

432-1353

2/25/2009

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

FEB 25 2009

OFFICE OF
PREVENTION, PESTICIDES AND
TOXIC SUBSTANCES

Ms. Norma C. Pangilinan, Ph.D.
Bayer Environmental Science
2 T.W. Alexander Drive
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Subject: Revise Label to Add Required Florida Agriculture State Language
Merit 0.2 Plus Turf Fertilizer EPA Reg. No. 432-1349
Merit 0.3 Plus Turf Fertilizer EPA Reg. No. 432-1350
Merit 0.15 Plus Turf Fertilizer EPA Reg. No. 432-1353✓
Merit 0.25 Plus Turf Fertilizer EPA Reg. No. 432-1354

Your Submission date, December 3, 2008

Dear Ms. Pangilinan:

The labeling referred to above, submitted in connection with registration under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act as amended is acceptable. A stamped copy is enclosed for your records. Submit two (2) copies of your final printed labeling before you release the product bearing this amended labeling for shipment. If there are questions call me at 703 305-5409.

Sincerely,

Dani Daniel
Insecticide-Rodenticide Branch
Registration Division 7505P

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Merit[®] 0.15 Plus Turf Fertilizer

For fertilization and insect control in turfgrass and landscape ornamentals.

Fertilizer with MERIT Insecticide.

ACTIVE INGREDIENT:

Imidacloprid, 1-[(6-Chloro-3-pyridinyl)methyl]-N-nitro-2-imidazolidinimine 0.15%

OTHER INGREDIENTS: 99.85%

100.0%

EPA Reg. No. 432-1353

EPA Est. No. _____

Merit[®] is a registered trademark of Bayer.

[For placement in Fertilizer Guarantee Box

For Florida:

FLORIDA APPLICATIONS: For use on golf courses or other athletic turf in FL, we recommend you follow SL191, "Recommendations for N, P, K & Mg for Golf Course and Athletic Field Fertilization Based on Mehlich I Extractant", available on the internet at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/SS404> or "Best Management Practices for the Enhancement of Environmental Quality on Florida Golf Courses" at HYPERLINK "<http://www.flaes.org/pdf/gfbmp07.pdf>" <http://www.flaes.org/pdf/gfbmp07.pdf>.

FLORIDA APPLICATIONS: For commercial application to urban turf or lawns in FL, we recommend you follow the Best Management Practices for Protection of Water Resources in Florida, June 2002, Florida Green Industries, available on the internet at http://www.flaes.org/pdf/BMP_Book_final.pdf.]

**STOP - Read the label before use.
Keep out of reach of children.**

CAUTION

PRECAUCION AL USUARIO: Si usted no puede leer o entender inglés, no use este producto hasta que la etiqueta le haya sido explicada ampliamente.

(TO THE USER: If you cannot read or understand English, do not use this product until the label has been fully explained to you.)

FIRST AID

If swallowed:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call a poison control center or doctor immediately for treatment advice. • Have person sip a glass of water if able to swallow. • Do not induce vomiting unless told to do so by a poison control center or doctor. • Do not give anything by mouth to an unconscious person.
If on skin or clothing:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take off contaminated clothing. • Rinse skin immediately with plenty of water for 15-20 minutes. • Call a poison control center or doctor for treatment advice.
If in eyes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold eye open and rinse slowly and gently with water for 15-20 minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present, after the first 5 minutes, then continue rinsing eye. • Call a poison control center or doctor for treatment advice.
Have the product container or label with you when calling a poison control center or doctor, or going for treatment. You may also contact 1-800-334-7577 for emergency medical treatment.	

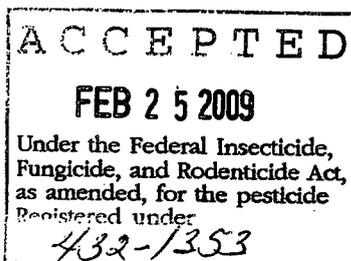
Note To Physician: No specific antidote is available. Treat the patient symptomatically

PRECAUTIONARY STATEMENTS

HAZARDS TO HUMANS AND DOMESTIC ANIMALS

CAUTION

Harmful if swallowed or absorbed through skin. Causes eye irritation. Avoid contact with skin, eyes, or clothing. Wash thoroughly with soap and water after handling.



ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

This product is highly toxic to aquatic invertebrates. Do not apply directly to water, or to areas where surface water is present or to intertidal areas below the mean high water mark. Do not contaminate water when disposing of equipment washwaters.

This chemical demonstrates the properties and characteristics associated with chemicals detected in groundwater. The use of this chemical in areas where soils are permeable, particularly where the water table is shallow, may result in groundwater contamination.

