

was authorized by the tolerance. EPA will take action to revoke these tolerances earlier if any experience with, scientific data on, or other relevant information on this pesticide indicate that the residues are not safe.

Tolerances for the use of the following pesticide chemicals on specific commodities are being extended:

1. *2,4-D*. EPA has authorized under FIFRA section 18 the use of 2,4-D on wild rice for control of water plantain in Minnesota. This regulation extends time-limited tolerances for residues of the herbicide 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid and its metabolites in or on wild rice at 0.1 parts per million (ppm) for an additional 3-year period. This tolerance will expire and is revoked on December 31, 2005. A time-limited tolerance was originally published in the **Federal Register** of September 5, 1997 (62 FR 46900) (FRL-5738-9).

2. *Bifenthrin*. EPA has authorized under FIFRA section 18 the use of bifenthrin on citrus for control of weevils in Texas and Florida. This regulation extends time-limited tolerances for residues of the insecticide bifenthrin in or on citrus, dried pulp and citrus, oil at 0.3 parts per million (ppm) for an additional 2-year period. This tolerance will expire and is revoked on December 31, 2004. A time-limited tolerance was originally published in the **Federal Register** of December 16, 1998 (63 FR 69200) (FRL-6048-1).

3. *N-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-(1-methylethyl)-2-[[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl]oxy]acetamide*. EPA has authorized under FIFRA section 18 the use of *N-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-(1-methylethyl)-2-[[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl]oxy]acetamide* on wheat and triticale for control of ryegrass in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. This regulation extends a time-limited tolerance for combined residues of the herbicide *N-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-(1-methylethyl)-2-[[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl]oxy]acetamide* and its metabolites containing the 4-fluoro-*N*-methylethyl benzenamine moiety in or on wheat grain at 1 ppm, wheat forage at 10 ppm, wheat hay at 2 ppm, wheat straw at 0.5 ppm, meat and fat of cattle, goats, horses, hogs, and sheep at 0.05 ppm, meat byproducts (other than kidney) of cattle, goats, horses, hogs, and sheep at 0.10 ppm and kidney of cattle, goats, horses, hogs, and sheep at 0.50 ppm for an additional 1-year, 11 months. These tolerances will expire and are revoked on June 30, 2005. Time-limited tolerances were originally published in the **Federal Register** of August 6, 1999 (64 FR 42839) (FRL-6091-9).

4. *Fenhexamid*. EPA has authorized under FIFRA section 18 the use of fenhexamid on pears for control of gray mold in California. This regulation extends a time-limited tolerance for residues of the fungicide fenhexamid, (*N*-2,3-dichloro-4-hydroxyphenyl)-1-methyl cyclohexanecarboxamide in or on pears at 15 ppm for an additional 2-year period. This tolerance will expire and is revoked on December 31, 2004. A time-limited tolerance was originally published in the **Federal Register** of November 21, 2000 (65 FR 69876) (FRL-6752-4).

EPA has received objections to tolerances it established for 2,4-D, and fenhexamid on different food commodities. The objections were filed by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and raised several issues regarding aggregate exposure estimates and the additional safety factor for the protection of infants and children. Although these objections concern separate rulemaking proceedings under the FFDC, EPA has considered whether it is appropriate to extend the emergency exemption tolerances for 2,4-D, and fenhexamid while the objections are still pending.

Factors taken into account by EPA included how close the Agency is to concluding the proceedings on the objections, the nature of the current action, whether NRDC's objections raised frivolous issues, and extent to which the issues raised by NRDC had already been considered by EPA. Although NRDC's objections are not frivolous, the other factors all support extending these tolerances at this time. First the objections proceeding is unlikely to conclude prior to when action is necessary on this petition. NRDC's objections raise complex legal, scientific, policy, and factual matters and EPA initiated a 60-day public comment period on them in the **Federal Register** of June 19, 2002 (67 FR 41628) (FRL-7167-7). That comment period was extended until October 16, 2002 (September 17, 2002, 67 FR 58536) (FRL-7275-3), and EPA is now examining the extensive comments received. Second the nature of the current actions are extremely time-sensitive as they address emergency situations. Third the issues raised by NRDC are not new matters but questions that have been the subject of considerable study by EPA and comment by stakeholders. Accordingly, EPA is proceeding with extending the tolerances for 2,4-D, and fenhexamid.

5. *Lambda-Cyhalothrin*. EPA has authorized under FIFRA section 18 the use of lambda-cyhalothrin on barley for control of the Russian wheat aphid and

cutworms in Idaho, Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana. This regulation extends a time-limited tolerance for combined residues of the pyrethroid lambda-cyhalothrin, 1:1 mixture of (S)- α -cyano-3-phenoxybenzyl-(Z)-(1R,3R)-3-(2-chloro-3,3,3-trifluoroprop-1-enyl)-2,2-dimethylcyclopropanecarboxylate and (R)- α -cyano-3-phenoxybenzyl-(Z)-(1S,3S)-3-(2-chloro-3,3,3-trifluoroprop-1-enyl)-2,2-dimethylcyclopropanecarboxylate and its epimer expressed as epimer of lambda-cyhalothrin, a 1:1 mixture of (S)- α -cyano-3-phenoxybenzyl-(Z)-(1S,3S)-3-(2-chloro-3,3,3-trifluoroprop-1-enyl)-2,2-dimethylcyclopropanecarboxylate and (R)- α -cyano-3-phenoxybenzyl-(Z)-(1R,3R)-3-(2-chloro-3,3,3-trifluoroprop-1-enyl)-2,2-dimethylcyclopropanecarboxylate in or on barley grain at 0.05 ppm, barley bran at 0.2 ppm, and barley hay and straw at 2.0 ppm for an additional 3-year period. These tolerances will expire and are revoked on December 31, 2005. Time-limited tolerances were originally published in the **Federal Register** of October 29, 1997 (62 FR 56095) (FRL-5745-5).

6. *Mancozeb*. EPA has authorized under FIFRA section 18 the use of mancozeb on ginseng for control of stem and leaf blight in Wisconsin. This regulation extends a time-limited tolerance for combined residues of the fungicide mancozeb, calculated as zinc ethylenebisdithiocarbamate, and its metabolite ethylenethiourea (ETU) in or on ginseng at 2.0 ppm for an additional 2-year period. This tolerance will expire and is revoked on December 31, 2004. A time-limited tolerance was originally published in the **Federal Register** of October 9, 1998 (63 FR 54362) (FRL-6029-5).

7. *Sodium chlorate*. The state of Arkansas availed itself of the authority to declare the existence of a crisis situation, thereby authorizing use under FIFRA section 18 of sodium chlorate on wheat as a defoliant or desiccant to aid in the harvest of wheat. This regulation extends a time-limited exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for residues of the defoliant/desiccant sodium chlorate in or on wheat for an additional 2-year period. This exemption from the requirement of a tolerance will expire and is revoked on December 31, 2004. A time-limited exemption from the requirement of a tolerance was originally published in the **Federal Register** of December 3, 1997 (62 FR 63858) (FRL-5754-1).

8. *Spinosad*. EPA is authorizing under FIFRA section 18 the use of spinosad on all agricultural commodities when