Agency consideration of voluntary consensus standards pursuant to section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA) (15 U.S.C. 272 note).

VIII. Congressional Review Act

Pursuant to the Congressional Review Act (5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*), EPA will submit a report containing this rule and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States prior to publication of the rule in the **Federal Register**. This action is not a ''major rule'' as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 180

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Agricultural commodities, Pesticides and pests, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: January 13, 2023.

Daniel Rosenblatt,

Acting Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

Therefore, for the reasons stated in the preamble, EPA is amending 40 CFR chapter I as follows:

PART 180—TOLERANCES AND EXEMPTIONS FOR PESTICIDE CHEMICAL RESIDUES IN FOOD

■ 1. The authority citation for part 180 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 21 U.S.C. 321(q), 346a and 371.

■ 2. In § 180.920, amend Table 1 to 180.920 by adding, in alphabetical order, an entry for ''Malic acid (CAS Reg. No. 6915–15–7)'' to read as follows:

§ 180.920 Inert ingredients used pre-harvest; exemptions from the requirement of a tolerance.

* * * * *

TABLE 1 TO 180.920

Inert ingredients	Limits	Uses
* * * * * * *		
Malic acid (CAS Reg. No. 6915–15–7)		Buffering and stabilizing agent.
* * * * * * *		

[FR Doc. 2023–01155 Filed 1–24–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 180

[EPA–HQ–OPP–2021–0447; FRL–10478–01–OCSPP]

Rimsulfuron; Pesticide Tolerances

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This regulation establishes tolerances for residues of rimsulfuron in or on pomegranate and tropical and subtropical, small fruit, edible peel, subgroup 23A. The Interregional Research Project No. 4 (IR–4) requested these tolerances under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA).

DATES: This regulation is effective January 25, 2023. Objections and requests for hearings must be received on or before March 27, 2023, and must be filed in accordance with the instructions provided in 40 CFR part 178 (see also Unit I.C. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**).

ADDRESSES: The docket for this action, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA–HQ–OPP–2021–0447, is available at *https://www.regulations.gov* or at the Office of Pesticide Programs Regulatory Public Docket (OPP Docket) in the Environmental Protection Agency Docket Center (EPA/DC), West William Jefferson Clinton Bldg., Rm. 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460–0001. The Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room and the OPP docket is (202) 566–1744. For the latest status information on EPA/DC services, docket access, visit *https://www.epa.gov/dockets.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel Rosenblatt, Acting Director, Registration Division (7505T), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460–0001; main telephone number: (202) 566–1030; email address: *RDFRNotices@epa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this action apply to me?

You may be potentially affected by this action if you are an agricultural producer, food manufacturer, or pesticide manufacturer. The following list of North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide to help readers determine whether this document applies to them. Potentially affected entities may include:

- Crop production (NAICS code 111).
- Animal production (NAICS code 112).
- Food manufacturing (NAICS code 311).
- Pesticide manufacturing (NAICS code 32532).

B. How can I get electronic access to other related information?

You may access a frequently updated electronic version of EPA's tolerance regulations at 40 CFR part 180 through the Office of the Federal Register's e-CFR site at *https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-40.*

C. How can I file an objection or hearing request?

Under FFDCA section 408(g), 21 U.S.C. 346a, any person may file an objection to any aspect of this regulation and may also request a hearing on those objections. You must file your objection or request a hearing on this regulation in accordance with the instructions provided in 40 CFR part 178. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, you must identify docket ID number EPA–HQ–OPP–2021–0447 in the subject line on the first page of your submission. All objections and requests for a hearing must be in writing, and must be received by the Hearing Clerk on or before March 27, 2023. Addresses for mail and hand delivery of objections and hearing requests are provided in 40 CFR 178.25(b).

