

Quality Protection Division, Source Water Protection Branch (6WQ-S), 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Philip Dellinger, Chief, Ground Water/UIC Section, EPA—Region 6, telephone (214) 665-7165.

**Oscar Ramirez, Jr.,**

*Acting Director, Water Quality Protection Division.*

[FR Doc. 97-22361 Filed 8-21-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5880-1]

### Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC) Subcommittee Review of the National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA)

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting of the Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC) subcommittee to review the National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA).

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, as amended (5 U.S.C., App.2), notice is hereby given that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Research and Development (ORD), Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC) Subcommittee will meet to review the National Center for Environmental Assessment on Monday, September 8 and Tuesday, September 9, 1997. The meeting will be held in the Wilson/Glebe Room of the Holiday Inn Arlington at Ballston, 4610 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia and will begin at 8:00 a.m. and recess at approximately 5:00 p.m. on Monday, September 8. On Tuesday, September 9, a Subcommittee writing session will begin at 8:00 a.m. and adjourn at 1:00 p.m. Following the writing session, a wrap-up discussion summarizing the preliminary findings and conclusions of the Subcommittee will be held from 1:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m. on Tuesday. The BOSC Subcommittee Review meeting will adjourn at 3:00 p.m. All times are Eastern time. The meeting is open to the public. Any member of the public wishing to make comments at the meeting should contact Shirley R. Hamilton, Designated Federal Official, Office of Research and Development (8701R), 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20460; by telephone at (202) 564-6853. In general, each individual making an oral presentation

will be limited to three minutes. Anyone desiring a draft BOSC meeting agenda may fax their request to Shirley R. Hamilton at (202) 565-2444.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held September 8 and 9, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in the Wilson/Glebe Room of the Holiday Inn Arlington at Ballston, 4610 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Shirley R. Hamilton, Designated Federal Official, Office of Research and Development (8701R), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460; by telephone at (202) 564-6853.

Dated: August 15, 1997.

**William H. Farland,**

*Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.*

[FR Doc. 97-22359 Filed 8-21-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE: 6560-50-P

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[PF-757; FRL-5737-8]

### Notice of Filing of Pesticide Petitions

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the initial filing of a pesticide petition (PP 7F4827), submitted by Abbott Laboratories, proposing the establishment of a regulation for an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for residues of the microbial pesticide, active ingredient, *Bacillus sphaericus*, when used in or on all food and feed crops.

**DATES:** Comments, identified by the docket control number PF-757, must be received on or before September 22, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** By mail submit written comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (7506C), Information Resources and Services Division, Office of Pesticides Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person bring comments to: Rm. 1132, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by following the instructions under "SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION." No confidential business information should be submitted through e-mail.

Information submitted as a comment concerning this document may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as

"Confidential Business Information" (CBI). CBI should not be submitted through e-mail. Information marked as CBI will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by EPA without prior notice. All written comments will be available for public inspection in Rm. 1132 at the address given above, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** By mail: Willie Nelson, (PM) 90, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division (7501W), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location and telephone number: Rm. 5th floor, CS1, 2800 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA. 22202, (703) 308-8682; e-mail: nelson.willie@epamail.epa.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** EPA has received pesticide petitions as follows proposing the establishment and/or amendment of regulations for residues of certain pesticide chemicals in or on various food commodities under section 408 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), 21 U.S.C. 346a. EPA has determined that these petitions contain data or information regarding the elements set forth in section 408(d)(2); however, EPA has not fully evaluated the sufficiency of the submitted data at this time or whether the data supports granting of the petition. Additional data may be needed before EPA rules on the petition.

The official record for this notice of filing, as well as the public version, has been established for this notice of filing under docket control number [PF-757] (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The official record is located at the address in "ADDRESSES" at the beginning of this document.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:  
opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comment and data will

also be accepted on disks in Wordperfect 5.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket number [PF-757] and appropriate petition number. Electronic comments on this notice may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

#### List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Agricultural commodities, Food additives, Feed additives, Pesticides and pests, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: August 13, 1997.

Janet L. Andersen,

Director, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

#### Summaries of Petitions

Petitioner summaries of the pesticide petitions are printed below as required by section 408(d)(3) of the FFDCA. The summaries of the petitions were prepared by the petitioners and represent the views of the petitioners. EPA is publishing the petition summaries verbatim without editing them in any way. The petition summary announces the availability of a description of the analytical methods available to EPA for the detection and measurement of the pesticide chemical residues or an explanation of why no such method is needed.

