

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

MAR 28 1986

OFFICE OF  
PESTICIDES AND TOXIC SUBSTANCESMEMORANDUM

**SUBJECT:** Proposed use of a blend of technical DEET from four producers in Toxicology Test Program

**FROM:** Whang Phang, Pharmacologist  
Toxicology Branch  
Hazard Evaluation Division (TS-769c) *Whyte 3/26/86*

**TO:** Timothy Gardner, PM (17)  
Registration Division (TS-767c)

**THRU:** Alan Katz, Toxicologist  
Acting Head, Section III *Alan Katz 3/26/86*  
and  
Theodore Farber, Ph. D.  
Chief *Farber 3/28/86*  
Toxicology Branch  
Hazard Evaluation Division (TS-769c)

**Chemical:** N,N-Diethyl-m-toluamide (DEET)

**Caswell No.:** 346

**EPA I.D. No. :** CSMA-DEET

**Company:** Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association

**Action Requested:** Respond to the Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association (CSMA) regarding the selection of a technical chemical to be used in the Toxicological testing of DEET.

**Background:** DEET is a common name for N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide, which is a multi-purpose insect repellent registered for direct application to human skin, clothing, household pets, tents, and screens. The toxicological data base concerning DEET is incomplete, particularly in the area of chronic studies. A complete toxicological data base is necessary to better assess the health effects of DEET. The CSMA has submitted some information on the chemical composition of technical DEET from four different producers. In addition, the CSMA proposed to use a blend of these four sources of technical DEET as the material for testing.

**Conclusion:** The proposed use of a blend (1:1:1:1) of the four available sources of technical DEET as the material for toxicological studies is acceptable.