NOTICE TO PESTICIDE REGISTRANTS
REGARDING INITIATION OF RISK ASSESSMENT PROCESS
FOR THE ACTIVE INGREDIENT
PHOSPHINE

This notice informs registrants that the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) is initiating the risk assessment process for registered pesticide products containing the active ingredient phosphine and the phosphine generating active ingredients, aluminum phosphide and magnesium phosphide (excluding zinc phosphide).

Food and Agricultural Code (FAC) sections 13121-13130 require DPR to review the toxicology database of all registered pesticide active ingredients. FAC section 13134 requires DPR to assess dietary risks associated with the use of pesticides. In addition, FAC section 12824 requires DPR to endeavor to eliminate from use in California any pesticide that endangers the agricultural or nonagricultural environment. DPR identified phosphine as having potential adverse health effects in studies of sufficient quality to allow risk characterization.

During the risk assessment process, DPR evaluates the significance of the adverse effects to human health. If DPR decides that use of, or certain uses of, pesticide products containing the active ingredients phosphine, aluminum phosphide, and magnesium phosphide result in a significant adverse effect to human health, action must be taken to mitigate the adverse effect.

When DPR identifies the endpoints of toxicological significance, you will be informed of those endpoints and given an opportunity to provide comments.

Please address all requests for additional information to, Ms. Victoria Hornbaker by e-mail at vhornbaker@cdpr.ca.gov or by telephone at (916) 324-3915.

Original signed by Ann Prichard

Ann Prichard, Acting Branch Chief
Pesticide Registration Branch
(916) 324-39131

cc: Ms. Victoria Hornbaker