In addition to filing an objection or hearing request with the Hearing Clerk as described in 40 CFR part 178, please submit a copy of the filing (excluding any Confidential Business Information (CBI)) for inclusion in the public docket. Information not marked confidential pursuant to 40 CFR part 2 may be

disclosed publicly by EPA without prior notice. Submit the non-CBI copy of your objection or hearing request, identified by docket ID number EPA–HQ–OPP–2021–0447, by one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal: https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.
- *Mail:* OPP Docket, Environmental Protection Agency Docket Center (EPA/DC), (28221T), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460–0001.
- *Hand Delivery:* To make special arrangements for hand delivery or delivery of boxed information, please follow the instructions at *https://www.epa.gov/dockets/contacts.html.*

Additional instructions on commenting or visiting the docket, along with more information about dockets generally, is available at *https://www.epa.gov/dockets.*

II. Summary of Petitioned-For Tolerance

In the **Federal Register** of September 22, 2021 (86 FR 52624) (FRL–8792–03–OCSPP), EPA issued a document pursuant to FFDCA section 408(d)(3), 21 U.S.C. 346a(d)(3), announcing the filing of a pesticide petition (PP 1E8926) by IR–4, North Carolina State University, 1730 Varsity Drive, Venture IV, Suite 210, Raleigh, NC 27606. The petition requested that 40 CFR 180.478 be amended by establishing tolerances for residues of the herbicide rimsulfuron (N-[[(4,6-dimethoxy-2-pyrimidinyl)amino]carbonyl]-3-(ethylsulfonyl)-2-pyridinesulfonamide), in or on pomegranate at 0.01 parts per million (ppm) and tropical and subtropical, small fruit, edible peel, subgroup 23A at 0.01 ppm. There were no comments received in response to the notice of filing.

III. Aggregate Risk Assessment and Determination of Safety

FFDCA section 408(b)(2)(A)(i) allows EPA to establish a tolerance (the legal limit for a pesticide chemical residue in or on a food) only if EPA determines that the tolerance is ''safe.'' FFDCA section 408(b)(2)(A)(ii) defines ''safe'' to mean that ''there is a reasonable certainty that no harm will result from aggregate exposure to the pesticide chemical residue, including all anticipated dietary exposures and all other exposures for which there is reliable information.'' This includes exposure through drinking water and in residential settings, but does not include occupational exposure. FFDCA section 408(b)(2)(C) requires EPA to give special consideration to exposure of infants and children to the pesticide chemical residue in establishing a tolerance and to ''ensure that there is a reasonable certainty that no harm will result to infants and children from aggregate exposure to the pesticide chemical residue . . . .''

Consistent with FFDCA section 408(b)(2)(D), and the factors specified in FFDCA section 408(b)(2)(D), EPA has reviewed the available scientific data and other relevant information in support of this action. EPA has sufficient data to assess the hazards of and to make a determination on aggregate exposure for rimsulfuron including exposure resulting from the tolerances established by this action. EPA's assessment of exposures and risks associated with rimsulfuron follows.

In an effort to streamline its publications in the **Federal Register**, EPA is not reprinting sections that repeat what has been previously published for tolerance rulemaking of the same pesticide chemical. Where scientific information concerning a particular chemical remains unchanged, the content of those sections would not vary between tolerance rulemaking and republishing the same sections is unnecessary. EPA considers referral back to those sections as sufficient to provide an explanation of the information EPA considered in making its safety determination for the new rulemaking.

EPA has previously published a tolerance rulemaking for rimsulfuron in which EPA concluded, based on the available information, that there is a reasonable certainty that no harm would result from aggregate exposure to rimsulfuron and established tolerances for residues of that chemical. EPA is incorporating previously published sections from this rulemaking as described further in this rulemaking, as they remain unchanged.

Toxicological profile. For a discussion of the Toxicological Profile of rimsulfuron, see Unit III.A of the February 12, 2018, final rulemaking (83 FR 5942) (FRL–9972–36).

Points of departure/Levels of concern. A summary of the toxicological endpoints for rimsulfuron used for human risk assessment is discussed in Unit III.B of the February 12, 2018, final rulemaking.

