

Dated: July 22, 1999.

Joseph Retzer,

Director, Regulatory Information Division.

[FR Doc. 99-19269 Filed 7-27-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-U

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-00615; FRL-6093-1]

Notice of Public Meeting; EPA/USDA Workshop on *Bacillus thuringiensis* Crop Resistance Management

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) will conduct a 1-day joint public workshop on managing the emergence of insect populations that are resistant to *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) plant-pesticides. The workshop will provide the two Agencies with information to help them develop and implement plans related to managing resistance.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday August 26, 1999 from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at Sheraton Four Points Hotel, Memphis International Airport, 2240 Democrat Road, Memphis, TN, telephone number: (901) 332-1130.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Sharlene R. Matten, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division (7511C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 605-0514; e-mail address: matten.sharlene@epa.gov; fax: (703) 308-7026. For questions specifically about registration for the workshop, contact the person listed in Unit II B of this document.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Does this Notice Apply to Me?

This notice applies to the public in general. As such, the Agency has not attempted to specifically describe all the entities potentially affected by this notice. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this notice to a particular entity, consult the technical person listed in the "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" section.

B. How Can I Get Additional Information or Copies of Any Documents Discussed in this Notice?

1. *Electronically.* You may obtain electronic copies of this document and related supporting materials from the EPA internet Biopesticides Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/biopesticides/btworkshop826.htm>. Electronic copies of this document, a draft agenda, and an EPA/USDA Position Paper for the workshop are currently available; a list of panelists and draft questions for panelists will be available by August 1, 1999. You can also go to the EPA internet Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/>. On the Home Page select "Laws and Regulations" and then look up the entry for this document under the "Federal Register - Environmental Documents." You can also go directly to the "Federal Register" listings at <http://www.epa.gov/homepage/fedrgstr/>.

2. *In person.* If you have any questions or need additional information about this action, you may contact the technical person identified in the "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" section.

In addition, the official record for this notice, including the public version, has been established under docket control number [OPP-00615]. This official record not only includes the documents that are physically located in the docket, but also includes all the documents that are referenced in those documents. A public version of this official record, which includes printed, paper versions of any electronic comments, but does not include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection in Rm. 119, Crystal Mall 2 (CM #2), 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The Public Information and Records Integrity Branch telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

C. How and to Whom Do I Submit Comments?

You may submit comments through the mail, in person, or electronically. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, you must identify docket control number [OPP-00615] in the subject line on the first page of your response. Comments on the EPA/USDA position paper, especially on Bt cotton, should be forwarded to the Agency no later than September 30, 1999.

1. *By mail.* Submit written comments 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.

2. *In person or by courier.* Deliver written comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. 119, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

3. *Electronically.* Submit your comments and/or data electronically by e-mail to: opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov. Do not submit any information electronically that you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI). Submit electronic comments as an ASCII file, avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption, or in WordPerfect 5.1/6.1. Comments and data will also be accepted on standard computer disks in WordPerfect 5.1/6.1 or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number [OPP-00615]. Electronic comments on this notice may also be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

D. How Should I Handle CBI That I Want to Submit to the Agency?

You may claim information that you submit in response to this document as Confidential Business Information (CBI) 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. 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 CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential will be included in the public docket by EPA without prior notice. If you have any questions about CBI or the procedures for claiming CBI, please consult with the technical person identified in the "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" section.

E. What Should I Consider As I Prepare My Comments for EPA?

We invite you to provide your views on the various options we propose, new approaches we haven't considered, the potential impacts of the various options (including possible unintended consequences), and any data or information that you would like the Agency to consider during the development of the final action. 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 solid technical information and/or data to support your views.
4. If you estimate potential burden or costs, explain how you arrived at the estimate.
5. Tell us what you support, as well as what you disagree with.
6. Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns.
7. Offer alternative ways to improve this activity.
8. Make sure to submit your comments by the deadline in this notice.
9. At the beginning of your comments, be sure to properly identify the document you are commenting on. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket control number [OPP-00615] in the subject line on the first page of your response. You may also provide the name, date, **Federal Register** citation, and/or the appropriate EPA or OMB ICR number.

