

considerations as required by Executive Order 12898, entitled *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations* (59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994); or require OMB review or any Agency action under Executive Order 13045, entitled *Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks* (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997). 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 of 1995 (NTTAA), Public Law 104-113, section 12(d) (15 U.S.C. 272 note). Since tolerances and exemptions that are established on the basis of a FIFRA section 18 petition under FFDCA section 408, 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. In addition, the Agency has determined that this action will not have a substantial direct effect on States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government, as specified in Executive Order 13132, entitled *Federalism* (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999). Executive Order 13132 requires EPA to develop an accountable process to ensure "meaningful and timely input by State and local officials in the development of regulatory policies that have federalism implications." "Policies that have federalism implications" is defined in the Executive Order to include regulations that have "substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government." This final rule directly regulates growers, food processors, food handlers and food retailers, not States. This action does not alter the relationships or distribution of power and responsibilities established by Congress in the pre-emption provisions of FFDCA section 408(n)(4).

V. Submission to Congress and the Comptroller General

The Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*, as added by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, generally provides that before a rule may take effect, the agency promulgating the rule must submit a rule report, which includes a copy of the rule, to each House of the

Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. 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 this final rule in the **Federal Register**. This final rule 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: December 12, 2000.

James Jones,

Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

Therefore, 40 CFR chapter I is amended as follows:

PART 180—[AMENDED]

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

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

§ 180.449 [Amended]

2. In § 180.449, amend the table in paragraph (b), by revising the expiration/revocation date for Avocado from "9/20/00" to read "12/31/02" and for Spinach from "1/31/00" to read "1/31/02".

[FR Doc. 00-32572 Filed 12-20-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-S

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 180

[OPP-301095; FRL-6761-7]

RIN 2070-AB78

Clomazone; Pesticide Tolerance

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This regulation establishes a tolerance for residues of clomazone in or on rice grain and rice straw. FMC Corporation requested this tolerance under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as amended by the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996.

DATES: This regulation is effective December 21, 2000. Objections and requests for hearings, identified by docket control number OPP-301095,

must be received by EPA on or before February 20, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written objections and hearing requests may be submitted by mail, in person, or by courier. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit VI. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, your objections and hearing requests must identify docket control number OPP-301095 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: James A. Tompkins, Registration Division (7505C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 305-5697; and e-mail address: Tompkins.Jim@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

You may be affected by this action if you are an agricultural producer, food manufacturer, or pesticide manufacturer. Potentially affected categories and entities may include, but are not limited to:

| Categories | NAICS | Examples of Potentially Affected Entities |
|------------|----------------------------|---|
| Industry | 111 112 311 32532 | Crop production Animal production Food manufacturing Pesticide manufacturing |

This listing is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed in the table could also be affected. The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes have been provided to assist you and others in determining whether or not this action might apply to certain entities. If you have questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

B. How Can I Get Additional Information, Including Copies of this Document and Other Related Documents?

1. *Electronically.* You may obtain electronic copies of this document, and certain other related documents that might be available electronically, from the EPA Internet Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/>. To access this

document, on the Home Page select "Laws and Regulations," "Regulations and Proposed Rules," and then look up the entry for this document under the "Federal Register—Environmental Documents." You can also go directly to the **Federal Register** listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>. To access the OPPTS Harmonized Guidelines referenced in this document, go directly to the guidelines at <http://www.epa.gov/opptsfrs/home/guidelin.htm>.

2. *In person.* The Agency has established an official record for this action under docket control number OPP-301095. The official record consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, and other information related to this action, including any information claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI). This official record includes the documents that are physically located in the docket, as well as the documents that are referenced in those documents. The public version of the official record does not include any information claimed as CBI. The public version of the official record, which includes printed, paper versions of any electronic comments submitted during an applicable comment period is available for inspection in the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The PIRIB telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

II. Background and Statutory Findings

In the **Federal Register** of February 18, 1999 (64 FR 8087) (FRL-6036-4), EPA issued a notice pursuant to section 408 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), 21 U.S.C. 346a as amended by the Food Quality

Protection Act of 1996 (FQPA) (Public Law 104-170) announcing the filing of a pesticide petition (PP 7F4896) for tolerance by FMC Corporation, 1735 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103. This notice included a summary of the petition prepared by FMC Corporation, the registrant. There were no comments received in response to the notice of filing.