Exposure assessment. Much of the exposure assessment remains the same although updates have occurred to accommodate the exposures from the petitioned-for tolerances. These updates are discussed in this section; for a description of the rest of the EPA approach to and assumptions for the exposure assessment, please reference Unit III.C of the February 12, 2018, final rulemaking.

EPA's dietary exposure assessments have been updated to include the additional exposures from the new uses of rimsulfuron on pomegranate and tropical and subtropical, small fruit, edible peel, subgroup 23A. An unrefined chronic dietary (food and drinking water) exposure and risk assessment was conducted using the Dietary Exposure Evaluation Model software with the Food Commodity Intake Database (DEEM–FCID) Version 4.02. This software incorporates 2005–2010 consumption data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, What We Eat in America (NHANES/WWEIA). The chronic assessment used tolerance level residues for all crops and assumed that 100% of the crops were treated with rimsulfuron. The Agency's default processing factors were used where available. An acute dietary exposure assessment was not conducted since there was no adverse effect observed for a single dose of rimsulfuron.

Dietary exposure from drinking water. The new uses do not result in an increase in the estimated residue levels in drinking water, so EPA used the same estimated drinking water concentrations in the chronic dietary assessment as identified in Unit III.C of the February 12, 2018, rulemaking.

From non-dietary exposure. There are no proposed residential uses at this time; however, there are existing residential uses on turf that have been previously assessed using current data and assumptions. For the residential assessment of the turf uses, EPA did not conduct a quantitative residential handler risk assessment. The end use label requires handlers to wear specific clothing (long-sleeve shirt and long pants) and chemical-resistant gloves, so EPA assumed the product is not for homeowner use. There is the potential for post-application dermal exposures; however, a residential post-application dermal exposure assessment was not conducted because no dermal hazard was identified in the rimsulfuron database. The quantifiable post-application residential risk estimates reflect incidental oral exposure to children 1 to less than 2 years old from hand-to-mouth exposure to turf treated with rimsulfuron. The margin of exposure (MOE) is 26,000, which is greater than the level of concern of 100 and is not of concern.

Cumulative effects from substances with a common mechanism of toxicity. In 2016, EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs released a guidance document entitled, Pesticide Cumulative Risk Assessment: Framework for Screening Analysis *https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-science-and-assessing-pesticide-risks/pesticide-cumulative-risk-assessment-framework.* The agency has utilized this framework for rimsulfuron and determined that although rimsulfuron shares some chemical and/or toxicological characteristics (*e.g.,* chemical structure or apical endpoint) with other pesticides, the toxicological database does not support a testable hypothesis for a common mechanism of action. No further data are required to determine that no common mechanism of toxicity exists for rimsulfuron and other pesticides and no further cumulative evaluation is necessary for rimsulfuron.

Safety factor for infants and children. EPA continues to conclude that there are reliable data to support the reduction of the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) safety factor (SF) from 10X to 1X for all risk scenarios. See Unit III.D. of the February 12, 2018, final rulemaking for a discussion of the Agency's rationale for that determination.

Aggregate risks and Determination of safety. EPA determines whether acute and chronic dietary pesticide exposures are safe by comparing aggregate exposure estimates to the acute population adjusted dose (aPAD) and the chronic population adjusted dose (cPAD). Short-, intermediate-, and chronic-term risks are evaluated by comparing the estimated aggregate food, water, and residential exposure to the appropriate points of departure to ensure that an adequate MOE exists. For linear cancer risks, EPA calculates the lifetime probability of acquiring cancer given the estimated aggregate exposure.

An acute dietary exposure assessment was not conducted since there was no adverse effect observed for a single dose of rimsulfuron. Chronic dietary risks are below the Agency's level of concern of 100% of the cPAD; they are 1.8% of the cPAD for all infants (<1 year old), the population group receiving the greatest exposure.

