

IV. What Action Is EPA Taking In This Notice?

EPA is making available for public viewing the revised risk assessments and related documents for one organophosphate, sulfotepp. These documents have been developed as part of the pilot public participation process that EPA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) are now using for involving the public in the reassessment of pesticide tolerances under the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA), and the reregistration of individual organophosphate pesticides under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). The pilot public participation process was developed as part of the EPA-USDA Tolerance Reassessment Advisory Committee (TRAC), which was established in April 1998, as a subcommittee under the auspices of EPA's National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology. A goal of the pilot public participation process is to find a more effective way for the public to participate at critical junctures in the Agency's development of organophosphate risk assessments and risk management decisions. EPA and USDA began implementing this pilot process in August 1998, to increase transparency and opportunities for stakeholder consultation. The documents being released to the public through this notice provide information on the revisions that were made to the sulfotepp preliminary risk assessments, which were released to the public on September 9, 1998 (63 FR 48213) (FRL-6030-2), through a notice in the **Federal Register**.

As part of the pilot public participation process, EPA and USDA may hold public meetings (called Technical Briefings) to provide interested stakeholders with opportunities to become more informed about revised organophosphate risk assessments. During the Technical Briefings, EPA describes the major points (e.g. risk contributors), use data that were used (e.g. data from USDA's Pesticide Data Program (PDP)), and discusses how public comments impacted the assessment. USDA provides ideas on possible risk management. Stakeholders have an opportunity to ask clarifying questions, and all meeting minutes are placed in the OPP public docket. Technical Briefings may not be held for chemicals that have limited use patterns or low levels of risk concern. Sulfotepp's use pattern is limited to ornamental plants in greenhouses, therefore, no Technical Briefing is planned. In cases where no

Technical Briefing is held, the Agency will make a special effort to communicate with interested stakeholders in order to better ensure their understanding of the revised assessments and how they can participate in the organophosphate pilot public participation process. EPA has a good familiarity with the stakeholder groups associated with the use of sulfotepp who may be interested in participating in the risk assessment/risk management process, and will contact them individually to inform them that no Technical Briefing will be held. EPA is willing to meet with stakeholders to discuss the sulfotepp revised risk assessments. Minutes of all meetings will be docketed.

In addition, this notice starts a 60-day public participation period during which the public is encouraged to submit risk management proposals or otherwise comment on risk management for sulfotepp. The Agency is providing an opportunity, through this notice, for interested parties to provide written risk management proposals or ideas to the Agency on the chemical specified in this notice. Comments and proposals could address ideas about how to manage occupational or ecological risks on specific sulfotepp use sites across the United States or in a particular geographic region of the country. To address occupational risks, for example, commentators may suggest personal protective equipment or technologies to reduce exposure to workers and pesticide handlers. EPA will provide other opportunities for public participation and comment on issues associated with the organophosphate tolerance reassessment program. Failure to participate or comment as part of this opportunity will in no way prejudice or limit a commentator's opportunity to participate fully in later notice and comment processes. All comments and proposals must be received by EPA on or before August 30, 1999 at the addresses given under the "ADDRESSES" section. Comments and proposals will become part of the Agency record for the organophosphate specified in this notice.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Chemicals, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: June 21, 1999.

Jack E. Housenger,

Acting Director, Special Review and Reregistration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 99-16541 Filed 6-29-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-30406A; FRL-6084-8]

Novartis; Approval of Pesticide Product Registrations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces Agency approval of applications submitted by Novartis Crop Protection Inc., to conditionally register the pesticide products Action Herbicide and Fluthiacet-Methyl Technical containing a new active ingredient not included in any previously registered products pursuant to the provisions of section 3(c)(7)(C) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), as amended.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Joanne Miller, PM-23, Registration Division (7505C), Office of Pesticide Programs, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location and telephone number: Rm. 241, CM #2, Environmental Protection Agency, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202, 703-305-6224; e-mail: miller.joanne@epa.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Availability: Electronic copies of this document and the Fact Sheet are available from the EPA home page at the **Federal Register** Environmental Sub-Set entry for this document under "Laws and Regulations" (<http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>).

EPA issued a notice, published the **Federal Register** of May 8, 1996 (61 FR 20815)(FRL-5357-1), which announced that Ciba-Geigy Crop Protection Corporation, (now known as Novartis), P.O. Box 18300, Greensboro, NC 27419-8300, had submitted an application to conditionally register the product CGA-248757 Technical (EPA File Symbol 100-INL) containing acetic acid, [[2-chloro-4-fluoro-5-[(tetrahydro-3-oxo-1H,3H-[1,3,4]thiadiazolo[3,4-alpha]pyridazin-1-ylidene)amino]phenyl]thio]-methyl ester at 98%; an active ingredient not included any previously registered product.