#### Abbott Laboratories

PP 7F4827

EPA has received a pesticide petition (PP 7F4827) from Abbott Laboratories, 1401 Sheridan Road, Dept. 28R, Bldg A1, North Chicago, IL 60064-4000, proposing pursuant to section 408 (d) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. 346a(d), to amend 40 CFR part 180 by establishing an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for residues of the pesticide type, *Bacillus sphaericus* in or on the raw agricultural commodities.

Pursuant to the section 408 (d)(2)(A)(i) of the FFDCA, as amended, Abbott Laboratories has submitted the following summary of information, data and arguments in support of their pesticide petition. This summary was prepared by Abbott Laboratories and EPA has not fully evaluated the merits of the petition. The summary may have been edited by EPA if the terminology used was unclear, the summary contained extraneous material, or the summary was not clear that it reflected the conclusion of the petitioner and to necessarily EPA.

#### A. Proposed Use Practices

For the control of mosquito larvae, uniform application is recommended by either aerial or conventional ground equipment at rates up to 0.46 billion B.S. ITU/acre. Applications should occur when mosquito larvae are present at an interval of 1-4 weeks.

#### B. Product Identity/Chemistry

1. The pesticide and corresponding residues are identified as *Bacillus sphaericus*.

2. *Bacillus sphaericus* is a naturally occurring organism, and residues occurring at time of harvest are anticipated to approximate those of naturally occurring levels.

3. Since Abbott Laboratories is proposing to establish an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance without numerical limitation, an analytical method for detecting and measuring levels of the pesticide residue is considered unnecessary.

#### C. Mammalian Toxicological Profile

The mammalian toxicology data submitted in support of the exemption from the requirement for a tolerance include evaluation of toxicity, pathogenicity and infectivity of *Bacillus sphaericus*.

An acute oral toxicity/pathogenicity study was conducted with *Bacillus sphaericus* technical material in rats. An oral dose of approximately  $1 \times 10^8$  colony forming units (CFU) administered to rats resulted in rapid clearance during the 20-day post-treatment observation period. A pattern of clearance during the 49-day post treatment period was established following an intratracheal instillation of approximately  $1 \times 10^8$  CFU. Similarly, a pattern of clearance over a 35-day post-treatment period was observed following an intravenous dose of approximately  $1 \times 10^7$  CFU. There were no mortalities, no evidence of pathogenicity or treatment-related toxicity in rats given an oral, intratracheal installatin or intravenous dose.

In an acute oral toxicity study, *Bacillus sphaericus* technical material caused no deaths in rats given a dose of 5,000 mg/kg; therefore the acute oral LD<sub>50</sub> was greater than 5,000 mg/kg. There was no mortality in rabbits over the 14-day observation period following a 2,000 mg/kg dermal application for 24 hours; thus, the acute dermal LD<sub>50</sub> was greater than 2,000 mg/kg. In a 4-hour acute inhalation toxicity study in rats, the maximum attainable concentration was 0.09 mg/L, with 13.3% of the particles having a mass median

aerodynamic diameter of >10 microns. Since there was no mortality or no clinical signs during exposure or the 14-day observation period, the 4-hour inhalation LC<sub>50</sub> was greater than 0.09 mg/L. Dermal irritation of *Bacillus sphaericus* technical material was described by Abbott Laboratories as moderately irritating to rabbit skin at 72 hours. Irritation and iridal effects following a 100 mg aliquot of *Bacillus sphaericus* placed in the eye of rabbits were no longer present at day 10 post-treatment.

1. *Conclusions.* Based on the toxicity data summarized above, *Bacillus sphaericus*, is not pathogenic and does not demonstrate any systemic toxicity.

2. Genotoxicity, reproductive and developmental toxicity, subchronic toxicity and chronic toxicity testing were not performed on this microbial pest control agent. The low acute toxicity, lack of survival, replication; infectivity and lack of persistence of this organism does not warrant need for this level of testing.

#### D. Aggregate Exposure

For the purpose of assessing the potential dietary exposure under this exemption, Abbott considered that under this exemption, *Bacillus sphaericus* could be present on all RACs. Other potential sources of exposure of the general population to residues of pesticides are residues in drinking water and exposure from non-occupational sources. Based on the available studies used to assess environmental risk, and the fact that *Bacillus sphaericus* is a naturally occurring organism which is susceptible to chlorine treatment, exposure residues are not expected in drinking water. The potential for non-occupational, non-dietary exposure to the general population is, thus, not expected to be significant.