The petition requested that 40 CFR 180.425 be amended by establishing a tolerance for residues of the herbicide clomazone, (2-(2-chlorophenyl)methyl-4,4-dimethyl-3-isoxazolidinone), in or on the raw agricultural commodities rice grain and rice straw at 0.05 part per million (ppm). Clomazone residues were not detected any rice samples at or above the Level of Quantification (LOQ) of 0.02 ppm. EPA is therefore establishing the tolerances in or on rice grain and rice straw at 0.02 ppm rather than at the proposed tolerance level of 0.05 ppm.

Section 408(b)(2)(A)(i) of the FFDCA 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." 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. 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...."

EPA performs a number of analyses to determine the risks from aggregate exposure to pesticide residues. For further discussion of the regulatory requirements of section 408 and a complete description of the risk assessment process, see the final rule on Bifenthrin Pesticide Tolerances (62 FR 62961, November 26, 1997) (FRL-5754-7).

III. Aggregate Risk Assessment and Determination of Safety

Consistent with 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, consistent with section 408(b)(2), for a tolerance for residues of clomazone on rice grain and rice straw at 0.02 ppm. EPA's assessment of exposures and risks associated with establishing the tolerance follows.

A. Toxicological Profile

EPA has evaluated the available toxicity data and considered its validity, completeness, and reliability as well as the relationship of the results of the studies to human risk. EPA has also considered available information concerning the variability of the sensitivities of major identifiable subgroups of consumers, including infants and children. The nature of the toxic effects caused by clomazone are discussed in the following Table 1 as well as the no observed adverse effect level (NOAEL) and the lowest observed adverse effect level (LOAEL) from the toxicity studies reviewed.

TABLE 1.— ACUTE, SUBCHRONIC, CHRONIC, AND OTHER TOXICITY

| Guideline No. | Study Type | Results |
|---------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 870.1100 | Acute oral rat | LD ₅₀ = 2077.0 mg/kg males 1369.0 mg/kg females Toxicity Category III |
| 870.3100 | 90-Day oral toxicity in rats | No Observed Adverse Effect Level (NOAEL) = 135.2/160.9 mg/kg/day males/females Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level (LOAEL) = 273/319.3 mg/kg/day males/females based on decreased body weight, body weight gains, food consumption and increased absolute and relative liver weights in females and increased absolute liver weights in males. |
| 870.3100 | 90-Day oral toxicity in mouse | NOAEL ≥1,200 mg/kg/day (limit dose) LOAEL >1,200 mg/kg/day |
| 870.3700a | Prenatal developmental in rats | Maternal NOAEL = 100 mg/kg/day LOAEL = 300 mg/kg/day based on chromorhinorrhea and/or abdominogenital staining Developmental NOAEL = 100 mg/kg/day |

TABLE 1.— ACUTE, SUBCHRONIC, CHRONIC, AND OTHER TOXICITY—Continued

| Guideline No. | Study Type | Results |
|---------------|---|---|
| | | LOAEL = 300 mg/kg/day based on indications of delayed ossification in the form of either partial ossification or the absence of manubrium, sternbrae 34, xiphoid, caudal, and metcarpals. |
| 870.3700b | Prenatal developmental in rabbits | Maternal NOAEL = 240 mg/kg/day LOAEL = 700 mg/kg/day based on effects seen at 1,000 mg/kg/day, which included mortality, abortions, decreased body wt. gain, and decreased defecation or no feces Developmental NOAEL \geq 700 mg/kg/day highest dose tested (HDT) LOAEL > 700 mg/kg/day |
| 870.3800 | Two-Generation Reproduction and Fertility Effects | Parental NOAEL = 50 mg/kg/day LOAEL = 100 mg/kg/day based on statistically significantly decreased body wt. & body wt. gain during premating, and decreased body wt. during gestation & lactation males and females. In addition decreased food consumption in females and hydronephritic kidneys in males. Offspring NOAEL = 50 mg/kg/day LOAEL = 100 mg/kg/day based on decreased body weight in F2a and F2b litters |
| 870.4100b | Chronic toxicity dogs | NOAEL \geq 1,038/1012 mg/kg/day, males/females (HDT) LOAEL > 1,038/1012 mg/kg/day |
| 870.4300 | Chronic Toxicity/Carcinogenicity rats | NOAEL = 84.4/112.9 mg/kg/day, males/females (HDT) LOAEL > 84.4/112.9 mg/kg/day, males/females Classified as a "not likely human carcinogen" |
| 870.4300 | Carcinogenicity mice | NOAEL = 300 mg/kg/day (HDT) LOAEL = > 300 mg/kg/day Classified as a "not likely human carcinogen" |
| 870.5100 | Gene Mutation (<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i> and <i>Escherichia coli</i> reverse gene mutation assay) | The test article was assayed up to cytotoxic concentrations (5,000 μ g/plate), but in no instance were appreciably increased number of revertants to histidine prototrophy (his ⁺) found in any of the tester strains, either in the presence or absence of metabolic activation. |
| 870.5395 | Cytogenetics <i>In vivo</i> rat | Negative. The incidence of aberrations and the aberrations/cell were not significantly increased. |
| 870.5550 | Other Effects <i>In vitro</i> UDS assay in primary rat hepatocytes | Clomazone was tested up to cytotoxicity (relative toxicity at 0.10 μ L/mL was 88.6%), but in no cultures treated with test article was a significant increase in mean net nuclear counts indicative of UDS recorded. |
| 870.7485 | Metabolism and pharmacokinetics | Clomazone is extensively metabolized by the liver and excreted in the urine and feces within 24 hours. Sixteen metabolites, including the parent, were identified; and the predominant route of excretion was in urine. |

