

requiring closed mixing systems for dry beans.

To address risks to workers (persons entering treated areas following applications of dicofol):

- A revised Restricted Entry Interval (REI) will be set, based on Dislodgeable Foliar Residue (DFR) data submitted in October, 1998, and on the dermal toxicity study being submitted in December, 1998.

To protect the environment and wildlife:

- Dicofol applications are limited to no more than one per year. Previously, for some uses, the number of applications allowed per year was either unrestricted or limited to 2 or 3 applications per year.

- Dicofol applications on citrus will not exceed 3 pounds a.i./acre per year. This has been reduced from 8 pounds a.i./acre per year.

- Dicofol applications on strawberries will not exceed 2 pounds a.i./acre per year. This has been reduced from 2.4 pounds a.i./acre per year.

- A spray drift and Runoff Caution Statement is being added to the label. Also, a statement prohibiting application directly to water is being added to the label.

IV. Public Record and Electronic Submissions

The official record for this notice, as well as the public version, has been established for this notice under docket control number OPP-34156 (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 official record is located at the address in "ADDRESSES" at the beginning of this document.

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. Comment and data will also be accepted on disks in Wordperfect 6.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number (OPP-34156). Electronic comments on this notice may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection.

Dated: December 4, 1998.

Jack E. Housenger,

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

[FR Doc. 98-33334 Filed 12-15-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-30408A; FRL-6042-6]

Rhone-Poulenc Co.; Approval of Pesticide Product Registrations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces Agency approval of applications to conditionally register the pesticide products Technical Isoxaflutole and Balance WDG Herbicide 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 I. Miller, Product Manager (PM) 23, Registration Division (7505C), Office of Pesticide Programs, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location and telephone number: Rm. 237, CM #2, Environmental Protection Agency, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202, 703-305-6224; e-mail: miller.joanne@epamail.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 1, 1996 (61 FR 19282)(FRL-5363-6), which announced that Rhone-Poulenc Ag Company, P.O. Box 12014, 2 T.W. Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, had submitted applications to conditionally register the herbicide products Technical Isoxaflutole and Balance WDG Herbicide (EPA File Symbols 264-LAA and 264-LAT) containing the active ingredient isoxaflutole [5-cyclopropyl-4-(2-methylsulfonyl-4-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)isoxazole] at 98% and 76.5% respectively, an active ingredient not included in any previously registered pesticide products.

The applications were approved on September 15, 1998, for one technical and one end-use product listed below:

1. Technical Isoxaflutole for manufacturing purposes only (EPA Registration Number 264-566).
2. Balance WDG Herbicide for weed control in field corn (EPA Registration Number 264-567).

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 isoxaflutole, 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 isoxaflutole 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 isoxaflutole.

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: December 7, 1998.

James Jones,

Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 98-33118 Filed 12-15-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-50847; FRL-6040-6]

Issuance of an Experimental Use Permit

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA has granted an experimental use permit to the following applicant. The permit is in accordance with, and subject to, the provisions of 40 CFR part 172, which defines EPA procedures with respect to the use of pesticides for experimental use purposes.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Diana Horne, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division (7511C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location, telephone number, and e-mail address: Rm. 9W29, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA, Telephone: 703-308-8367, e-mail: horne.diana@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA has issued the following experimental use permit:

69834-EUP-1. Issuance. EDEN Bioscience Corporation, 11816 North Creek Parkway N., Bothell, WA 98011-8205. This experimental use permit allows the use of 548.58 pounds of the

biological pesticide Harpin on 4,997 acres to evaluate the control of various bacterial, viral, and fungal diseases. Commodities included in the program are: alfalfa, apples, blueberry, citrus (oranges, grapefruit, lemons, limes, tangerines, and tangelos), conifer seedlings, corn, sweet corn, cotton, cranberry, cucurbits (cucumbers, squash, and melons), small grains (winter or spring wheat and barley), grapes (wine and table varieties), ornamental roses, ornamentals (greenhouse foliage and bedding plants), peanuts, peppers (bell and chile), potatoes, raspberry, rice, soybeans (dry), strawberries, sugar cane, tobacco (burley and flue-cured), tomatoes (fresh market and processing), and turf (lawn and garden). The program is authorized only in the States of Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Washington. The experimental use permit is effective from October 31, 1998 to October 31, 2000.

Persons wishing to review this experimental use permit are referred to the designated contact person. Inquiries concerning this permit should be directed to the person cited above. It is suggested that interested persons call before visiting the EPA office, so that the appropriate file may be made available for inspection purposes from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 136.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Experimental use permits.

Dated: December 2, 1998.

Janet L. Andersen,

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

[FR Doc. 98-33335 Filed 12-15-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

[BM-10-DEC-98-02]

Interest Rate Risk Management

AGENCY: Farm Credit Administration.

ACTION: Final policy statement.

SUMMARY: The Farm Credit Administration (FCA or Agency),

through the FCA Board (Board), is issuing a final policy statement that provides guidance on interest rate risk management to Farm Credit System (System) institutions, excluding the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation (Farmer Mac). The policy statement also describes the Agency's approach to evaluating interest rate risk when making a determination of capital adequacy. The policy statement identifies key elements of sound business principles and practices for interest rate risk management by a System institution. The policy statement also provides criteria by which examiners will evaluate the adequacy and effectiveness of a System institution's interest rate risk management.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 10, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andrew D. Jacob, Senior Policy Analyst, Office of Policy and Analysis, Farm Credit Administration, McLean, Virginia 22102-5090, (703) 883-4498, TDD (703) 883-4444,

or

Wendy R. Laguarda, Senior Attorney, Office of General Counsel, Farm Credit Administration, McLean, Virginia 22102-5090, (703) 883-4020, TDD (703) 883-4444.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Agency published a proposed policy statement on interest rate risk management on May 21, 1998 (63 FR 27962). We received comments on the proposed policy statement from the System's Presidents' Finance Committee (System joint comments) and the Independent Bankers Association of America (IBAA comments). The comments, discussed in greater detail below, reflect the views of System banks and associations and community banks, respectively. We carefully considered the comments in the formulation of the final policy statement and have adopted the policy statement substantially as proposed. The final policy statement also includes minor technical, grammatical, and syntactical changes.

II. System Joint Comments

The System provided six comments on the proposed policy statement. First, the System expressed its concern that the policy statement does not apply to Farmer Mac and requested an explanation for the exclusion. The System banks and associations believe that the interest rate risk management principles set forth in the policy statement also are applicable to Farmer Mac.