

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

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 specific exemptions for the use of cymoxanil, propamocarb hydrochloride, and/or dimethomorph on potatoes to control late blight. Information in accordance with 40 CFR part 166 was submitted as part of this request.

Recent failures to control late blight in potatoes as well as tomatoes with the registered fungicides, have been caused almost exclusively by immigrant strains of late blight *Phytophthora infestans*, which are resistant to the control of choice, metalaxyl. Before the immigrant strains of late blight arrived, all of the strains in the U.S. were previously controlled by treatment with metalaxyl. The Applicant states that presently, there are no fungicides registered in the U.S. that will provide adequate control of the immigrant strains of late blight. The Applicant states that each of these requested chemicals has been shown to be effective against these strains of late blight. Each active ingredient holds current registrations throughout many European countries for control of this disease. The Applicant indicates that at least a 40 percent yield reduction is expected based on the current infestation. Net revenues are expected to be reduced by over \$27 million for the

affected acreage without the use of these requested chemicals.

Specific exemptions for use of one or more of these chemicals on potatoes were issued to 22 states in 1995. An additional request is currently pending, bringing the total potential potato acreage treated under these requests to 885,010. Specific exemption requests for use of one or more of these chemicals on tomatoes have either been authorized or are pending for three states involving 66,500 acres. It is presumed that a similar number of states will be requesting each of these uses for the 1997 season.

The Applicant proposes to apply propamocarb hydrochloride, manufactured by AgrEvo USA Company, as Tattoo C, at a maximum rate of 0.9 lbs. active ingredient (a.i.) [2.3 lbs. of product] per acre by ground or air, with a maximum of 5 applications per season. A 14-day PHI will be observed. Use under this exemption could potentially amount to a maximum 134,000 lbs. of propamocarb hydrochloride.

The Applicant proposes to apply cymoxanil, manufactured by E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, as Curzate M-8, at a maximum rate of 0.12 lbs. a.i., (1.5 lbs. of product) per acre, by ground or air, with a maximum of 7 applications per season and a 14-day PHI. Use under this exemption could potentially amount to a maximum 25,200 lbs. of cymoxanil.

The Applicant proposes to apply dimethomorph at a maximum rate of 0.2 lbs. a.i., (2.25 lb. of product) per acre, by ground or air, with a maximum of 5 applications per season and a 14-day PHI. Use under this exemption could potentially amount to a maximum 30,375 lbs of dimethomorph.

This notice does not constitute a decision by EPA on the applications. The regulations governing section 18 require publication of a notice of receipt of an application for a specific exemption proposing use of a new chemical (i.e., an active ingredient not contained in any currently registered pesticide) or the first food use of an active ingredient. Such notice provides for opportunity for public comment on the application.

A record has been established for this notice under docket number [OPP-181030] (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

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The Agency, accordingly, will review and consider all comments received during the comment period in determining whether to issue the emergency exemptions requested by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

#### 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. 97-2498 Filed 2-4-97; 8:45 am]

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## FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

### Change in Bank Control Notices; Acquisitions of Shares of Banks or Bank Holding Companies

The notificants listed below have applied under the Change in Bank Control Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)) and § 225.41 of the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.41) to acquire a bank or bank holding company. The factors that are considered in acting on the notices are set forth in paragraph 7 of the Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(7)).

The notices are available for immediate inspection at the Federal