

Hicks, Lebelle

From: NIOSH\DSHEFS\SB - SENSOR-PESTICIDES [SENSOR-PESTICIDES@LISTSERV.CDC.GOV] on behalf of Justin WALTZ [Justin.Waltz@STATE.OR.US]
Sent: Wednesday, June 13, 2007 12:21 PM
To: SENSOR-PESTICIDES@LISTSERV.CDC.GOV
Subject: Clarification & corrections: Any illnesses due to "botanical" insecticides in category [25(b)] ???

I'd like to amend a posting I sent out last month because of new information:

As I said, the Pesticide Poisoning Surveillance Program at Oregon Public Health Division has recently investigated two pesticide exposure cases involving "botanical" insecticides that fall into the EPA's "minimum risk pesticides" category [25(b)] and therefore, are exempt from FIFRA. The active ingredients are botanical chemicals like clove oil, citronella, and lemon grass oil, etc., not eucalyptus oil (which is not on the 25(b) list). [We've learned recently that the third case involved a FIFRA-registered pesticide only, so does not belong here.]

Both cases involve workers (home inspectors, heating & AC workers, real estate agents) who unwittingly came into contact (contact/inhalation) with the pesticides an undetermined amount of time after application, and became quite ill for a few days, purportedly because of their exposure. One case involved workers in a closed, unventilated house, and the other with people installing HVAC systems in the crawl space of a vacant house. So one wonders if ventilation is an issue?

Moreover, in both cases, some of the workers wore North half-mask respirators (Model #7700) with P100 particulate filters, but these may not have helped. [One sickened, but mask-wearing worker claims only inhalation exposure.]

These cases are still under investigation by the Oregon Public Health Division (OPHD) and other member agencies of Oregon's Pesticide Analytical Response Center (PARC) to formally determine the relationship between symptoms and these pesticides.

Even if causality is determined, two cases does not necessarily indicate a disease trend, which is why I'm seeking more information from all of you,

Have any of you experienced cases like these?

If so, I'd appreciate it if you could reply to this email, describe the situation(s), give any regulatory/education actions that were taken during the case, and give your recommendations on how you think the situation should be addressed.

Thank you - Justin

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