

close of the comment period will be marked "late." EPA is not required to consider these late comments. If you wish to submit CBI or information that is otherwise protected by statute, please follow the instructions in Unit I.D. Do not use EPA Dockets or e-mail to submit CBI or information protected by statute.

1. *Electronically.* If you submit an electronic comment as prescribed in this unit, EPA recommends that you include your name, mailing address, and an e-mail address or other contact information in the body of your comment. Also include this contact information on the outside of any disk or CD ROM you submit, and in any cover letter accompanying the disk or CD ROM. This ensures that you can be identified as the submitter of the comment and allows EPA to contact you in case EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties or needs further information on the substance of your comment. EPA's policy is that EPA will not edit your comment, and any identifying or contact information provided in the body of a comment will be included as part of the comment that is placed in the official public docket, and made available in EPA's electronic public docket. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment.

i. *EPA Dockets.* Your use of EPA's electronic public docket to submit comments to EPA electronically is EPA's preferred method for receiving comments. Go directly to EPA Dockets at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket/>, and follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Once in the system, select "search," and then key in docket ID number OPP-2004-0128. The system is an "anonymous access" system, which means EPA will not know your identity, e-mail address, or other contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment.

ii. *E-mail.* Comments may be sent by e-mail to [toopp-docket@epa.gov](mailto:toopp-docket@epa.gov), Attention: Docket ID Number OPP-2004-0128. In contrast to EPA's electronic public docket, EPA's e-mail system is not an "anonymous access" system. If you send an e-mail comment directly to the docket without going through EPA's electronic public docket, EPA's e-mail system automatically captures your e-mail address. E-mail addresses that are automatically captured by EPA's e-mail system are included as part of the comment that is placed in the official public docket, and made available in EPA's electronic public docket.

iii. *Disk or CD ROM.* You may submit comments on a disk or CD ROM that you mail to the mailing address identified in Unit I.C.2. These electronic submissions will be accepted in WordPerfect or ASCII file format. Avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

2. *By mail.* Send your comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB) (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001, Attention: Docket ID Number OPP-2004-0128.

3. *By hand delivery or courier.* Deliver your comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA, Attention: Docket ID Number OPP-2004-0128. Such deliveries are only accepted during the docket's normal hours of operation as identified in Unit I.B.1.

#### *D. How Should I Submit CBI to the Agency?*

Do not submit information that you consider to be CBI electronically through EPA's electronic public docket or by e-mail. You may claim information that you submit to EPA as CBI by marking any part or all of that information as CBI (if you submit CBI on disk or CD ROM, mark the outside of the disk or CD ROM as CBI and then identify electronically within the disk or CD ROM the specific information that is CBI). Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2.

In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes any information claimed as CBI, a copy of the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket and EPA's electronic public docket. If you submit the copy that does not contain CBI on disk or CD ROM, mark the outside of the disk or CD ROM clearly that it does not contain CBI. Information not marked as CBI will be included in the public docket and EPA's electronic public docket without prior notice. If you have any questions about CBI or the procedures for claiming CBI, please consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

## **II. Background**

The proposed small-scale field test is for release of *Cryphonectria parasitica* strains that have been genetically modified to be less debilitating to Chestnut trees than the wild type strain

that it is designed to displace. The small-scale field release will be on part of three 0.1 acre plots of land in the Monongahela National Forest, near Circleville, West Virginia. The study will last for 3 years from 2004 through 2006. The genetic modification transfers a copy of a hypovirus, that occurs naturally in the cytoplasm of less-virulent chestnut tree blight fungus, into the chromosome of the fungus in order to facilitate the dissemination of the less-virulent fungus as compared to the virulent strain. This small-scale field test will also be conducted under a U.S. Department of Agriculture APHIS permit.

## **III. What Action Is the Agency Taking?**

Following the review of the West Virginia University Biotechnology Notification and any comments and data received in response to this notice, EPA will decide whether to approve this proposed test, or to require an Experimental Use Permit for this test. If this small-scale field test is approved, EPA may require additional conditions under which it is to be conducted.

