.

Robert Brenner,

Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

[FR Doc. 01-31244 Filed 12-18-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-00755; FRL-6814-8]

Pesticides; Expedited Review of Experimental Use Permits (EUPs) for Conventional Pesticides

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Agency seeks public comment on a draft Pesticide Registration (PR) Notice titled "Guidelines for Expedited Review of Experimental Use Permits (EUPs) for Conventional Pesticides." This draft Notice provides criteria that, if met, can result in a greater number of food use EUPs being issued on an expedited basis for conventional pesticides. EUP applications submitted that meet all of the criteria identified in the Notice will be expedited through the Agency's review process and registrants will not need to utilize their priority slots. The Notice applies to all applicants for EUPs for non-antimicrobial, conventional pesticides. The Notice does not apply to biological pesticides because these pesticides present different risk factors and because the Agency has not heard that the lack of biological pesticide EUPs is an issue.

DATES: Comments, identified by docket control number OPP-00755, must be received on or before February 19, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit I.C. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number OPP-00755 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rachel Holloman, Registration Division (7505C), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 305-7193; fax number: (703) 305-6920; e-mail address: holloman.rachel@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: