

***Beauveria bassiana* ATCC 74040 (128818) Fact Sheet**

Summary

Beauveria bassiana ATCC 74040 is a fungus that is used as a pesticide for controlling many kinds of insects. This active ingredient is present in several products that can be used in greenhouses and outdoors on all food crops and many non-food crops. Residues of the fungus are not expected to remain on treated food or feed. Available information indicates that use of *Beauveria bassiana* ATCC 74040 as a pesticide is not expected to adversely affect people or the environment.

I. Description of the Active Ingredient

Many strains of *Beauveria bassiana* are found worldwide in the soil. They control insects by growing on them, secreting enzymes that weaken the insect's outer coat, and then getting inside the insect and continuing to grow, eventually killing the infected pest.

II. Use Sites, Target Pests, And Application Methods

- **Use Sites:** EPA has approved the use of this active ingredient on ornamental plants and on turf grass as well as on food and other crops grown outdoors and in greenhouses. The fungus is not approved for use on crops in aquatic habitats.

- **Target pests:** Adults and larvae of many kinds of insects; eggs of lepidopteran pests such as moths.

- **Application Methods:** The product is sprayed on growing plants using hand, ground, or aerial equipment.

III. Assessing Risks to Human Health

There are no expected health risks to humans who apply this fungus as a pesticide or who eat crops that have been treated with the fungus. Special precautions are specified for pesticide handlers and for field workers who need to enter treated fields within certain short intervals after the pesticide is applied. These workers must wear respiratory equipment and protective clothing, as described on the product labels.

IV. Assessing Risks to the Environment

Tests show that the fungus is not toxic to mammals, birds or plants. There is a potential for pesticide products containing the fungus to harm bees, so the products must not be applied near beehives or where bees are actively hunting for food. If the pesticide products are used as labeled, no harmful environmental effects are expected.

V. Regulatory Information

Products containing *Beauveria bassiana* ATCC 74040 have been approved since 1995 for use on non-food crops on the condition that the registrant submit information about the effects of the fungus on water fleas (*Daphnia*) and on certain non-target insects. Some of the required information was still outstanding in fall 1999. *Beauveria bassiana* ATCC 74040 was approved for use on all food and feed crops on May 3, 1999.

VI. Registrant Information

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VII. Additional Contact Information

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