

243503  
RECORD NUMBER

26

PESTICIDE CHEMICAL CODE

REVIEW NUMBER

ECOLOGICAL EFFECTS REVIEWDATE: IN 4/14/89 OUT 4/25/89FILE OR REG. NO. 89-MN-04

PETITION OR EXP NO. \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF SUBMISSION 4/10/89DATE RECEIVED BY HED 4/14/89RD REQUESTED COMPLETION DATE 4/29/89EEB ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE 4/29/89RD ACTION CODE/TYPE OF REVIEW 510TYPE PRODUCT(S): I, D, H, F, N, R, S Herbicide

DATA ACCESSION NO(S). \_\_\_\_\_

PRODUCT MANAGER NO. D.Stubbs (PM 41)PRODUCT NAME(S) POAST (Sethoxydim)COMPANY NAME State of MinnesotaSUBMISSION PURPOSE Proposed Sec. 18 for use on snap beans (see  
PM's question concerning endangered species)

PESTICIDE CHEMICAL CODE	CHEMICAL AND FORMULATION	% A.I.
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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF  
PESTICIDES AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Section 18 for use of POAST on snap beans in Minnesota

TO: Don Stubbs, PM 41  
Registration Division (H7505C)

FROM: Jim Akerman, Chief  
Ecological Effects Branch  
Environmental Fate and Effects Division (H7507C)

EEB has received a one page document highlighting endangered plant species relevant to emergency exemption uses of POAST on snapbeans in the State of Minnesota. The referencing subject was a Section 18 previously evaluated by EEB and approved by the Agency in 1987. The basis of the approval was the determination that the use of the herbicide pose minimal hazard to nontarget organisms. At that time, there were no endangered plant species listed for the State of Minnesota. Shortly afterwards, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service officially designated the prairie bush-clover and the Minnesota trout lily as endangered species. The western prairie fringe orchid is a rare species that is currently being proposed for endangered species classification.

The registration action did not request a routine hazard assessment from EEB for this assumed emergency use request renewal. The PM asks only if there are any changes in EEB's position with the updated endangered species listing for Minnesota. EEB examined its endangered species files and contacted the USFWS Minnesota Office (Jim Engle: FTS-725-3276) to determine if the listed species are at risk from pesticide use from agricultural activities such as snapbean production. The USFWS requested that they be contacted by the State of Minnesota because of the known association of the prairie bush-clover and the western prairie fringe orchid with agricultural fields in Brown, Cottonwood, Goodhue, Jackson, Renville, Rice, Clay, Mower, Norman, Polk, and Rock counties.

*John Noles*  
4/25/89

John Noles, Biologist  
Ecological Effects Branch  
Environmental Fate and  
Effects Division (H7507C)

10. Description of the Proposed Enforcement Information Program:

Information on the application of POAST® to snap beans will be available to the MDA for pesticide use monitoring. The MDA's field staff will, as appropriate, monitor pesticide sales, make use observations, and respond to misuse complaints. A final report summarizing treatments will be submitted to EPA after the use season.

B. INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR A SPECIFIC EXEMPTION:

1. Pest or Pest Complex:

POAST® is a selective herbicide recommended as a postemergent, surface-applied treatment. The major pest is wild proso millet (Panicum Miliaceum L.).

2. Events Which Brought About the Emergency:

Wild proso millet infestations are becoming increasingly common in snap bean production areas because of the lack of herbicides or cultural practices that are effective in suppressing the population. Wild proso millet is very competitive and once established, this weed pest can easily reduce yields by 30 to 50 percent or more and drastically reduce harvest efficiencies.

Faribault Foods, Inc. as a Company is making a consolidation and centralization of its agricultural operations and raw product procurement commencing with the 1989 growing season. As a result of this change all of our snap bean production will be located in our Minnesota producing areas. This will represent a four-fold increase in our snap bean acreage in the State of Minnesota. Our operational efficiencies will be much improved and we will also be able to provide a good solid crop rotation to the snap bean land which will markedly aid in minimizing plant disease problems. Conversely, the wild proso millet problem represents a serious threat to our efforts in Minnesota snap bean production.

3. Risks to Endangered Species, Beneficial Organisms or the Environment:

Based on information available, there are several endangered species present in Goodhue, Rice, and possibly Mower Counties. They are the Minnesota Trout Lily, Prairie Bush Clover and the White-fringed prairie orchid. Given the specific habitat of each species, normal use of Poast on snap beans would not present an unreasonable risk.

4. Economic Cost Benefit and Loss Assessment:

At this time, there is presently 6,000 acres in Minnesota under contract for production of snap beans. Snap bean production in