

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 copies of 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 the estimate that you provide.
5. Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns.
6. Make sure to submit your comments by the deadline in this notice.
7. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, be sure to identify the docket ID number assigned to this action in the subject line on the first page of your response. You may also provide the name, date, and **Federal Register** citation.

II. What Action is the Agency Taking?

EPA has received a pesticide petition as follows proposing the establishment and/or amendment of regulations for residues of a certain pesticide chemical in or on various food commodities under section 408 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), 21 U.S.C. 346a. EPA has determined that this petition contains data or information regarding the elements set forth in FFDCA section 408(d)(2); however, EPA has not fully evaluated the sufficiency of the submitted data at this time or whether the data support granting of the petition. Additional data may be needed before EPA rules on the petition.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Agricultural commodities, Feed additives, Food additives, Pesticides

and pests, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: March 4, 2003.

Debra Edwards,

Acting Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

Summary of Petition

The petitioner summary of the pesticide petition is printed below as required by FFDCA section 408(d)(3). The summary of the petition was prepared by the petitioner and represents the view of the petitioner. The petition summary announces the availability of a description of the analytical methods available to EPA for the detection and measurement of the pesticide chemical residues or an explanation of why no such method is needed.

PP OE6196

EPA has received a pesticide petition (PP OE6196) from the Interregional Research Project No. 4 (IR-4), Technology Centre of New Jersey, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, 681 U.S. Highway #1 South, North Brunswick, NJ 08902-3390 proposing, pursuant to section 408(d) of the FFDCA, 21 U.S.C. 346a(d), to amend 40 CFR part 180.464 by establishing tolerances for residues of dimethenamid, (R,S)-2-chloro-N-[(1-methyl-2-methoxy) ethyl]-N-(2,4-dimethyl-thien-3-yl)-acetamide in or on the raw agricultural commodities beet, garden, roots at 0.01 parts per million (ppm); beet, garden, tops at 0.01 ppm; beet, sugar, roots at 0.01 ppm; beet, sugar, tops at 0.01 ppm; garlic, dry bulb at 0.01 ppm; horseradish at 0.01 ppm; onion, dry bulb at 0.01 ppm, shallot, dry bulb at 0.01 ppm; and tuberous and corm vegetables subgroup (Crop group 1C) at 0.01 ppm. EPA has determined that the petition contains data or information regarding the elements set forth in section 408(d)(2) of the FFDCA; however, EPA has not fully evaluated the sufficiency of the submitted data at this time or whether the data supports granting of the petition. Additional data may be needed before EPA rules on the petition. This petition summary was prepared by the registrant, BASF Corporation, P.O. Box 13528, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-3528.

A. Residue Chemistry

1. *Plant and animal metabolism.* BASF Corporation notes that metabolism in plants and animals is understood.

2. *Analytical method.* The proposed analytical method uses extraction and clean-up followed by quantification

with capillary column gas chromatography (GC) using thermionic nitrogen specific detector. A GC/mass spectroscopy (MS) method for identification is also available. This method is not selective towards the dimethenamid isomer and is therefore valid for residues from both dimethenamid and the enriched dimethenamid-P. Tolerances are proposed based on a non-isomer specific basis.

3. *Magnitude of residues.* For onion, magnitude of the residue data are based on applications with dimethenamid. Residue trials were conducted at 8 locations in California, Michigan, New York, Oregon, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin. Treatments were made at 1.5 lbs active ingredient/acre (ai/A) 30 or 45 days before harvest. No residues above the limit of quantitation (LOQ) of 0.01 ppm were detected in dry bulb onion. Residue data from dry bulb onion will be used as surrogate data for dry bulb garlic and shallots.

For sugar beet, magnitude of the residue data are based on dimethenamid-P applications to sugar beet at 0.98 lb ai/A. Dimethenamid-P is the biologically active isomer from the racemic dimethenamid mixture. The method measures both dimethenamid and dimethenamid-P, so the sugar beet residue determinations for dimethenamid-P are considered representative of the proposed treatments with dimethenamid. No residues were detected in sugar beet roots or tops from a testing program conducted in 12 locations across 8 states. Data from processing studies indicate that no residues are detected in the roots even at exaggerated rates of 3.15 lbs ai/A. The limit of quantitation is 0.01 ppm. The sugar beet trials also support the tolerances for table beet.

For the tuberous and corm vegetable subgroup, magnitude of the residue data for potatoes are based on applications with dimethenamid-P. Residue trials were conducted at 17 locations in California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Washington, and Wisconsin. Treatments were made at 1.25 lbs ai/A 40 days before harvest. No residues above the LOQ of 0.01 ppm were detected in potato tubers. Data from processing studies indicate that no residues are detected in the tubers even at exaggerated rates of 12.5 lbs ai/A. Residue data from potato tubers will be used as surrogate data for horseradish.

BASF believes that due to the low levels of residue in the RAC's, tolerances in animals are not required.