## **IV. What Is the Agency's Authority for Taking this Action?**

Biotechnology Notifications are required to be submitted to EPA prior to conducting small-scale field testing of certain genetically modified and/or certain nonindigenous microbial pesticides in accordance with subpart C of 40 CFR part 172.

## **List of Subjects**

Environmental protection, Experimental use permits, Biotechnology Notifications.

Dated: April 21, 2004.

**Janet L. Andersen,**

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

[FR Doc. 04-9615 Filed 4-27-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-S

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[OPP-2004-0124; FRL-7355-6]

## **Carboxin; Risk Assessments; Notice of Availability**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the availability of EPA's preliminary risk assessments and related documents for the pesticide seed treatment, carboxin,

and opens a public comment period on these documents. The public also is encouraged to suggest risk management ideas or proposals. EPA is developing a Reregistration Eligibility Decision (RED), for carboxin using a modified, four-phase public participation process. EPA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) use this process to involve the public in developing pesticide reregistration and tolerance reassessment decisions. Through these programs, EPA is ensuring that all pesticides meet current health and safety standards.

**DATES:** Comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number OPP-2004-0124, must be received on or before June 28, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted electronically, by mail, or through hand delivery/courier. Follow the detailed instructions as provided in Unit I. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dirk V. Helder, Special Review and Reregistration Division (7508C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (703) 305-4610; fax number: (703) 308-8041; e-mail address: [helder.dirk@epa.gov](mailto:helder.dirk@epa.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### **I. General Information**

#### *A. Does this Action Apply to Me?*

This action is directed to the public in general, and may be of interest to a wide range of stakeholders including environmental, human health, and agricultural advocates; the chemical industry; pesticide users; and members of the public interested in the use of pesticides. Since others also may be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

#### *B. How Can I Get Copies of this Document and Other Related Information?*

1. **Docket.** EPA has established an official public docket for this action under docket identification (ID) number OPP-2004-0124. The official public docket consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, any public comments received, and other information related to this action. Although a part of the official docket,

the public docket does not include Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. The official public docket is the collection of materials that is available for public viewing at the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA. This docket facility is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The docket telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

2. **Electronic access.** You may access this **Federal Register** document electronically through the EPA Internet under the "**Federal Register**" listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

An electronic version of the public docket is available through EPA's electronic public docket and comment system, EPA Dockets. You may use EPA Dockets at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket/> to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the official public docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Once in the system, select "search," then key in the appropriate docket ID number.

Certain types of information will not be placed in the EPA Dockets. Information claimed as CBI and other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute, which is not included in the official public docket, will not be available for public viewing in EPA's electronic public docket. EPA's policy is that copyrighted material will not be placed in EPA's electronic public docket but will be available only in printed, paper form in the official public docket. To the extent feasible, publicly available docket materials will be made available in EPA's electronic public docket. When a document is selected from the index list in EPA Dockets, the system will identify whether the document is available for viewing in EPA's electronic public docket. Although not all docket materials may be available electronically, you may still access any of the publicly available docket materials through the docket facility identified in Unit I.B. EPA intends to work towards providing electronic access to all of the publicly available docket materials through EPA's electronic public docket.

For public commenters, it is important to note that EPA's policy is that public comments, whether submitted electronically or in paper, will be made available for public viewing in EPA's electronic public docket as EPA receives them and without change, unless the comment

contains copyrighted material, CBI, or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. When EPA identifies a comment containing copyrighted material, EPA will provide a reference to that material in the version of the comment that is placed in EPA's electronic public docket. The entire printed comment, including the copyrighted material, will be available in the public docket.

Public comments submitted on computer disks that are mailed or delivered to the docket will be transferred to EPA's electronic public docket. Public comments that are mailed or delivered to the docket will be scanned and placed in EPA's electronic public docket. Where practical, physical objects will be photographed, and the photograph will be placed in EPA's electronic public docket along with a brief description written by the docket staff.

#### *C. How and to Whom Do I Submit Comments?*

You may submit comments electronically, by mail, or through hand delivery/courier. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, identify the appropriate docket ID number in the subject line on the first page of your comment. Please ensure that your comments are submitted within the specified comment period. Comments received after the close of the comment period will be marked "late." EPA is not required to consider these late comments. If you wish to submit CBI or information that is otherwise protected by statute, please follow the instructions in Unit I.D. Do not use EPA Dockets or e-mail to submit CBI or information protected by statute.