#### E. Cumulative Effects

Cumulative effects of *Bacillus sphaericus* and other substances that have a common mechanism of toxicity have been considered. Due to the lack of mammalian toxicity, it is the opinion of Abbott Laboratories that consideration of a common mechanism of toxicity is not appropriate at this time. Abbott Laboratories has concluded that toxic effects produced by *Bacillus sphaericus* would not be cumulative with those of any other compounds.

#### F. Safety Determination

1. *U.S. population.* In general, *Bacillus sphaericus* is a naturally occurring organism which has undergone no genetic modifications.

The low toxicity of the subject active ingredient is demonstrated by the data summarized above. Based on this information, it can be concluded that aggregate exposure to *Bacillus sphaericus* over a lifetime will not pose appreciable risks to human health. There is reasonable certainty that no harm will result from aggregate exposure to residues of *Bacillus sphaericus* and, consequently, exempting *Bacillus sphaericus* from the requirement of a tolerance is considered safe.

2. *Infants and children.* It is the opinion of Abbott Laboratories that the toxicity and exposure data are sufficiently complete to adequately address the potential for additional sensitivity of infants and children to residues of *Bacillus sphaericus*. A determination of safety for infants and children can be made due to the insignificant exposure expected beyond naturally occurring background levels and the low acute toxicity of this microbial insecticide. It can be concluded with reasonable certainty that no harm will result to infants and children from aggregate exposure to *Bacillus sphaericus* residues.

#### G. Existing Tolerances

Abbott Laboratories is not aware of any existing tolerances or tolerance exemption for *Bacillus sphaericus*. [FR Doc. 97-22374 Filed 8-21-97; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[PF-756; FRL-5737-2]

### Notice of Filing of Pesticide Petitions

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the initial filing of pesticide petitions proposing the establishment of regulations for residues of certain pesticide chemicals in or on various food commodities.

**DATES:** Comments, identified by the docket control number PF-756, must be received on or before September 22, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** By mail submit written comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (7506C), Information Resources and Services Division, Office of Pesticides Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person bring comments to: Rm. 1132,

CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by following the instructions under "SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION." No confidential business information should be submitted through e-mail.

Information submitted as a comment concerning this document may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as "Confidential Business Information" (CBI). CBI should not be submitted through e-mail. Information marked as CBI will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by EPA without prior notice. All written comments will be available for public inspection in Rm. 1132 at the address given above, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** By mail: Shanaz Bacchus (PM) 90, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division, (7501W), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location and telephone number: Rm. 5th floor, CS1, 2800 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA. 22202, (703) 308-8097; e-mail: bacchus.shanaz@epamail.epa.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** EPA has received pesticide petitions as follows proposing the establishment and/or amendment of regulations for residues of certain pesticide chemicals in or on various food commodities under section 408 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), 21 U.S.C. 346a. EPA has determined that these petitions contain data or information regarding the elements set forth in section 408(d)(2); however, EPA has not fully evaluated the sufficiency of the submitted data at this time or whether the data supports granting of the petition. Additional data may be needed before EPA rules on the petition.

The official record for this notice of filing, as well as the public version, has been established for this notice of filing under docket control number [PF-756] (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday,

excluding legal holidays. The official record is located at the address in "ADDRESSES" at the beginning of this document.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at: opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comment and data will also be accepted on disks in Wordperfect 5.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket number [PF-756] and appropriate petition number. Electronic comments on this notice may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

#### List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Agricultural commodities, Food additives, Feed additives, Pesticides and pests, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: August 17, 1997.

**Janet L. Andersen,**

*Director, Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.*

#### Summaries of Petitions

Petitioner summaries of the pesticide petitions are printed below as required by section 408(d)(3) of the FFDCA. The summaries of the petitions were prepared by the petitioners and represent the views of the petitioners. EPA is publishing the petition summaries verbatim without editing them in any way. The petition summary announces the availability of a description of the analytical methods available to EPA for the detection and measurement of the pesticide chemical residues or an explanation of why no such method is needed.

#### 1. BioWorks, Inc.

PP 6F4650

EPA has received a pesticide petition from Bioworks, Inc., 122 North Genesee Street, Geneva, New York 14456, proposing pursuant to section 408(d) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. section 346a(d), to amend 40 CFR Part 180 to establish an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for *Trichoderma harzianum* Rifai strain KRL-AG2 in or on all raw agricultural commodities, except mushrooms.