The company subsequently submitted an application to EPA to register the pesticide product Action Herbicide (EPA File Symbol 100-INA) containing the same chemical at 4.75%. However, since the notice of receipt of the application to register the product as required by section 3(c)(4) of FIFRA, as amended did not publish in the **Federal**

Register, interested parties may submit written comments within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice for this product only. Comments and data may also be submitted electronically to: opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov.

The applications were approved on April 13, 1999 for an end-use product and a technical listed below:

1. Fluthiacet-Methyl Technical (formerly CGA-248757 Technical) for formulation use only into registered end-use herbicides (EPA Registration Number 100-805).

2. Action Herbicide for postemergence control of velvetleaf and certain other broadleaf weeds in soybeans (EPA Registration Number 100-806).

A conditional registration may be granted under section 3(c)(7)(C) of FIFRA for a new active ingredient where certain data are lacking, on condition that such data are received by the end of the conditional registration period and do not meet or exceed the risk criteria set forth in 40 CFR 154.7; that use of the pesticide during the conditional registration period will not cause unreasonable adverse effects; and that use of the pesticide is in the public interest. The Agency has considered the available data on the risks associated with the proposed use of fluthiacet-methyl, and information on social, economic, and environmental benefits to be derived from such use. Specifically, the Agency has considered the nature and its pattern of use, application methods and rates, and level and extent of potential exposure. Based on these reviews, the Agency was able to make basic health and safety determinations which show that use of fluthiacet-methyl during the period of conditional registration will not cause any unreasonable adverse effect on the environment, and that use of the pesticide is, in the public interest.

Consistent with section 3(c)(7)(C), the Agency has determined that these conditional registrations are in the public interest. Use of the pesticides are of significance to the user community, and appropriate labeling, use directions, and other measures have been taken to ensure that use of the pesticides will not result in unreasonable adverse effects to man and the environment.

More detailed information on these conditional registrations is contained in an EPA Pesticide Fact Sheet on fluthiacet-methyl.

A paper copy of this fact sheet, which provides a summary description of the chemical, use patterns and formulations, science findings, and the Agency's regulatory position and rationale, may be obtained from the National Technical Information Service

(NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161.

In accordance with section 3(c)(2) of FIFRA, a copy of the approved label, the list of data references, the data and other scientific information used to support registration, except for material specifically protected by section 10 of FIFRA, are available for public inspection in the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. 119, CM #2, Arlington, VA 22202 (703-305-5805). Requests for data must be made in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act and must be addressed to the Freedom of Information Office (A-101), 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Such requests should: (1) Identify the product name and registration number and (2) specify the data or information desired.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 136.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests, Product registration.

Dated: June 15, 1999.

James Jones,

Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 99-16387 Filed 6-29-99; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[PB-402404-WI-A; FRL-6070-6]

Lead-Based Paint Activities in Target Housing and Child-Occupied Facilities; Authorization of Wisconsin's Department of Health and Family Services Lead-Based Paint Activities Program

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice; final approval.

SUMMARY: On August 31, 1998, the State of Wisconsin submitted an application for EPA approval to administer and enforce training and certification requirements, training program accreditation requirements, and work practice standards for lead-based paint activities in target housing and child-occupied facilities under section 402 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Notice of Wisconsin's application, a solicitation for public comment regarding the application, and background information supporting the

application was published in the **Federal Register** of November 4, 1998. Today's notice announces the approval of Wisconsin's application, and the authorization of Wisconsin's Department of Health and Family Services' lead-based paint program to apply in the State of Wisconsin effective January 27, 1999, in lieu of the corresponding Federal program under section 402 of TSCA.

DATES: The lead-based paint activities program approval was granted to the State of Wisconsin on January 27, 1999, and was immediately effective.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marlyse Wiebenga, Environmental Protection Agency, Region V, DT-8J, 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604. Telephone: (312) 886-4437, e-mail address: wiebenga.marlyse@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Pursuant to Title IV of TSCA, Lead Exposure Reduction, 15 U.S.C. 2681-2692, and regulations promulgated thereunder, States and Tribes that choose to apply for lead-based paint activities program authorization must submit a complete application to the appropriate Regional EPA office for review. Complete, final applications will be subject to a public comment period, and reviewed by EPA within 180 days of receipt. To receive EPA approval, a State or Tribe must demonstrate that its program is at least as protective of human health and the environment as the Federal program, and provides for adequate enforcement, section 404(b) of TSCA. As determined by EPA's review and assessment, Wisconsin's application successfully demonstrated that the State's lead-based paint activities program achieves the protectiveness and enforcement criteria, as required for Federal authorization. Furthermore, no public comments were received regarding any aspect of Wisconsin's application. A solicitation for public comment regarding the application was published in the **Federal Register** of November 4, 1998 (63 FR 59561) (FRL-6037-6).

II. Federal Overfiling

TSCA section 404(b), makes it unlawful for any person to violate, or fail or refuse to comply with, any requirement of an approved State or Tribal program. Therefore, EPA reserves the right to exercise its enforcement authority under TSCA against a violation of, or a failure or refusal to comply with, any requirement of an authorized State or Tribal program.