B. Toxicological Endpoints

The dose at which no adverse effects are observed (the NOAEL) from the toxicology study identified as appropriate for use in risk assessment is used to estimate the toxicological level of concern (LOC). However, the lowest dose at which adverse effects of concern are identified (the LOAEL) is sometimes used for risk assessment if no NOAEL was achieved in the toxicology study selected. An uncertainty factor (UF) is applied to reflect uncertainties inherent in the extrapolation from laboratory animal data to humans and in the variations in sensitivity among members of the human population as well as other unknowns. An UF of 100 is

routinely used, 10X to account for interspecies differences and 10X for intra species differences.

For dietary risk assessment (other than cancer) the Agency uses the UF to calculate an acute or chronic reference dose (acute RfD or chronic RfD) where the RfD is equal to the NOAEL divided by the appropriate UF (RfD = NOAEL/UF). Where an additional safety factor is retained due to concerns unique to the FQPA, this additional factor is applied to the RfD by dividing the RfD by such additional factor. The acute or chronic Population Adjusted Dose (aPAD or cPAD) is a modification of the RfD to accommodate this type of FQPA Safety Factor.

For non-dietary risk assessments (other than cancer) the UF is used to determine the LOC. For example, when 100 is the appropriate UF (10X to account for interspecies differences and 10X for intraspecies differences) the LOC is 100. To estimate risk, a ratio of the NOAEL to exposures (margin of exposure (MOE) = NOAEL/exposure) is calculated and compared to the LOC.

The linear default risk methodology (Q*) is the primary method currently used by the Agency to quantify carcinogenic risk. The Q* approach assumes that any amount of exposure will lead to some degree of cancer risk. A Q* is calculated and used to estimate risk which represents a probability of

occurrence of additional cancer cases (e.g., risk is expressed as 1×10^{-6} or one in a million). EPA's Hazard Identification Assessment Review Committee (HIARC) classified clomazone as a not likely human

carcinogen based on the lack of carcinogenic response in rats and mice and the lack of mutagenic concern. There is no data in the literature or structure activity relationship (SAR) information to indicate carcinogenic

potential. A cancer risk assessment is not required. A summary of the toxicological endpoints for clomazone used for human risk assessment is shown in the following Table 2:

