NOTICE OF FINAL DECISION CONCERNING
REEVALUATION OF CERTAIN PYRETHROID PESTICIDE PRODUCTS

The Director of the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) files this notice with the Secretary of the Resources Agency for posting pursuant to Title 3, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Articles 8 and 12. CCR requires the Secretary of the Resources Agency and DPR to post this notice for 30 days for public inspection.

REEVALUATION

On August 31, 2006 (California Notice 2006-13), DPR commenced reevaluation of certain pesticide products containing one or more pyrethroid active ingredients. This reevaluation involved 123 registrants and 608 pesticide products. A list of products and active ingredients included in the reevaluation is available on DPR’s Web site at <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/registration/reevaluation/chemicals/pyrethroids.htm>.

BASIS OF REEVALUATION

DPR placed certain pyrethroid pesticide products into reevaluation based on monitoring surveys and toxicity studies revealing the widespread presence of synthetic pyrethroid residues in the sediment of California waterways at levels toxic to *Hyalella azteca* (*H. azteca*). Scientists commonly use *H. azteca* as an indicator of environmental health and water quality in streams, lakes, and other water bodies. Significant toxicity was observed at numerous sites and there was a high correlation between concentrations of pyrethroids and observed toxicity. The unique physical, chemical, and toxicological properties of the pyrethroid class of chemicals contribute to their propensity to accumulate in sediment at toxic levels.

Pyrethroids are a large synthetic class of insecticides whose chemical structures have been modified, from pyrethrins (a natural occurring insecticide), to increase their stability in sunlight. For the purposes of this reevaluation, DPR divided pyrethroids into three groups. The first group, Group I, consists of “Type I” photosensitive pyrethroids. The more toxic Group II and III (Type II) pyrethroids are less photosensitive and persist longer in the environment.

Pursuant to this reevaluation, registrants with products containing active ingredients in Group I were required to submit certain environmental fate data. Data requirements were waived for Group II registrant. Registrants with products in Group III were required to submit the following: (1) certain environmental fate data; (2) sediment persistence and ecotoxicology data; and,
(3) transport mechanisms and mitigation data. In addition, registrants with products containing Group III pyrethroids were required to conduct monitoring in Publicly Owned Treatment Work (POTW) facilities. A description of the data requirements can be found on DPR’s Web site at <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/registration/reevaluation/chemicals/summary_ai_data_req.pdf>.

Compared to agricultural use patterns, limited data was known about urban offsite movement of pyrethroids. Based on known persistence and higher use, DPR required data for Group III active ingredients that included the following studies: pest control business survey; pathway identification study; and, a wash off dynamics study. During the course of this reevaluation, DPR held numerous discussions and meetings with registrants and stakeholders. On June 6, 2009, U.S. EPA required label changes of registrants of pyrethroid containing products intended for outdoor residential use that included more restrictive environmental hazard and general labeling language.

SURFACE WATER REGULATIONS

Based on its evaluation of submitted data, DPR determined that use restrictions on outdoor residential use pyrethroids represented the most effective opportunity to substantially reduce pyrethroids in California water bodies. On July 19, 2012, DPR put into place regulations designed to reduce runoff from outdoor residential use of pyrethroids. The implemented regulations identify 17 pyrethroids as having a high potential to contaminate surface water in outdoor nonagricultural settings, and require pest control businesses, including maintenance gardeners that apply these pesticides, to take actions to minimize off-site movement from hard non-porous surfaces. A copy of the regulations can be found on DPR’s Web site at <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/legbills/rulepkg/11-004/text_final.pdf>. DPR will continue to monitor urban pyrethroid use, and will monitor and address agricultural and indoor use patterns if needed.

FINAL REEVALUATION DECISION

DPR has determined that the reevaluation has provided all the required data needed for the development and implementation of mitigation measures to reduce pyrethroid runoff from outdoor residential use patterns. No additional mitigation is necessary at this time. Therefore, the reevaluation is concluded.
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