

commodity is 100% of a daily diet. Thus, in making a safety determination for these tolerance exemptions, Valent BioSciences Corporation took into account this very conservative exposure assessment.

The last application precedes harvest by approximately 2.5 months in apples, therefore the potential for dietary exposure is considered negligible by Valent BioSciences Corporation. Application precedes harvest by approximately 2 months in pistachios. Also pistachios have their hulls, which cover the shell, removed at harvest, therefore the potential for dietary exposure is considered negligible by Valent BioSciences Corporation. Residues are below the LOQ (LOQ = 0.05 ppm) in pistachio.

ii. *Drinking water.* The proposed uses on apples and pistachios are not expected to add potential exposure to drinking water. Soil leaching studies have suggested that 6-BA is relatively immobile, absorbing to sediment. Residues reaching surface waters from field runoff should quickly absorb to sediment particles and be partitioned from the water column. 6-Benzyladenine also has low solubility in water, 0.061 mg/mL, and detections in ground water are not expected. Valent BioSciences Corporation concludes that together these data indicate that residues are not expected in drinking water.

2. *Non-dietary exposure.* The proposed uses involve application of 6-BA to crops grown in an agricultural environment. The only non-dietary exposure expected is that to applicators. However, the protective measures prescribed by the product's label are expected to be adequate to minimize exposure and protect applicators of the chemical.

E. Cumulative Exposure

No cumulative adverse effects are expected from long-term exposure to this chemical. There is no reliable information to indicate that toxic effects produced by 6-BA would be cumulative with those of any other pesticide chemical.

F. Safety Determination

1. *U.S. population.* Chronic dietary exposure estimates were conducted for the overall U.S. population and 25 population subgroups, including infants and children. These estimated daily intakes were compared against a chronic population adjusted dose (PAD) based on a NOAEL of 50 mg/kg bwt/day from a developmental study in rats. To account for intraspecies and interspecies variation and the use of an

acute toxicological endpoint for a chronic assessment, an uncertainty factor (UF) of 1,000 was applied to the acute NOAEL. This resulted in a chronic PAD of 0.05 mg/kg bwt/day. Daily exposure for the overall U.S. population was estimated to be 0.000014 mg/kg bwt/day, representing less than 0.1% of the estimated chronic PAD.

2. *Infants and children.* Estimated daily exposures, assuming that 100% of the apple and pistachio commodities in the United States are treated with 6-BA, for the most highly exposed population subgroup, non-nursing infants, was estimated to be 0.000085 mg/kg bwt/day, or 0.2% of the estimated chronic PAD.

G. Effects on the Immune and Endocrine Systems

6-Benzyladenine is a naturally occurring cytokinin which has plant growth regulator properties. There is no indication that this plant growth regulator belongs to a class of chemicals known or suspected of having adverse effects on the immune and endocrine systems. It can be concluded that based upon the existing toxicology there would be no adverse effects on the immune or endocrine systems from the use of 6-BA. Last, there is no evidence that 6-BA bioaccumulates in the environment.

H. Existing Tolerances

The plant growth regulator 6-BA is exempt from the requirement of a tolerance when used as a fruit-thinning agent at an application rate not to exceed 30 grams of active ingredient per acre in or on apples.

6-Benzyladenine is temporarily exempt from the requirement of a tolerance in or on apples at ≤ 182 grams of active ingredient per acre per season, and in or on pistachio at ≤ 60 grams of active ingredient per acre per season when used in accordance with the Experimental Use Permit 73049-EUP-2. The exemption from a tolerance will expire on January 31, 2005.

I. International Tolerances

There are no codex, Canadian, or Mexican maximum residue limits for use of 6-BA on apple or pistachio. [FR Doc. 03-19280 Filed 7-29-03; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-2003-0256; FRL-7319-7]

Indian Meal Moth Granulosis Virus; 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 for residues of a certain pesticide chemical in or on various food commodities.

DATES: Comments, identified by docket ID number OPP-2003-0256, must be received on or before August 29, 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: Leonard Cole, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division (7511C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (703) 305-5412; e-mail address: cole.leonard@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)

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**.