TABLE 2.—SUMMARY OF TOXICOLOGICAL DOSE AND ENDPOINTS FOR CLOMAZONE FOR USE IN HUMAN RISK ASSESSMENT

| Exposure scenario | Dose used in risk assessment, UF | FQPA SF* and level of concern for risk assessment | Study and toxicological effects |
|---|--|---|--|
| Acute Dietary (females 13-50 years of age) | Developmental NOAEL= 100 mg/kg/day UF = 100 Acute RfD = 1.0 mg/kg/day | FQPA SF = 1X aPAD = acute RfD/FQPA SF =1.0 mg/kg/day | Developmental rat Developmental LOAEL = 300 mg/kg/day, based on delayed ossification |
| Acute Dietary (general population including infants and children) | A dose and endpoint were not selected for this population group because there were no effects observed in oral toxicology studies including maternal toxicity in the developmental toxicity studies in rats and rabbits that are attributable to a single exposure (dose). | | |
| Chronic Dietary (all populations) | NOAEL = 84.4 mg/kg/day UF = 100 Chronic RfD = 0.84 mg/kg/day | FQPA SF = 1X cPAD = cRfD/FQPA SF = 0.84 mg/kg/day | Two year rat feeding study LOAEL \leq 84.4 mg/kg/day (HDT) 90-day oral rat LOAEL = 319.3 mg/kg/day based on based on decreased body weight, body weight gains, food consumption and increased absolute and relative liver weights in females and increased absolute liver weights in males 2-Gen Repro. LOAEL = 100 mg/kg/day based on statistically significantly decreased body wt. & body wt. gain during pre-mating, and decreased body wt. during gestation & lactation M & F. In addition decreased food consumption in females and hydro-nephritic kidneys in males. |
| Oral, Short-term (1-7 days) (Residential) | No residential uses. An endpoint was not proposed/selected. | | |
| Oral, Intermediate-term (1 week - several months) (Residential) | No residential uses. An endpoint was not proposed/selected. | | |

*The reference to the FQPA Safety Factor refers to any additional safety factor retained due to concerns unique to the FQPA.

C. Exposure Assessment

1. *Dietary exposure from food and feed uses.* Tolerances have been established (40 CFR 180.425) for the residues of clomazone, in or on a variety of raw agricultural commodities. Risk assessments were conducted by EPA to assess dietary exposures from clomazone in food as follows:

i. *Acute exposure.* Acute dietary risk assessments are performed for a food-use pesticide if a toxicological study has indicated the possibility of an effect of concern occurring as a result of a one day or single exposure. The Dietary Exposure Evaluation Model (DEEMTM) analysis evaluated the individual food consumption as reported by respondents in the USDA 1989–1992 nationwide Continuing Surveys of Food

Intake by Individuals (CSFII) and accumulated exposure to the chemical for each commodity. The following assumptions were made for the acute exposure assessments: An acute analysis was performed for females 1350 years old using existing and recommended tolerance level residues and 100% of the crop treatment information. The aPAD for females 13-50 years old is 1.0 mg/kg/day.

ii. *Chronic exposure.* In conducting this chronic dietary risk assessment the Dietary Exposure Evaluation Model (DEEMTM) analysis evaluated the individual food consumption as reported by respondents in the USDA 1989–1992 nationwide Continuing Surveys of Food Intake by Individuals (CSFII) and accumulated exposure to

the chemical for each commodity. The following assumptions were made for the chronic exposure assessments: A chronic analysis was performed for the general U.S. population using existing and recommended tolerance level residues and 100% of the crop treatment information. The cPAD for the general U.S. population and all population subgroups is 0.84 mg/kg/day.

iii. *Cancer.* Based on the lack of carcinogenic response in rats and mice and the lack of mutagenic effects, and that there is no data in the literature or SAR information to indicate carcinogenic potential, EPA does not consider clomazone to pose a cancer risk.

2. *Dietary exposure from drinking water.*

The Agency lacks sufficient monitoring exposure data to complete a comprehensive dietary exposure analysis and risk assessment for clomazone in drinking water. Because the Agency does not have comprehensive monitoring data, drinking water concentration estimates are made by reliance on simulation or modeling taking into account data on the physical characteristics of clomazone and its major environmental degradate, N-[(2-chlorophenol)methyl]-3-hydroxy-2, 2-dimethyl propanamide.

The Agency uses the Generic Estimated Environmental Concentration (GENEEC) or the Pesticide Root Zone/Exposure Analysis Modeling System (PRZM/EXAMS) to estimate pesticide concentrations in surface water and SCI-GROW, which predicts pesticide concentrations in groundwater. In general, EPA will use GENEEC (a tier 1 model) before using PRZM/EXAMS (a tier 2 model) for a screening level assessment for surface water. The GENEEC model is a subset of the PRZM/EXAMS model that uses a specific highend runoff scenario for pesticides. GENEEC incorporates a farm pond scenario, while PRZM/EXAMS incorporate an index reservoir environment in place of the previous pond scenario. The PRZM/EXAMS model includes a percent crop area factor as an adjustment to account for the maximum percent crop coverage within a watershed or drainage basin.

None of these models include consideration of the impact processing (mixing, dilution, or treatment) of raw water for distribution as drinking water would likely have on the removal of pesticides from the source water. The primary use of these models by the Agency at this stage is to provide a coarse screen for sorting out pesticides for which it is highly unlikely that drinking water concentrations would ever exceed human health levels of concern.

