



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

Caswell 849A

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OFFICE OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 20, 1980

SUBJECT: PP No. 8G2078 Thiabendazole on rice. Request for extension of experimental use permit and temporary tolerances.

Caswell No. 849A

FROM: Carlos A. Rodriguez *Carlos A. Rodriguez 2/20/80*
Toxicology Branch/HED (TS-769)

TO: Mr. Henry M. Jacoby, P.M. 21
RD (TS-767)

THRU: M. Adrian Gross, Chief *M. Adrian Gross 2/20/80*
Toxicology Branch/HED (TS-769)

Registrant: Merck Sharp and Dohme
P.O. Box 2000
Rahway, N.J. 07065

Action Requested: Petitioner requests the extension of Experimental Use Permit No. 618-EUP-9 and the current temporary tolerances for residues of thiabendazole in or on rice grain at 1 ppm, rice hulls at 12 ppm and rice straw at 10 ppm.

Mertect 340-F, EPA Reg. No. 618-75 is to be used. The proposed program would use 840 gals (3,360 lbs. active ingredient) on 4,360 acres to be applied at 6.0-12.0 fl. oz. per acre per application in sufficient water for coverage (minimum of 5 gallons of water per acre for aerial application). Make two applications at boot initiation followed by another application 14-21 days later for control of rice blast, stem rot, sheath blight and brown leaf spot on rice. In California only, it will be used at 16-20 fl. oz per acre at old-tillering for control of stem rot. A second application may be applied 14 days later. Use on total of 4,386 acres is planned. The duration of the program will be from April 1980 to April 1981 and would involve the States of Arkansas, California, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The 3,360 lbs active would include 988 lbs. active which were granted but not used in 1979. The previous request entailed the use of approximately 2,100 lbs thiabendazole on 4,000 acres in California, Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana.

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The inert ingredients in this product have been cleared under CFR 401.180.1001.

No new toxicity data accompany the request.

The following is a toxicity summary of Merten 340-F supporting this action:

Rat Oral LD₅₀ = 3.33 g/kg

Mouse Oral LD₅₀ = 3.81 g/kg

Rat Subacute Feeding: NOEL = 100 mg/kg

Rat 2-Year Feeding: Oncogenic potential negative. NOEL = 10 mg/kg

Dog 2-Year Feeding: NOEL = 50 mg/kg

Rat Teratology: negative at 80 mg/kg (highest dose tested)

Rabbit Teratology: No teratogenic effects at 800 mg/kg (highest dose tested)

Reproduction (Mouse): NOEL = 150 mg/kg.

Toxicity data on Formulation 340-F available includes oral, dermal, eye, and inhalation and supports its safety for the temporary extension requested. There is no change proposed for thiabendazole use. There will be no change in dietary exposure from the previous EUP to humans if this request is granted.

There are no regulatory actions against registration of this product and it is not on the RPAR list.

Recommendation

Other considerations permitting, Toxicology Branch recommends that the extension requested can be granted.

per [signature]

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