The short-term aggregate exposure assessment for children 1 to less than 2 years old includes dietary (food and drinking water) and incidental oral exposure from hand-to-mouth activities from post-application exposure to turf. The short-term aggregate risk estimate for children 1 to less than 2 years old is an MOE of 3,700, which is greater than the level of concern of 100 and is not of concern. Acute risks are not expected due to no adverse effect observed for a single dose of rimsulfuron; and chronic aggregate risks to adults and children are equivalent to the dietary (food and drinking water) risks for those respective assessments and are not of concern. Because there is no intermediate-term residential exposure and chronic dietary exposure has already been assessed under the appropriately protective cPAD, no further assessment of intermediate-term risk is necessary. Based on the lack of evidence of carcinogenicity in two adequate rodent carcinogenicity studies, rimsulfuron is not expected to pose a cancer risk to humans.

Therefore, based on the risk assessments and information described above, EPA concludes that there is a reasonable certainty that no harm will result to the general population, or to infants and children from aggregate exposure to rimsulfuron residues. More detailed information on this action can be found in the document ''Rimsulfuron. Human Health Risk Assessment in Support of a Petition for the Establishment of Permanent Tolerances on Pomegranate and Tropical and Subtropical, Small Fruit, Edible Peel, Subgroup 23A'' in docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OPP–2021–0447.

IV. Other Considerations

A. Analytical Enforcement Methodology

For a discussion of the available analytical enforcement method for various crops, see Unit IV.A of the February 12, 2018, rulemaking.

B. International Residue Limits

In making its tolerance decisions, EPA seeks to harmonize U.S. tolerances with international standards whenever possible, consistent with U.S. food safety standards and agricultural practices. EPA considers the international maximum residue limits (MRLs) established by the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex), as required by FFDCA section 408(b)(4). Codex has not established MRLs for residues of rimsulfuron in or on any commodity associated with this action.

V. Conclusion

Therefore, tolerances are established for residues of rimsulfuron (N-[[(4,6-dimethoxy-2-pyrimidinyl)amino]carbonyl]-3-(ethylsulfonyl)-2-pyridinesulfonamide), in or on pomegranate at 0.01 ppm and tropical and subtropical, small fruit, edible peel, subgroup 23A at 0.01 ppm.

In addition, as a housekeeping measure, EPA is removing the tolerance for potato at 0.1 ppm, which expired on August 12, 2018, and has no effect at this time.

VI. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

This action establishes tolerances under FFDCA section 408(d) in response to a petition submitted to the Agency. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has exempted these types of actions from review under Executive Order 12866, entitled ''Regulatory Planning and Review'' (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993). Because this action has been exempted from review under Executive Order 12866, this action is not subject to Executive Order 13211, entitled ''Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use'' (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001) or Executive Order 13045, entitled ''Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks'' (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997). This action does not contain any information collections subject to OMB approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), nor does it require any special considerations under Executive Order 12898, entitled ''Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations'' (59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994).

Since tolerances and exemptions that are established on the basis of a petition under FFDCA section 408(d), such as the tolerances in this final rule, do not require the issuance of a proposed rule, the requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), do not apply.

This action directly regulates growers, food processors, food handlers, and food retailers, not States or Tribes, nor does this action alter the relationships or distribution of power and responsibilities established by Congress in the preemption provisions of FFDCA section 408(n)(4). As such, the Agency has determined that this action will not have a substantial direct effect on States or Tribal Governments, on the relationship between the National Government and the States or Tribal Governments, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government or between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes. Thus, the Agency has determined that Executive Order 13132, entitled ''Federalism'' (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999) and Executive Order 13175, entitled ''Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments'' (65 FR 67249, November

9, 2000) do not apply to this action. In addition, this action does not impose any enforceable duty or contain any unfunded mandate as described under Title II of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) (2 U.S.C. 1501 *et seq.*).

This action does not involve any technical standards that would require Agency consideration of voluntary consensus standards pursuant to section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA) (15 U.S.C. 272 note).