1. **Electronically.** If you submit an electronic comment as prescribed in this unit, EPA recommends that you include your name, mailing address, and an e-mail address or other contact information in the body of your comment. Also include this contact information on the outside of any disk or CD ROM you submit, and in any cover letter accompanying the disk or CD ROM. This ensures that you can be identified as the submitter of the comment and allows EPA to contact you in case EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties or needs further information on the substance of your comment. EPA's policy is that EPA will not edit your comment, and any identifying or contact information provided in the body of a comment will be included as part of the comment that is placed in the official public docket, and made available in EPA's electronic public docket. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties

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iii. *Disk or CD ROM.* You may submit comments on a disk or CD ROM that you mail to the mailing address identified in Unit I.C.2. These electronic submissions will be accepted in WordPerfect or ASCII file format. Avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

2. *By mail.* Send your comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB) (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001, Attention: Docket ID Number OPP-2004-0124.

3. *By hand delivery or courier.* Deliver your comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA, Attention: Docket ID Number OPP-2004-0124. Such deliveries are only accepted during the docket's normal hours of operation as identified in Unit I.B.1.

#### *D. How Should I Submit CBI to the Agency?*

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information that you submit to EPA as CBI by marking any part or all of that information as CBI (if you submit CBI on disk or CD ROM, mark the outside of the disk or CD ROM as CBI and then identify electronically within the disk or CD ROM the specific information that is CBI). Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2.

In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes any information claimed as CBI, a copy of the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket and EPA's electronic public docket. If you submit the copy that does not contain CBI on disk or CD ROM, mark the outside of the disk or CD ROM clearly that it does not contain CBI. Information not marked as CBI will be included in the public docket and EPA's electronic public docket without prior notice. If you have any questions about CBI or the procedures for claiming CBI, please consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.**

#### *E. What Should I Consider as I Prepare My Comments for EPA?*

You may find the following suggestions helpful for preparing your comments:

1. Explain your views as clearly as possible.
2. Describe any assumptions that you used.
3. Provide 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 your estimate.
5. Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns.
6. Offer alternatives.
7. Make sure to submit your comments by the comment period deadline identified.
8. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, identify the appropriate docket ID number in the subject line on the first page of your response. It would also be helpful if you provided the name, date, and **Federal Register** citation related to your comments.

#### **II. What Action Is the Agency Taking?**

EPA is releasing for public comment its human health and environmental fate and effects risk assessments and related documents for the seed treatment carboxin, and encouraging the public to suggest risk management ideas or proposals specifically focusing on effects to seed-eating birds and small mammals. Thus far, the only endangered species identified as

potentially at risk is Delmarva fox squirrel. EPA developed the risk assessments and preliminary risk reduction options through a modified version of its public process for making pesticide reregistration eligibility decisions under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), and tolerance reassessment decisions under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), both amended by the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) of 1996. Through these programs, EPA is ensuring that all pesticides meet current scientific and regulatory standards.

EPA is applying the principles of public participation to all pesticides undergoing reregistration and tolerance reassessment. In conducting these programs, the Agency is tailoring its public participation process to be commensurate with the level of risk, extent of use, complexity of the issues, and amount of public concern associated with each pesticide. For carboxin, a modified, four-phase process with one 60-day comment period and opportunity for public consultation is appropriate because there are no dietary, drinking water, or worker risks, and there are no registered residential uses. The only potential concern is for risks to seed-eating birds and small mammals, in particular the endangered Delmarva fox squirrel which might consume carboxin-treated seeds.

Carboxin is a systemic fungicide applied to seeds prior to planting for control of various fungi that cause seed and seedling diseases (smut, rot, and blight). Carboxin may be used to prevent the formation of these diseases or may be used to cure existing plant seed diseases. Carboxin is applied both by commercial seed treaters and on-farm applicators. The application rate ranges from 0.01 to 0.4 pounds/active ingredient/acre, based on how much carboxin is put on the seed during treatment and how much of the treated seed is planted in the field. Carboxin is applied to barley, beans, canola, corn, cotton, oats, onions, peanuts, rice, rye, safflower, sorghum, soybeans, triticale, and wheat seeds. Approximately 10% of corn, 15% of cotton, 30% of onions, 90% of peanuts, 5% of rice, and 5% of wheat seeds are treated nationally.

