

Department of Agriculture, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, and the Washington State Department of Agriculture have requested the Administrator issue specific exemptions for the use of quinoxifen on hops to control powdery mildew. Information in accordance with 40 CFR part 166 was submitted as part of this request.

As part of this request, the Applicants assert that currently registered products and non-chemical control measures do not provide adequate season long control of powdery mildew on susceptible hops varieties. Powdery mildew (*S. macularis*) is a serious hop disease in many hop growing areas throughout the world. During the early part of this century, a commercial hop production industry in the State of New York was devastated due to what is believed to have been an uncontrolled outbreak of powdery mildew. Before June of 1997, this disease had not been observed in the Pacific Northwest. Quinoxifen has been shown to be an effective fungicide against hop powdery mildew over the past 4 years of testing. Quinoxifen has not shown any plant growth regulatory effects or adverse impact to cone size. Additionally, quinoxifen is a quinoline fungicide, which will provide growers with a new mode of action to control powdery mildew.

The U.S. is the second largest producer of hops in the world. The States estimate that there will be an 8% to 30% loss of gross revenues without the use of quinoxifen.

The Applicants propose to apply no more than 6 to 8 fluid ounces of formulated product, containing 22.58% quinoxifen (0.098 to 0.13 pound/active ingredient) per acre per application. No more than four applications per acre per year will be made. A total of 19,500 acres of hops may be treated; up to 3,000 acres of hops in Idaho, 3,500 acres of hops in Oregon, and 13,000 acres of hops in Washington State. Applications will be made from July 1, 2003, through September 15, 2003. Based on the maximum application rate and a total of four applications per acre, up to 10,140 pounds of quinoxifen could be applied.

This notice does not constitute a decision by EPA on the application itself. The regulations governing section 18 of FIFRA 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) which has not been registered by EPA."

The Agency, will review and consider all comments received during the comment period in determining whether to issue the specific exemptions requested by the Idaho

Department of Agriculture, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, and the Washington State Department of Agriculture.

#### List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: March 13, 2003.

**Debra Edwards,**

*Acting Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.*

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#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-2003-0008; FRL-7289-2]

#### Vinclozolin; Notice of Filing a Pesticide Petition To Establish a Tolerance for a Certain Pesticide Chemical in or on Food

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the initial filing of a pesticide petition proposing the establishment of regulations to make permanent the tolerances for residues, and to extend existing tolerances for residues of a certain pesticide chemical in or on various food commodities.

**DATES:** Comments, identified by docket ID number OPP-2003-0008, must be received on or before April 25, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted electronically, by mail, or through hand delivery/courier. Follow the detailed instructions as provided in Unit I. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary L. Waller, Registration Division (7505C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (703) 308-9354; e-mail address: [waller.mary@epa.gov](mailto:waller.mary@epa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. General Information

##### A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

You may be potentially affected by this action if you are an agricultural producer, food manufacturer, or pesticide manufacturer. Potentially affected entities may include, but are not limited to:

- Crop production (NAICS 111)
- Animal production (NAICS 112)
- Food manufacturing (NAICS 311)

- Pesticide manufacturing (NAICS 32532)
- Antimicrobial pesticides (NAICS 32561)

This listing is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed in this unit could also be affected. The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes have been provided to assist you and others in determining whether this action might apply to certain entities. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

##### B. How Can I Get Copies of this Document and Other Related Information?

1. *Docket.* EPA has established an official public docket for this action under docket identification (ID) number OPP-2003-0008. The official public docket consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, any public comments received, and other information related to this action. Although a part of the official docket, the public docket does not include Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. The official public docket is the collection of materials that is available for public viewing at the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA. This docket facility is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The docket telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

2. *Electronic access.* You may access this **Federal Register** document electronically through the EPA Internet under the "**Federal Register**" listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

An electronic version of the public docket is available through EPA's electronic public docket and comment system, EPA Dockets. You may use EPA Dockets at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket/> to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the official public docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Although not all docket materials may be available electronically, you may still access any of the publicly available docket materials through the docket facility identified in Unit I.B.1. Once in the system, select "search," then key in the appropriate docket ID number.