VII. Congressional Review Act (CRA)

Pursuant to the CRA (5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*), EPA will submit a report containing this rule and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States prior to publication of the rule in the **Federal Register**. This action is not a ''major rule'' as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 180

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Agricultural commodities, Pesticides and pests, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: January 13, 2023.

Daniel Rosenblatt,

Acting Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

Therefore, for the reasons stated in the preamble, EPA is amending 40 CFR chapter I as follows:

PART 180—TOLERANCES AND EXEMPTIONS FOR PESTICIDE CHEMICAL RESIDUES IN FOOD

■ 1. The authority citation for part 180 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 21 U.S.C. 321(q), 346a and 371.

■ 2. In § 180.478, in paragraph (a) amend table 1 by:
■ a. Adding in alphabetical order the entry ''Pomegranate'';
■ b. Removing the entry for ''Potato'' and the footnote; and
■ c. Adding in alphabetical order the entry ''Tropical and subtropical, small fruit, edible peel, subgroup 23A''.

The additions read as follows:

§ 180.478 Rimsulfuron; tolerances for residues

(a) * * *

TABLE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (a)

Commodity	Parts per million
* * * * * * *	
Pomegranate	0.01
* * * * * * *	
Tropical and subtropical, small fruit, edible peel, subgroup 23A	0.01
* * * * * * *	

* * * * *

[FR Doc. 2023–01131 Filed 1–24–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

42 CFR Part 68

[Docket Number—NIH–2020–0001]

RIN 0925–AA68

National Institutes of Health Loan Repayment Programs

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, HHS.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS or Department), through the National Institutes of Health (NIH), is updating the existing regulation for NIH Loan Repayment Programs (LRPs) to reflect the consolidation of NIH LRPs into two programs, the Intramural Loan Repayment Program (for NIH researchers) and the Extramural Loan Repayment Program (for non-NIH researchers); the direct authority of the NIH Director to administer the NIH LRPs (formerly the duty of the Secretary, HHS); and the increase in the annual loan repayment amount from a maximum of $35,000 to a maximum of $50,000.

DATES: This final rule is effective February 24, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel Hernandez, NIH Regulations Officer, Office of Management Assessment, NIH, Rockledge 1, 6705 Rockledge Drive, Suite 601, Room 601–T, Bethesda, MD 20817, MSC 7901, by email at *dhernandez@mail.nih.gov,* or by telephone at 301–435–3343 (not a toll-free number). For program information contact: Matthew Lockhart, NIH Division of Loan Repayment, by email *matthew.lockhart@nih.gov,* or telephone 866–849–4047. Information regarding the requirements, application deadline dates, and an on-line application for the NIH Loan Repayment Programs may be obtained from the NIH Loan Repayment Program website *https://www.lrp.nih.gov/.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background and Statutory Authority

The purpose of the NIH LRP programs is to recruit and retain highly qualified health professionals as biomedical and behavioral researchers. The programs offer educational loan repayment for participants who agree, by written contract, to engage in qualifying domestic non-profit supported research at a qualifying non-NIH institution, or as an NIH employee for a minimum of two years (or three years for the Intramural LRP's general research subcategory).

On December 13, 2016, Congress enacted the 21st Century Cures Act, Public Law (Pub. L.) 114–255, Section 2022 of which amended the Public Health Service (PHS) Act to authorize the consolidation of National Institutes of Health Loan Repayment Programs (LRPs) into the Intramural Loan Repayment Program and the Extramural Loan Repayment Program.

The legislation also provides the NIH Director with the authority to establish or eliminate one or more subcategories of the LRPs to reflect workforce or scientific needs related to biomedical research. Thus, this statute allows for up to four subcategories for the Intramural Loan Repayment Program (General, Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS), Clinical for Researchers from Disadvantaged Backgrounds, and one additional subcategory) and up to six subcategories for the Extramural Loan