DIRECTIONS FOR USE

It is a violation of Federal law to use this product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling.

Do not formulate this product into other end-use products.

STORAGE AND DISPOSAL

Do not contaminate water, food, or feed by storage or disposal.

Pesticide Storage: Store in a cool, dry place and in such a manner as to prevent cross contamination with other pesticides, fertilizers, food and feed. Store in original container and out of the reach of children, preferably in a locked storage area.

Handle and open container in a manner as to prevent spillage. If material is spilled for any reason or cause, carefully contain any spilled material to prevent non-target contamination. Do not walk through spilled material and dispose of as directed for pesticides above. Refer to Precautionary Statements on label for hazards associated with the handling of this material. In spill or leak incidents, keep unauthorized people away. You may contact the Bayer Environmental Science Emergency Response Team for decontamination procedures or any other assistance that may be necessary. The Bayer Environmental Science Emergency Response Telephone No. is 800-334-7577, or contact Chemtrec at 1-800-424-9300.

Pesticide Disposal: Wastes resulting from the use of this product may be disposed of on site or at an approved waste disposal facility.

Container Disposal: Non-refillable container. Do not reuse or refill this container. Offer for recycling, if available. Completely empty bag into application equipment. Dispose of empty bag in a sanitary landfill or by incineration or if allowed by the state and local authorities, by burning. If burned, stay out of smoke.

APPLICATION TO TURFGRASS

The use of this product will provide plant nutrients as well as providing control of selected insect pests. MERIT 0.15 Plus Turf Fertilizer can be used for the control of soil inhabiting pests of turfgrass; for example northern & southern masked chafers, *Cyclocephala borealis*, *C. immaculata*, and/or *C. lurida*; Asiatic garden beetle, *Maladera castanea*; European chafer, *Rhizotrogus majalis*; Green June beetle, *Cotinus nitida*; May or June beetles, *Phyllophaga* spp.; Japanese beetle, *Popillia japonica*; Oriental beetle, *Anomala orientalis*; sugarcane beetle, *Euethola humulis rugiceps*; billbugs, *Sphenophorus* spp.; annual bluegrass weevil, *Listronotus maculicollis*; Black turfgrass ataenius, *Ataenius spretulus*; *Aphodius* spp.; crane flies, *Tipula* spp., and mole crickets, *Scapteriscus* spp. MERIT 0.15 Plus Turf Fertilizer can be used as directed on turfgrass; for example, in home lawns, business and office complexes, shopping complexes, multi-family residential complexes, golf courses, airports, cemeteries, parks, playgrounds, and athletic fields. MERIT 0.15 Plus Turf Fertilizer cannot be used on commercial sod farms.

APPLICATION RATES		
CROP	PEST	DOSAGE MERIT + TURF FERTILIZER
Turf Grasses	Billbugs Larvae of: <i>Aphodius</i> spp. Black turfgrass ataenius European chafer Japanese beetle Sugarcane beetle	167 to 267 lb per acre or 3.8 to 6 lb per 1000 sq ft
	Annual bluegrass weevil Billbugs Crane flies Larvae of white grubs, for example: <i>Aphodius</i> sp. Asiatic garden beetle Black turfgrass ataenius European chafer	Green June beetle Japanese beetle Northern masked chafer Oriental beetle <i>Phyllophaga</i> spp. Southern masked chafer Sugarcane beetle
For optimum control, make application prior to egg hatch of the target pest. Be sure to read "APPLICATION EQUIPMENT" Section of this label.		
	Mole crickets Chinch bugs (suppression)	267 lb per acre or 6 lb per 1000 sq ft
For suppression of chinch bugs, make application prior to the hatching of the first instar nymphs For optimum control of mole crickets, make application prior to or during the period of peak egg hatch. If application is not made prior to egg hatch and adults or large nymphs are present and actively tunneling, apply MERIT 0.15 Plus Turf Fertilizer in combination with a remedial insecticide to minimize damage to turf.		
Consult your local State Agricultural Experiment Station, or State Extension Turf Specialists for more specific information regarding timing of application.		
NOTE: For optimum control, irrigate if rainfall does not occur within 24 hours after application to move the active ingredient through the thatch. On golf courses, irrigate treated areas following application. Do not apply more than 267 lb (0.4 lb of active ingredient) per acre per year. Mow turf or lawn area until after irrigation or rainfall has occurred so that uniformity of application will not be affected.		

The active ingredient in MERIT 0.15 Plus Turf Fertilizer has sufficient residual activity so that applications can be made preceding the egg laying activity of the target pests. High levels of control can be achieved when applications are made preceding or during the egg laying period. The need for an application can be based on historical monitoring of the site, previous records or experiences, current season adult trapping or other methods. Optimum control will be achieved when applications are made prior to egg hatch of the target pest, followed by sufficient irrigation or rainfall to move the active ingredient through the thatch.

