



Department of Pesticide Regulation



Brian R. Leahy
Director

MEMORANDUM

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

TO: Dr. Marylou Verder-Carlos
Assistant Director
Pesticide Programs Division

HSM-14011

No. assigned after issuance of memo

FROM: Lisa Ross, Ph.D.
Environmental Program Manager II
Chief, Worker Health and Safety Branch
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[Original signed by L. Ross]

DATE: December 24, 2014

SUBJECT: COMPLETION OF METHAMIDOPHOS MITIGATION

The Methamidophos Mitigation memorandum (Edmiston 2011) from the Worker Health and Safety Branch (WHS), dated June 16, 2011, describes our findings in regards to the need for mitigation of methamidophos occupational exposures. The Risk Management Directive, issued by the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) in May 2006, identified acute, seasonal, and chronic occupational exposures that exceeded levels of concern (Gosselin 2006).

Methamidophos use in California has declined sharply in the past five years, from 24,000 pounds in 2008 to 0.05 pounds in 2012, the most recent year data are available (DPR 2014a). Illness data from 1992 to 2011 (the most recent data available) show that the most recent methamidophos-related illness or injury cases occurred in 2004 (DPR 2014b). The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) cancelled all remaining methamidophos registrations, effective December 31, 2009, and prohibited sale of methamidophos products after December 31, 2010 (U.S. EPA 2009). In addition, residue tolerances for methamidophos expired or were revoked on December 2013 (U.S. EPA 2010a, 2010b). According to DPR's Food Safety Residue Program database, from 2011 to 2013, there were no residue detections of methamidophos (DPR 2014c).

Given U.S. EPA's cancellation of all registrations and revocation of all tolerances; and the exceptionally low use in California, lack of residue detections since product cancellation, and lack of recent reports of methamidophos-related illness, WHS finds that there is no need for further mitigation action for methamidophos. Your approval of this conclusion is requested.

cc: Linda O'Connell, Environmental Program Manager I
Kevin Solari, Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisor)

APPROVAL

[Original signed by M. Verder Carlos]
Marylou Verder-Carlos, Assistant Director

December 29, 2014
Date



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