Since the models used are considered to be screening tools in the risk assessment process, the Agency does not use estimated environmental concentrations (EECs) from these models to quantify drinking water exposure and risk as a %RfD or %PAD. Instead drinking water levels of comparison (DWLOCs) are calculated and used as a point of comparison against the model estimates of a pesticide's concentration in water. DWLOCs are theoretical upper limits on a pesticide's concentration in drinking water in light of total aggregate exposure to a pesticide in food, and from residential uses. Since DWLOCs address total aggregate exposure to clomazone

they are further discussed in the aggregate risk sections below.

Based on the GENEEC and SCI-GROW2 models the estimated environmental concentrations (EECs) of both clomazone and N-[(2-chlorophenol)methyl]-3-hydroxy-2, 2-dimethyl propanamide for acute exposures are estimated to be 95 parts per billion (ppb) for surface water and 2.4 ppb for ground water. The EECs for chronic exposures are estimated to be 23 ppb for surface water and 2.4 ppb for ground water.

3. *From non-dietary exposure.* The term "residential exposure" is used in this document to refer to non-occupational, non-dietary exposure (e.g., for lawn and garden pest control, indoor pest control, termiticides, and flea and tick control on pets).

Clomazone is not registered for use on any sites that would result in residential exposure.

4. *Cumulative exposure to substances with a common mechanism of toxicity.* Section 408(b)(2)(D)(v) requires that, when considering whether to establish, modify, or revoke a tolerance, the Agency consider "available information" concerning the cumulative effects of a particular pesticide's residues and "other substances that have a common mechanism of toxicity."

EPA does not have, at this time, available data to determine whether clomazone has a common mechanism of toxicity with other substances or how to include this pesticide in a cumulative risk assessment. Unlike other pesticides for which EPA has followed a cumulative risk approach based on a common mechanism of toxicity, clomazone does not appear to produce a toxic metabolite produced by other substances. For the purposes of this tolerance action, therefore, EPA has not assumed that clomazone has a common mechanism of toxicity with other substances. For information regarding EPA's efforts to determine which chemicals have a common mechanism of toxicity and to evaluate the cumulative effects of such chemicals, see the final rule for Bifenthrin Pesticide Tolerances (62 FR 62961, November 26, 1997).

D. Safety Factor for Infants and Children

1. *In general.* FFDCA section 408 provides that EPA shall apply an additional tenfold margin of safety for infants and children in the case of threshold effects to account for prenatal and postnatal toxicity and the completeness of the data base on toxicity and exposure unless EPA determines that a different margin of

safety will be safe for infants and children. Margins of safety are incorporated into EPA risk assessments either directly through use of a margin of exposure (MOE) analysis or through using uncertainty (safety) factors in calculating a dose level that poses no appreciable risk to humans.

2. *Prenatal and postnatal sensitivity.* There is no quantitative or qualitative evidence of increased susceptibility of rats or rabbit fetuses to in utero exposure in developmental studies. Although there was a suggestion of susceptibility in the rat developmental study based on the presence of delayed ossification in the fetuses, EPA concluded that the fetal effects were no more severe than the maternal effects because there is no dose response relationship for delayed ossification (i.e., absence of increased incidence with increase in dose, low fetal/litter incidences, delayed ossifications were not considered to be severe, and no visceral or skeletal malformations were seen).

3. *Conclusion.* There is a complete toxicity data base for clomazone and exposure data are complete or are estimated based on data that reasonably accounts for potential exposures. Further, there is no indication of quantitative or qualitative increased susceptibility of rats or rabbits to *in utero* and/or postnatal exposure. Therefore, EPA determined that the 10X safety factor to protect infants and children should be removed (reduced to 1X).

E. Aggregate Risks and Determination of Safety

To estimate total aggregate exposure to a pesticide from food, drinking water, and residential uses, the Agency calculates DWLOCs which are used as a point of comparison against the model estimates of a pesticide's concentration in water (EECs). DWLOC values are not regulatory standards for drinking water. DWLOCs are theoretical upper limits on a pesticide's concentration in drinking water in light of total aggregate exposure to a pesticide in food and residential uses. In calculating a DWLOC, the Agency determines how much of the acceptable exposure (i.e., the PAD) is available for exposure through drinking water [e.g., allowable chronic water exposure (mg/kg/day) = cPAD (average food + residential exposure)]. This allowable exposure through drinking water is used to calculate a DWLOC.