Do not apply when turfgrass areas are waterlogged or the soil is saturated with water. Adequate distribution of the active ingredient cannot be achieved when these conditions exist. The treated turf must be in such a condition that the rainfall or irrigation will penetrate vertically into the soil profile. Applications cannot exceed a total of 267 lb (0.4 lb of active ingredient) per acre per year.

APPLICATION TO ORNAMENTALS

MERIT 0.15 Plus Turf Fertilizer can be used as a broadcast application on ornamentals in commercial and residential landscapes, as well as on landscaped areas of golf courses and other recreational areas. This is a systemic product, with the active ingredient being absorbed by the roots and translocated upward within the plant. Optimum control will be achieved when applications are followed by sufficient mechanical incorporation, irrigation or rainfall to place the active ingredient into the soil. Make application prior to anticipated pest infestation to achieve optimum levels of control.

Applications of MERIT 0.15 Plus Turf Fertilizer cannot exceed a total of 267 lb (0.4 lb of active ingredient) per acre per year.

NOTE: Not for use in commercial greenhouses, or nurseries, or on sod farms.

APPLICATION RATES FOR USE ON ORNAMENTALS		
CROP	PEST	DOSAGE MERIT + TURF FERTILIZER
Landscape Plantings Including: Trees, Shrubs, Evergreens, Flowers, Foliage, Plants, Ground Covers	White grub larvae For example: Japanese beetle larvae, chafers, <i>Phyllophaga</i> spp. Asiatic garden beetle, Oriental beetle	4.67 to 6 lb per 1000 sq ft
<p>Apply as a broadcast treatment. Prior to application, remove black plastic or other weed barrier material that will not permit water permeability.</p> <p>NOTE: For optimum control, mechanical incorporation, irrigation or rainfall must occur within 24 hours after application to move the active ingredient into soil.</p> <p>Refer to label sections on application equipment and spreader settings.</p>		

APPLICATION EQUIPMENT

Apply MERIT 0.15 Plus Turf Fertilizer uniformly over the area being treated with typical granular application equipment. Both drop-type and rotary-type spreaders may be used to apply MERIT 0.15 Plus Turf Fertilizer. Do not use spreaders which would apply the material in narrow, concentrated bands. Calibrate application equipment prior to use according to the manufacturer's directions. Check frequently to be sure equipment is working properly and distributing granules uniformly and accurately.

SPREADER SETTINGS FOR MERIT 0.15 PLUS TURF FERTILIZER

The following chart can be used as a guide in establishing an accurate rate of MERIT 0.15 Plus Turf Fertilizer. The suggested settings provide an application rate of 4.6 lb per 1000 sq ft, or 200 lb per acre. Application rates will vary dependent upon speed, equipment wear and condition of spreader. Carefully calibrate all equipment used prior to commercial use of this product.

(Chart to Come)

RESTRICTIONS

Avoid runoff or puddling of irrigation water following application. Avoid application of MERIT 0.15 Plus Turf Fertilizer to areas which are water-logged or saturated, which will not allow penetration into the root zone of the plant. Do not apply more than 267 lb (0.4 lb of active ingredient) per acre per year. Do not apply to vegetable gardens.

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IMPORTANT: READ BEFORE USE

Read the entire Directions for Use, Conditions, Disclaimer of Warranties and Limitations of liability before using this product.

If terms are not acceptable, return the unopened product container at once. By using this product, user or buyer accepts the following Conditions, Disclaimer of Warranties and Limitations of Liability.

CONDITIONS: The directions for use of this product are believed to be adequate and must be followed carefully. However, it is impossible to eliminate all risks associated with the use of this product. Crop injury, ineffectiveness or other unintended consequences may result because of such factors as weather conditions, presence of other materials, or the manner of use or application, all of which are beyond the control of Bayer CropScience LP. All such risks shall be assumed by the user or buyer.

DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTIES: TO THE EXTENT CONSISTENT WITH APPLICABLE LAW, BAYER CROPSCIENCE LP MAKES NO OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, OF MERCHANTABILITY OR OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR OTHERWISE, THAT EXTEND BEYOND THE STATEMENTS MADE ON THIS LABEL. No agent of Bayer CropScience is authorized to make any warranties beyond those contained herein or to modify the warranties contained herein. TO THE EXTENT CONSISTENT WITH APPLICABLE LAW, BAYER CROPSCIENCE LP DISCLAIMS ANY liability whatsoever for special, incidental or consequential damages, resulting from the use or handling of this product.

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PRODUCED FOR



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