II. BACKGROUND

A. What Issues Will the Workshop Address?

On Thursday, August 26, 1999, the EPA/USDA will conduct a joint public workshop on Bt crops to discuss specific insect resistance management issues focusing on Bt cotton. Three preselected panels will explore: Refuge Design and Deployment; Monitoring and Remedial Action; and Education and Compliance Issues. The workshop will begin with introductory comments from representatives of EPA and USDA. Panelists will be selected beforehand from the various stakeholder groups: industry, academia, USDA, conventional and organic growers, public interest groups, Arizona Cotton Research & Protection Council, and the National Cotton Council. Each panel's presentation will be followed by approximately 30–60 minutes of open discussion. Proceedings will be sent to all attendees and posted on the Biopesticides website: (<http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/biopesticides>).

EPA believes that managing insect resistance to Bt toxins is important because of the threat that resistance poses to the high benefits and low risk of using Bt toxins in transgenic crops and in microbial spray formulations. With use of Bt-crops increasing, EPA recognizes the value of ensuring that Bt crops and microbial Bts remain effective against target pests for as long as possible. To this end, EPA has worked

with stakeholders (e.g., industry, public sector research and extension, growers, user groups, public interest groups, and government agencies) to address resistance management for Bt crops.

B. What Should I Do if I Want to Attend the Workshop?

EPA strongly requests all persons planning on attending the workshop to preregister. This information is needed to ensure adequate space for attendees. There is no registration fee. To register, please visit the workshop website at <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/biopesticides/btworkshop826.htm> and fill out the registration form there. As an alternative, you may provide the following registration information directly to Teresa Bullock by e-mail or fax: Name(s); Organization; Mailing Address; Phone; Fax; E-mail. Teresa Bullock can be reached by: E-mail: tbullock@niu.edu; Fax: (815) 753-9348; telephone: (815) 753-9347; Mailing Address: Teresa Bullock, American Farmland Trust, P.O. Box 987, DeKalb, IL 60115.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the workshop hotel at a special rate. Please make your reservation early to ensure you get a room at that rate. Make your reservation by calling: Sheraton Four Points Hotel, 2240 Democrat Road, Memphis, TN 38132; Phone: (901) 332-1130; Fax: (901) 398-5206.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Bt cotton, Bt crops, pesticides, plant-pesticides, biopesticides, resistance management.

Dated: July 14, 1999.

Kathleen D. Knox,

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

[FR Doc. 99-19273 Filed 7-27-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-30478; FRL-6080-3]

Bayer Inc.; Approval of Pesticide Product Registrations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces Agency approval of applications to amend the pesticide products Folicur 3.6 F and Elite 45 DF involving a changed use pattern of the active ingredient pursuant to the provisions of

section 3(c)(5) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), as amended.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Mary Waller, Product Manager (PM) 21, Registration Division (7505C), Office of Pesticide Programs, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location and telephone number: Rm. 249, CM #2, Environmental Protection Agency, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202, 703-308-9354; e-mail: waller.mary@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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

EPA received applications from Bayer Inc., 8400 Hawthorne Road, P.O. Box 4913, Kansas City, MO 64120-0013, to amend the pesticide products Folicur 3.6 F and Elite 45 DF, foliar fungicides (EPA Registration Numbers 3125-394 and 3125-388), containing the active ingredient tebuconazole, α -[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-ethyl]- α -(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1*H*-1,2,4-triazole-1-ethanol at 38.7% and 45% respectively, an active ingredient which involves a changed use pattern of the products. However, since the notice of receipt of these applications to register the products 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 these products. Comments and data may also be submitted electronically to: opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov.

These applications were approved on January 8, 1999; in addition to the currently registered uses, these two products will be used as listed below:

1. Folicur 3.6 F for control of specified diseases on grasses grown for seed (EPA Registration Number 3125-394).

2. Elite 45 DF for control of specified diseases on grapes (EPA Registration Number 3125-388).

The Agency has considered all required data on risks associated with the proposed use of tebuconazole, 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