California Department of Pesticide Regulation

Active Ingredients in High-Priority Grouping: Risk Assessments Not Yet Initiated

(as of January 2004)

Initiating a risk assessment on a specific pesticide active ingredient is based on choosing the pesticide that poses the greatest potential risk. The initial grouping for risk assessment involves evaluation by an interagency Adverse Effects Advisory Panel. The panel uses a variety of scientific criteria to group active ingredients into high, moderate, or low categories for risk assessment. This process is qualitative, using a weight-of-evidence approach to identify active ingredients most likely to present significant health risks. The process for further refinement of priorities for risk assessment is described here. (239 kb PDF)

The Adverse Effects Advisory Panel meets periodically to update the groupings as new active ingredients are registered, others deleted, or new data becomes available that can affect priorities. (Active ingredients are deleted when risk assessments are completed or registrations are cancelled.)

Active Ingredient[1] in High-Priority Grouping	***Also on SB950 Priority Data Call-in List*** [2]
2,4-D	X
Acrolein	X
Aldicarb	X
Arsenic, inorganic	X
Azafenidin	
Bromoxynil	X
Captan	X
Chloropicrin	X
Creosote	X
Cyhalothrin	
Daminozide	X
Dazomet	
Dicamba	X
Diclobenil	X
Dicofol	X
Dimethoate	X
Emamectin	
Ethylene oxide	X
Fenbuconazole	
Fenvalerate/Esfenvalerate	
Fipronil	
Glufosinate ammonium	
Glutaraldehyde	
Imazalil	X

Active Ingredient[1] in High-Priority Grouping	***Also on SB950 Priority Data Call-in List*** [2]
Iprodione	X
Linuron	X
MGK 264	
Milbamectin	
Oxadiazon	X
Oxydemeton-methyl	
Paradichlorobenzene	X
PCNB	X
Profenofos	
Propanil	
Propylene oxide	
Pyraclostrobin	
Tebuconazole	
Thiazopyr	
Thiophanate-methyl	X
Tralkoxydim	
Triallate	
Tributyltin benzoate	X
Ziram	X

[1]***Active ingredient:*** An active ingredient is the substance that prevents, destroys, repels, or mitigates the target pests, or which functions as a plant growth regulator, desiccant or defoliant. Pesticides are regulated primarily on the basis of their active ingredients. A pesticide product is formulated by combining one or more active ingredients with one or more other (nonpesticidal) ingredients. DPR currently registers approximately 11,000 products containing more than 900 pesticide active ingredients.

[2]***SB 950 Priority Data Call-in List:*** Senate Bill 950, the Birth Defect Prevention Act of 1984, required that all registered pesticides have complete and adequate chronic health effects studies on file, and that DPR use these and other data to determine if a pesticide would cause significant adverse effects. SB 950 also required that chemicals registered before 1986 be subject to a call-in to gather the required toxicology data. The law required DPR to review available data on chronic toxicity for all pesticide active ingredients registered in California. If existing data were not adequate, registrants were mandated to provide the required studies. The law required DPR to develop a priority list of 200 pesticide active ingredients that would be the first focus of data call-in efforts. DPR staff developed the list in 1986, using criteria that considered possible adverse human health effects, widespread use, illness reports, large number of registered products, and several other factors. The data call-in has been complete for a number of years, and as data was submitted and reviewed, priorities for risk assessment may have changed. Some of the originally listed pesticides are no longer registered, and the use of others has decreased, lessening exposure concerns. In addition, new pesticides have been registered that have been assigned a high priority for risk assessment.