



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

DEC 30 1987

OFFICE OF  
PESTICIDES AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: CA-870074. Section 24 (c) Registration. Acephate on Greenhouse Lettuce grown for Seed. No MRID #. RCB # 3119.

FROM: Leung Cheng, Chemist *L. Cheng*  
Residue Chemistry Branch  
Hazard Evaluation Division (TS-769C)

TO: William Miller, PM# 16  
Fungicide-Herbicide Branch  
Registration Division (TS-767C)

THRU: Edward Zager, Section Head  
Residue Chemistry Branch  
Hazard Evaluation Division *E. Zager* (TS-769C)

The State of California (CDFA) has issued a Special Local Need registration for the use of Orthene 75S (EPA # 239-2418-AA) to control aphids in greenhouse lettuce grown for seed. The product contains 75% acephate [O,S-dimethyl acetylphosphoramidothioate] as its active ingredient.

Tolerances are established for the combined residues of acephate and its cholinesterase-inhibiting metabolite methamidophos [O,S-dimethyl phosphoramidothioate] in or on several raw agricultural commodities including head lettuce at 10 ppm of which no more than 1 ppm is methamidophos [40CFR180.108].

The Registration Standard for acephate was issued 1/82

The 24(c) use allows "apply as needed to control aphid infestations. Maximum of 6 applications per seed crop" via handheld sprayer or ground rig only. The label instructs mixing 2-4 teaspoons of product per gallon of water.

According to David Haskell of CDFA (telephone conversation 12/23/87), a few greenhouse acres of lettuce would be treated and it would require about 50 gallons of spray per acre for full coverage.

Information in our files indicates that leaves of lettuce become inedible when seedstalks form. In addition, greenhouse temperature promotes bolting so that edible leaves quickly disappear.

The 24(c) label also prohibits the use of treated lettuce for food or feed.

#### CONCLUSIONS

This Section 24 (c) use is considered a non-food use since only a few acres of lettuce grown in greenhouses specifically for seed production would be treated. Furthermore, greenhouse temperature promotes bolting which renders lettuce leaves inedible.

#### RECOMMENDATION

RCB has no objection to this Section 24 (c) use of acephate on greenhouse lettuce grown for seed.

cc:Circ, RF, Cheng, Non-food Use F, 24 (c) F, PMSD/ISB  
RDI:EZager:12/28/87:KHArne:12/29/87  
TS-769:RCB:CM#2:Rm810:Cheng:12/28/87:1:12/29/87