

1.0 INTRODUCTION

DuPont has submitted a letter to the Agency stating that "several incidences" of skin sensation in Florida from the use of Asana, an insecticide containing a cyanopyrethroid have occurred.

2.0 DISCUSSION

The skin sensation reports from Florida discussed by DuPont seem to be typical of the cyanopyrethroid. A review of the California pesticide incidence reports for Pydrin, a similar cyanopyrethroid, indicates a consistent low level occurrence of skin and eye irritation incidences. Typically two or three incidences occurred annually since 1982.

The Asana label has been reviewed and in light of the skin problem I would recommend some minor changes to the label. These label changes should minimize the problem.

Currently the label requires the use of goggles or face shield, protective clothing, and rubber gloves when handling. I would require the label to state that during mixing and loading of the concentrated material and during application and equipment clean-up use goggles or face shield, long sleeve shirt and long pants, and chemical resistant gloves.

I would also require the label to tell users to wash the gloves with soap and water before removing and to shower with soap and water as soon as possible after use. The statement currently on the label that the product may cause allergic reactions should be lengthened to describe the allergic reactions. A suggestion would be "prolonged contact of this product to the skin may cause allergic reactions such as burning, itching, and tingling. Showering with soap and water after use will reduce the possibility of the allergic reactions occurring.

3.0 CONCLUSION

EAB believes that minor revisions to the Asana label and DuPont's "intensive educational campaign" should be sufficient to reduce incidences of skin sensation reports to minimal levels.


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