A DWLOC will vary depending on the toxic endpoint, drinking water consumption, and body weights. Default body weights and consumption values as used by the USEPA Office of Water

are used to calculate DWLOCs: 2L/70 kg (adult male), 2L/60 kg (adult female), and 1L/10 kg (child). Default body weights and drinking water consumption values vary on an individual basis. This variation will be taken into account in more refined screening level and quantitative drinking water exposure assessments. Different populations will have different DWLOCs. Generally, a DWLOC is calculated for each type of risk assessment used: acute, short-term, intermediate-term, chronic, and cancer.

When EECs for surface water and groundwater are less than the calculated

DWLOCs, OPP concludes with reasonable certainty that exposures to the pesticide in drinking water (when considered along with other sources of exposure for which OPP has reliable data) would not result in unacceptable levels of aggregate human health risk at this time. Because OPP considers the aggregate risk resulting from multiple exposure pathways associated with a pesticide's uses, levels of comparison in drinking water may vary as those uses change. If new uses are added in the future, OPP will reassess the potential impacts of residues of the pesticide in

drinking water as a part of the aggregate risk assessment process.

1. *Acute risk.* Using the exposure assumptions discussed in this unit for acute exposure, the acute dietary exposure from food to clomazone will occupy less than 1% of the aPAD for females 13 years and older. In addition, there is potential for acute dietary exposure to clomazone in drinking water. After calculating DWLOCs and comparing them to the EECs for surface and ground water, EPA does not expect the aggregate exposure to exceed 100% of the aPAD, as shown in the following Table 3:

TABLE 3.— AGGREGATE RISK ASSESSMENT FOR ACUTE EXPOSURE TO CLOMAZONE

| Population Subgroup | aPAD (mg/kg) | % aPAD (Food) | Surface Water EEC (ppb) | Ground Water EEC (ppb) | Acute DWLOC (ppb) |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Females 13-50 yrs old | 1 | < 1 | 95 | 2.4 | 30,000 |

2. *Chronic risk.* Using the exposure assumptions described in this unit for chronic exposure, EPA has concluded that exposure to clomazone from food will utilize less than 1% of the cPAD for the U.S. population, less than 1% of the cPAD for all infants (less than 1 year

old) and less than 1% of the cPAD for children 1-6 years old. There are no residential uses for clomazone that result in chronic residential exposure to clomazone. In addition, there is potential for chronic dietary exposure to clomazone in drinking water. After

calculating DWLOCs and comparing them to the EECs for surface and ground water, EPA does not expect the aggregate exposure to exceed 100% of the cPAD, as shown in the following Table 4:

TABLE 4.— AGGREGATE RISK ASSESSMENT FOR CHRONIC (NON-CANCER) EXPOSURE TO CLOMAZONE

| Population Subgroup | cPAD mg/kg/day | % cPAD (Food) | Surface Water EEC (ppb) | Ground Water EEC (ppb) | Chronic DWLOC (ppb) |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| U.S. Population | 0.84 | <1 | 23 | 2.4 | 29,000 |
| All infants (< 1 year old) | 0.84 | <1 | 23 | 2.4 | 8,400 |
| Children (1-6 years old) | 0.84 | <1 | 23 | 2.4 | 8,400 |
| Females (13-50 years old) | 0.84 | <1 | 23 | 2.4 | 25,000 |

3. *Short-term risk.* Short-term aggregate exposure takes into account residential exposure plus chronic exposure to food and water (considered to be a background exposure level). Clomazone is not registered for use on any sites that would result in residential exposure. Therefore, the aggregate risk is the sum of the risk from food and water, which do not exceed the Agency's level of concern.

4. *Intermediate-term risk.* Intermediate-term aggregate exposure takes into account residential exposure plus chronic exposure to food and water (considered to be a background exposure level).

Clomazone is not registered for use on any sites that would result in residential exposure. Therefore, the aggregate risk is the sum of the risk from food and water, which do not exceed the Agency's level of concern.

5. *Aggregate cancer risk for U.S. population.* Based on the lack of carcinogenic response in rats and mice and the lack of mutagenic effects, and that there is no data in the literature or SAR information to indicate carcinogenic potential, no cancer risk is posed.

