



Brian R. Leahy
Director

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

California Notice 2012-04

TO: **Pesticide Product Stakeholders**

SUBJECT: **LAUNCH OF SECTION 18 EMERGENCY EXEMPTION DATABASE**

The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) recently launched a new easy-to-use, Web-based database that provides all DPR stakeholders with access to information on both active and inactive Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide (FIFRA) Section 18 Emergency Exemptions from Registration (Section 18).

Under FIFRA Section 18, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) authorizes states to allow an unregistered use of a pesticide for a limited time if it determines that an emergency condition exists. An “emergency condition” is defined as an urgent, non-routine situation that requires the use of a pesticide. Requests are made when there are no alternatives to control the pest. If, after scientific review of the risks, DPR and U.S. EPA determine the emergency to be valid and the risks acceptable, an emergency exemption is approved. In California, all uses of a pesticide product under a Section 18 require a restricted materials permit from the County Agricultural Commissioner before purchase and use.

DPR recognizes the need of grower groups, County Agricultural Commissioner staff, and licensed applicators/advisors, along with a number of other stakeholders, to have immediate access to information regarding Section 18’s. In response to this need, DPR developed a database with an external web-based interface. Through the interface, stakeholders can enter various search criteria such as crop/site, pest, county, chemical, brand name, Section 18 number, and U.S. EPA registration number to generate a list of matching Section 18 Emergency Exemptions, including a text searchable PDF of the associated Section 18 use instructions.

Access to the Section 18 database can be found on DPR’s Web site at <http://apps.cdpr.ca.gov/section18/> or from DPR’s Home Page at www.cdpr.ca.gov; click on "A-Z Index," under "Section 18," click on “Search Section 18 Emergency Exemptions.”

If you have any questions regarding the use of the Section 18 database, please contact Ms. Margaret Reiff by email at mreiff@cdpr.ca.gov or by telephone at 916-445-5977.

Original signed by

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Ann M. Prichard, Chief
Pesticide Registration Branch
916-324-3931

Date

cc: Margaret Reiff, Staff Environmental Scientist

