

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/USA/989

28 September 2004

(04-4076)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>UNITED STATES</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
3.	Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Products that use the herbicide benfluralin, a pre-emergent dinitroaniline herbicide used to control weeds in turf and ornamental plants, lettuce, alfalfa, clover, birdsfoot trefoil, nonbearing fruit and nut trees, nonbearing berries, and nonbearing vineyards.
4.	Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: Any U.S. trade partners.
5.	Title, language and number of pages of the notified document: Notice: Benfluralin; Availability of Reregistration Eligibility Decision (RED) Document (Available in English, 2 pages).
6.	Description of content: The Agency has issued a RED for the pesticide benfluralin. Benfluralin is a pre-emergent dinitroaniline herbicide used to control weeds in turf and ornamental plants, lettuce, alfalfa, clover, birdsfoot trefoil, nonbearing fruit and nut trees, nonbearing berries, and nonbearing vineyards. Most of the benfluralin used is applied to turf. Under US law, EPA is conducting a re-registration to re-evaluate existing pesticides to make sure they meet current scientific and regulatory standards. The database to support the re-registration of benfluralin is substantially complete. Risks associated with benfluralin have been mitigated so that it will not pose unreasonable risks to people or the environment when used according to its approved labeling.
7.	Objective and rationale: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests
8.	International standard, guideline or recommendation: <input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission, <input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), <input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations: NA
9.	Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: DOCID:fr, <u>Federal Register</u> : September 2, 2004 (Volume 69, Number 170) Pages 53704-53705; http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-PEST/2004/September/Day-02/p20045.htm Available in English

10. Proposed date of adoption: Not available
11. Proposed date of entry into force: Not available
12. Final date for comments: N/A Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: Katie Hall, Special Review and Reregistration Division (7508C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; Tel: (703) 308-0166; E-mail address: hall.katie@epa.gov . Note: Identify docket name "OPP-2004-0210" in subject line of your response.
13. Texts available from: <input type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: Ms. Julie Morin, United States SPS Enquiry Point Officer, USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, Food Safety & Technical Services Division, Stop 1027, Washington D.C. 20250. Tel: 202-720-4051; Fax: 202-690-0677; Email: fstd@usda.gov