6. *Determination of safety.* Based on these risk assessments, EPA concludes that there is a reasonable certainty that no harm will result to the general population and to infants and children from aggregate exposure to clomazone residues.

IV. Other Considerations

A. Analytical Enforcement Methodology

Adequate enforcement methodology (gas chromatography) is available to enforce the tolerance expression. A confirmatory procedure (GC/MSSIM) is available (Method I, PAM II).

The method may be requested from: Calvin Furlow, PRRIB, IRSD (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 305-5229; email address: furlow.calvin@epa.gov.

B. International Residue Limits

There are no Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex) Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs), nor Canadian or Mexican limits for residues for clomazone in/on rice grain or rice straw.

V. Conclusion

Therefore, the tolerance is established for residues of clomazone, (2-(2-chlorophenyl)methyl-4,4-dimethyl-3-isoxazolidinone), in or on rice grain and rice straw at 0.02 ppm.

VI. Objections and Hearing Requests

Under section 408(g) of the FFDCA, as amended by the FQPA, any person may file an objection to any aspect of this regulation and may also request a hearing on those objections. The EPA procedural regulations which govern the submission of objections and requests for hearings appear in 40 CFR part 178. Although the procedures in those regulations require some modification to reflect the amendments made to the FFDCA by the FQPA of 1996, EPA will continue to use those procedures, with appropriate adjustments, until the necessary modifications can be made. The new section 408(g) provides essentially the same process for persons to "object" to a regulation for an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance issued by EPA under new section 408(d), as was provided in the old FFDCA sections 408 and 409. However, the period for filing objections is now 60 days, rather than 30 days.

A. What Do I Need to Do to File an Objection or Request a Hearing?

You must file your objection or request a hearing on this regulation in accordance with the instructions provided in this unit and in 40 CFR part 178. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, you must identify docket control number OPP-301095 in the subject line on the first page of your submission. All requests must be in writing, and must be mailed or delivered to the Hearing Clerk on or before February 20, 2001.

1. *Filing the request.* Your objection must specify the specific provisions in the regulation that you object to, and the grounds for the objections (40 CFR 178.25). If a hearing is requested, the objections must include a statement of the factual issues(s) on which a hearing is requested, the requestor's contentions on such issues, and a summary of any evidence relied upon by the objector (40 CFR 178.27). Information submitted in connection with an objection or hearing request may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as CBI. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the information that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by EPA without prior notice. Please mail your written request to: Office of the Hearing Clerk (1900), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460. You may also deliver your request to the Office of the Hearing Clerk in Rm. C400,

Waterside Mall, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. The Office of the Hearing Clerk is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Office of the Hearing Clerk is (202) 260-4865.

2. *Tolerance fee payment.* If you file an objection or request a hearing, you must also pay the fee prescribed by 40 CFR 180.33(i) or request a waiver of that fee pursuant to 40 CFR 180.33(m). You must mail the fee to: EPA Headquarters Accounting Operations Branch, Office of Pesticide Programs, P.O. Box 360277M, Pittsburgh, PA 15251. Please identify the fee submission by labeling it "Tolerance Petition Fees."

EPA is authorized to waive any fee requirement "when in the judgement of the Administrator such a waiver or refund is equitable and not contrary to the purpose of this subsection." For additional information regarding the waiver of these fees, you may contact James Tompkins by phone at (703) 305-5697, by email at tompkins.jim@epa.gov, or by mailing a request for information to Mr. Tompkins at Registration Division (7505C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

If you would like to request a waiver of the tolerance objection fees, you must mail your request for such a waiver to: James Hollins, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

3. *Copies for the Docket.* In addition to filing an objection or hearing request with the Hearing Clerk as described in Unit VI.A., you should also send a copy of your request to the PIRIB for its inclusion in the official record that is described in Unit I.B.2. Mail your copies, identified by docket control number OPP-301095, to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460. In person or by courier, bring a copy to the location of the PIRIB described in Unit I.B.2. You may also send an electronic copy of your request via e-mail to: opp-docket@epa.gov. Please use an ASCII file format and avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Copies of electronic objections and hearing requests will also be accepted on disks in WordPerfect 6.1/8.0 or ASCII file format. Do not include any CBI in your electronic copy. You may also submit an electronic copy of your

request at many Federal Depository Libraries.

