

Exemptions were then issued for several years for use of permethrin, but discontinued as the Applicant opted to request bifenthrin instead, due to claims that use of permethrin disrupted natural controls of other raspberry pests, leading to population flare-ups of these pests (primarily mites). This use of bifenthrin has been allowed under section 18 for the past 5 years, and the Applicant states that alternative controls are not adequate to prevent significant economic losses due to damage and contamination problems from weevils.

Under the proposed exemption, bifenthrin would be applied using ground equipment only, at a rate of 0.1 lb., active ingredient (a.i.) per acre, with no more than 2 applications during the growing season, not to exceed the total rate of 0.2 lb., a.i. per acre. If all 8,500 acres are treated at this maximum rate, this could potentially result in a total use of 1,700 lb., a.i.

This notice does not constitute a decision by EPA on the application itself. The regulations governing section 18 require publication of a notice of receipt of an application for a specific exemption proposing a use which has been requested or granted in any 3 previous years, and a complete application for registration and/or tolerance petition has not been submitted to the Agency [40 CFR 166.24 (a)(6)]. Such notice provides for opportunity for public comment on the application.

The official record for this notice, as well as the public version, has been established under docket number (OPP-181067) (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 the paper record maintained 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. Comments and data will also be accepted on disks in WordPerfect 5.1/6.1 or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket number (OPP-181067). Electronic comments on this notice may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

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 Washington Department of Agriculture.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests, Emergency exemptions.

Dated: February 26, 1999

Peter Caulkins,

Acting Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 99-5819 Filed 3-9-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-181068; FRL 6066-5]

Buprofezin; Receipt of Application for Emergency Exemption, Solicitation of Public Comment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA has received a specific exemption request from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (hereafter referred to as the "Applicant") to use the insect growth regulator buprofezin (CAS 69327-76-0) to treat up to 100,000 acres of citrus to control California Red Scale. Buprofezin is an unregistered material, and its proposed use is thus use of a "new" chemical. Therefore, in accordance with 40 CFR 166.24, EPA is soliciting public comment before making the decision whether or not to grant the exemption. **DATES:** Comments must be received on or before March 25, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Three copies of written comments, bearing the identification notation "OPP-181068," should be submitted by mail to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person, bring comments to: Rm. 119, 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. Follow the instructions under SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail.

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. The docket is available for public inspection at the Virginia address given above, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Andrea Beard, Registration Division (7505C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location, telephone number and e-mail address: Rm. 271, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, (703) 308-9356; e-mail: beard.andrea@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 buprofezin on citrus to control California Red Scale. Information in accordance with 40 CFR part 166 was submitted as part of this request.

The Applicant states that California Red Scale is a key pest of citrus, and the single most costly pest to control. The Applicant states that in the past, treatments were not required every year for this pest, but in recent years resistance to the registered materials has built up and growers have had to treat up to three times in a single year. Alternative methods of control (parasite releases and packing house washers) are applied where feasible; however, the Applicant asserts that a different chemistry with a different mode of action is necessary to control the scale. The Applicant asserts that with continued frequent use of currently registered materials, increased resistance is likely, and these materials will quickly become wholly ineffective, leaving growers with no tools to control these damaging pests. The Applicant states that without adequate control of scale in citrus, significant economic losses are expected.

The Applicant proposes to apply buprofezin at a maximum rate of 2.0 lbs. active ingredient (a.i.) per acre with a maximum of one application per crop season on up to 100,000 acres of citrus. Therefore, use under this exemption could potentially amount to a maximum total of 200,000 lbs. of a.i., buprofezin.

This notice does not constitute a decision by EPA on the application itself. The regulations governing section 18 require publication of a notice of receipt in the **Federal Register** for an application for a specific exemption proposing the use of a new (unregistered) chemical. Such notice provides for opportunity for public comment on the application.

The official record for this notice, as well as the public version, has been established under docket number (OPP-181068) (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 the paper record maintained at the address in "ADDRESSES" at the beginning of this document.

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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 exemption requested by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests, Emergency exemptions.

Dated: February 26, 1999

Peter Caulkins,

Acting Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 99-5820 Filed 3-9-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6304-6]

Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-1997

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of document availability and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Draft Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-1997 is available for public review. Annual U.S. emissions for the period of time from 1990-1997 are summarized and presented by source category and sector. The inventory contains estimates of CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, HFCs, PFCs, and SF₆ emissions, as well as estimated emissions of VOCs, NO_x, CO, and HFCs. The approach used to estimate emissions for the greenhouse gases was adapted from the methodologies recommended by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The U.S. Greenhouse Gas Inventory is being prepared to provide a basis for the ongoing development of a comprehensive and accurate system to identify and quantify emissions and sinks of greenhouse gases in the U.S. It will serve as part of the U.S. submission to the Secretariat of the Framework Convention on Climate Change and to contribute to the updates to the U.S. Climate Action Report. To ensure your comments are considered for the final version of this document, please submit your comments prior to April 9, 1999. However, comments received after that date will still be welcomed and will be considered for the next edition of this report.

DATES: Comments are requested by April 9, 1999.

ADDRESSES: You may electronically download the document referenced above on the US EPA's homepage at <http://www.epa.gov/globalwarming/inventory>. For those without access to EPA's homepage, please send requests for a copy of the document to: Environmental Protection Agency, Climate Policy and Programs Division (2175), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460, Fax: (202) 260-6405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Wiley Barbour, Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Policy, Climate Policy and Programs Division, (202) 260-6972.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: You may view and download the document referenced above on the US EPA's homepage at www.epa.gov/globalwarming/inventory. If you wish to

send an email with your comments you may sent the email to barbour.wiley@epamail.epa.gov.

Dated: February 16, 1999.

David Gardiner,

Assistant Administrator, Office of Policy.

[FR Doc. 99-5826 Filed 3-9-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6308-8]

Notice of Availability: Y2K Enforcement Policy

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of Availability: Y2K Enforcement Policy.

SUMMARY: On November 30, 1998, EPA issued an enforcement policy designed to encourage prompt testing of computer-related equipment to ensure that environmental compliance is not impaired by the Y2K computer bug. Under the policy (published on the Internet at www.epa.gov/year2000), EPA stated its intent to waive 100% of the civil penalties that might otherwise apply, and to recommend against criminal prosecution, for environmental violations caused during specific tests that are designed to identify and eliminate Y2K-related malfunctions. The policy also stated that the civil penalty waiver and recommendation against criminal prosecution are limited to testing-related violations disclosed to EPA by February 1, 2000, and are subject to certain conditions, such as the need to design and conduct the tests well in advance of the dates in question, the need to conduct the tests for the shortest possible period of time necessary, the need to correct any testing-related violations immediately, and other conditions to ensure that protection of human health and the environment is not compromised. Today's notice publishes the entire policy for the first time in the **Federal Register**, to increase public awareness of this incentive to test computer-related systems and to incorporate several minor revisions aimed at clarifying the policy in response to public comment. The policy published today contains no major changes to the eligibility criteria announced on November 30, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Additional copies of the policy can be obtained on the Internet at www.epa.gov/year2000, and through EPA's Enforcement and Compliance Docket Information Center (ECDIC), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Room