EPA is providing an opportunity, through this notice, for interested parties to provide written comments and input to the Agency on the risk assessments for carboxin. Such comments and input could address, for example, the availability of additional data to further refine the ecological risk assessments, or could address the Agency's risk assessment methodologies

and assumptions as applied to this specific pesticide. In addition, information such as usage patterns, dissipation data, and environmental conditions under which carboxin is used could be helpful. Percentage of seed that normally makes up the fox squirrel diet, feeding and breeding habits, or critical habitat information could help the Agency refine the ecological risk assessment and confirm whether the Delmarva fox squirrel is likely to be exposed to carboxin, or to consume carboxin-treated seeds.

EPA also is providing an opportunity for interested parties to provide written risk management proposals and options for carboxin use. Such comments could address ideas about how to manage risks on specific carboxin use sites or crops across the fox squirrel range including the Delmarva region, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. For example, commenters may choose to discuss the feasibility of lower application rates, or modifications in use, or may suggest alternative measures to reduce exposure for the fox squirrel.

All comments should be submitted using the methods in Unit I. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**, and must be received by EPA on or before the closing date. Comments will become part of the Agency record for carboxin.

#### List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: April 20, 2004.

**Debra Edwards,**

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

[FR Doc. 04-9620 Filed 4-27-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-S

#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

OPP-2004-0104; FRL-7354-2]

#### Pesticide Product; Registration Approval

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces Agency approval of an application to register the pesticide product ZONIX™ Biofungicide containing an active ingredient not included in any previously registered product pursuant to the provisions of section 3(c)(5) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), as amended.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Denise Greenway, Biopesticides and

Pollution Prevention Division (7511C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (703) 308-8263; e-mail address: [greenway.denise@epa.gov](mailto:greenway.denise@epa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. General Information

###### A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

You may be potentially affected by this action if you are an agricultural producer, food manufacturer, or pesticide manufacturer. Potentially affected entities may include, but are not limited to:

- Crop production (NAICS 111)
- Animal production (NAICS 112)
- Food manufacturing (NAICS 311)
- Pesticide manufacturing (NAICS 32532)

This listing is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed in this unit could also be affected. The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes have been provided to assist you and others in determining whether this action might apply to certain entities. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

###### B. How Can I Get Copies of this Document and Other Related Information?

1. **Docket.** EPA has established an official public docket for this action under docket identification (ID) number OPP-2004-0104. The official public docket consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, any public comments received, and other information related to this action. Although a part of the official docket, the public docket does not include Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. The official public docket is the collection of materials that is available for public viewing at the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA. This docket facility is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The docket telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

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 also available for public inspection. 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), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001. The request should: Identify the product name and registration number and specify the data or information desired.

A paper copy of the fact sheet, which provides more detail on this registration, may be obtained from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Rd., Springfield, VA 22161.

2. **Electronic access.** You may access this **Federal Register** document electronically through the EPA Internet under the "**Federal Register**" listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

An electronic version of the public docket is available through EPA's electronic public docket and comment system, EPA Dockets. You may use EPA Dockets at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket/> to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the official public docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Although not all docket materials may be available electronically, you may still access any of the publicly available docket materials through the docket facility identified in Unit I.B.1. Once in the system, select "search," then key in the appropriate docket ID number.

##### II. Did EPA Approve the Application?

The Agency approved the application after considering all required data on risks associated with the proposed use of rhamnolipid biosurfactant, and information on social, economic, and environmental benefits to be derived from use. Specifically, the Agency has considered the nature of the chemical 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 rhamnolipid biosurfactant when used in accordance with widespread and commonly recognized practice, will not generally cause unreasonable adverse effects to the environment.

##### III. Approved Application

EPA issued a notice, published in the **Federal Register** of May 7, 2003 (68 FR 24456) (FRL-7304-3), which announced that Jeneil Biosurfactant Company, 400 N. Dekora Woods Blvd., Saukville, WI