B. When Will the Agency Grant a Request for a Hearing?

A request for a hearing will be granted if the Administrator determines that the material submitted shows the following: There is a genuine and substantial issue of fact; there is a reasonable possibility that available evidence identified by the requestor would, if established resolve one or more of such issues in favor of the requestor, taking into account uncontested claims or facts to the contrary; and resolution of the factual issues(s) in the manner sought by the requestor would be adequate to justify the action requested (40 CFR 178.32).

VII. Regulatory Assessment Requirements

This final rule establishes a tolerance 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). This final rule does not contain any information collections subject to OMB approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*, or impose any enforceable duty or contain any unfunded mandate as described under Title II of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA) (Public Law 104-4). Nor does it require any prior consultation as specified by Executive Order 13084, entitled *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments* (63 FR 27655, May 19, 1998); special considerations as required by Executive Order 12898, entitled *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations* (59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994); or require OMB review or any Agency action under Executive Order 13045, entitled *Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks* (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997). 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 of 1995 (NTTAA), Public Law 104-113, section 12(d) (15 U.S.C. 272 note). Since tolerances and exemptions that are established on the basis of a petition under FFDCA section 408(d), such as the tolerance 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. In addition, the Agency has determined that this action will not have a substantial direct effect on States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government, as specified in Executive Order 13132, entitled *Federalism* (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999). Executive Order 13132 requires EPA to develop an accountable process to ensure "meaningful and timely input by State and local officials in the development of regulatory policies that have federalism implications." "Policies that have federalism implications" is defined in the Executive Order to include regulations that have "substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government." This final rule directly regulates growers, food processors, food handlers and food retailers, not States. This action does not alter the relationships or distribution of power and responsibilities established by Congress in the preemption provisions of FFDCA section 408(n)(4).

VIII. Submission to Congress and the Comptroller General

The Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*, as added by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, generally provides that before a rule may take effect, the agency promulgating the rule must submit a rule report, which includes a copy of the rule, to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. 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 this final rule in the **Federal Register**. This final rule 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: December 13, 2000.

James Jones,

Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

Therefore, 40 CFR chapter I is amended as follows:

PART 180—[AMENDED]

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

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

§ 180.425 [Amended]

2. Section 180.425 is amended by alphabetically adding commodities to the table in paragraph (a) to read as follows:

| Commodity | | | Parts per million | |
|-------------|---|---|-------------------|---|
| * | * | * | * | * |
| Rice, grain | | | 0.02 | |
| Rice, straw | | | 0.02 | |
| * | * | * | * | * |

[FR Doc. 00-32571 Filed 12-20-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-S

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 180

[OPP-301087; FRL-6758-1]

RIN 2070-AB78

Thiamethoxam; Pesticide Tolerance

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This regulation establishes tolerances for combined residues of thiamethoxam and its metabolite in or on barley, canola, cotton, sorghum, wheat, milk, and the meat and meat byproducts of cattle, goats, hogs, horses, and sheep. Novartis Crop Protection, Inc. requested this tolerance under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as amended by the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996.

DATES: This regulation is effective December 21, 2000. Objections and requests hearings, identified by docket control number OPP-301087, must be received by EPA on or before February 20, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written objections and hearing requests may be submitted by mail, in person, or by courier. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit VI. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, your objections and hearing requests must identify docket control number OPP-301087 in the subject line on the first page of your response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT By mail: Dani Daniel, Registration Division

(7505C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 305-5409; and e-mail address: daniel.dani@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

You may be affected by this action if you are an agricultural producer, food manufacturer, or pesticide manufacturer. Potentially affected categories and entities may include, but are not limited to:

| Categories | NAICS codes | Examples of potentially affected entities |
|------------|----------------------------|---|
| Industry | 111 112 311 32532 | Crop production Animal production Food manufacturing Pesticide manufacturing |

This listing is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed in the table could also be affected. The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes have been provided to assist you and others in determining whether or not this action might apply to certain entities. If you have questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

B. How Can I Get Additional Information, Including Copies of this Document and Other Related Documents?

1. *Electronically.* You may obtain electronic copies of this document, and certain other related documents that might be available electronically, from the EPA Internet Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/>. To access this document, on the Home Page select "Laws and Regulations", "Regulations and Proposed Rules," and then look up the entry for this document under the "Federal Register—Environmental Documents." You can also go directly to the **Federal Register** listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>. To access the OPPTS Harmonized Guidelines referenced in this document, go directly to the guidelines at <http://www.epa.gov/opptsfrs/home/guidelin.htm>.