

[FR Doc. 02–13112 Filed 5–28–02; 8:45 am]

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 180

[OPP-2002-0061; FRL-7176-8]

Fludioxonil; Re-establishment of Tolerance for Emergency Exemptions

AGENCY: Environmental Protection

Agency (EPA). **ACTION:** Final rule.

SUMMARY: This regulation re-establishes a time-limited tolerance for residues of the fungicide fludioxonil in or on caneberries at 5 parts per million (ppm) for an additional 2 year period. This tolerance will expire and is revoked on December 31, 2003. This action is in response to EPA's granting of an emergency exemption under section 18 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) authorizing use of the pesticide on caneberries. Section 408(1)(6) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA) requires EPA to establish a time-limited tolerance or exemption from the requirement for a tolerance for pesticide chemical residues in food that will result from the use of a pesticide under an emergency exemption granted by EPA under section 18 of FIFRA. **DATES:** This regulation is effective May 29, 2002. Objections and requests for hearings, identified by docket control number OPP-2002-0061, must be

received on or before July 29, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Written objections and hearing requests may be submitted by mail, in person, or by courier. Please follow the detailed instructions for each method as provided in Unit III. of the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, your objections and hearing requests must identify docket control number OPP–2002–0061 in the subject line on the first page of

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Libby Pemberton, Registration Division (7505C), Office of Pesticide

your response.

Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 308–9364; e-mail address: pemberton.libby@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

You may be affected by this action if you are an agricultural producer, food manufacturer, or pesticide manufacturer. Potentially affected categories and entities may include, but are not limited to:

Categories	NAICS codes	Examples of potentially affected entities	
Industry	111 112 311 32532	Crop production Animal production Food manufacturing Pesticide manufacturing	

This listing is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed in the table could also be affected. The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes have been provided to assist you and others in determining whether or not this action might apply to certain entities. If you have questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

B. How Can I Get Additional Information, Including Copies of this Document and Other Related Documents?

1. Electronically. You may obtain electronic copies of this document, and certain other related documents that might be available electronically, from the EPA Internet Home Page at http://www.epa.gov/. To access this document, on the Home Page select "Laws and Regulations," "Regulations and Proposed Rules," and then look up the entry for this document under the "Federal Register"—Environmental Documents. You can also go directly to

the **Federal Register** listings at http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/. A frequently updated electronic version of 40 CFR part 180 is available at http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/cfrhtml_00/Title_40/40cfr180_00.html, a beta site currently under development.

2. *In person*. The Agency has established an official record for this action under docket control number OPP-2002-0061. The official record consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, and other information related to this action, including any information claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI). This official record includes the documents that are physically located in the docket, as well as the documents that are referenced in those documents. The public version of the official record does not include any information claimed as CBI. The public version of the official record, which includes printed, paper versions of any electronic comments submitted during an applicable comment period is available for inspection in the Public Information and Records Integrity Branch (PIRIB), Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The PIRIB telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

II. Background and Statutory Findings

EPA issued a final rule, published in the Federal Register of June 30, 1999 (64 FR 35037) (FRL-6086-4), which announced that on its own initiative under section 408 of the FFDCA, 21 U.S.C. 346a, as amended by the FQPA of 1996 (Public Law 104-170), it established a time-limited tolerance for the residues of fludioxonil in or on caneberries at 5 ppm, with an expiration date of December 31, 2000, EPA established the tolerance because section 408(1)(6) of the FFDCA requires EPA to establish a time-limited tolerance or exemption from the requirement for a tolerance for pesticide chemical residues in food that will result from the use of a pesticide under an emergency exemption granted by EPA under section 18 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). Such tolerances can be

established without providing notice or period for public comment. The tolerance was extended in the **Federal Register** of December 6, 2000 (65 FR 76169) (FRL–6756–6) until December 31, 2001.

EPA received a request to extend the use of fludioxonil on caneberries for this year's growing season due to the widespread development of pest resistance to previously-used standard fungicides benomyl, iprodione, and vinclozolin; no curently available alternatives appear to provide suitable disease control and significant economic losses are expected with moderate to severe disease pressure. After having reviewed the submission, EPA concurs that emergency conditions exist. EPA has authorized under FIFRA section 18 the use of fludioxonil on caneberries for control of gray mold in

Oregon and Washington. EPA assessed the potential risks presented by residues of fludioxonil in or on caneberries. In doing so, EPA considered the safety standard in FFDCA section 408(b)(2), and decided that the necessary tolerance under FFDCA section 408(l)(6) would be consistent with the safety standard and with FIFRA section 18. The data and other relevant material have been evaluated and discussed in the final rule published in the Federal Register of June 30, 1999 (FR 64 35037) (FRL-6086-4). Based on that data and information considered, the Agency reaffirms that extension of the timelimited tolerance will continue to meet the requirements of section 408(1)(6). Therefore, the time-limited tolerance is extended for an additional 2 year period. EPA will publish a document in the **Federal Register** to remove the revoked tolerance from the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Although this tolerance will expire and is revoked on December 31, 2002, under FFDCA section 408(l)(5), residues of the pesticide not in excess of the amounts specified in the tolerance remaining in or on caneberries after that date will not be unlawful, provided the pesticide is applied in a manner that was lawful under FIFRA and the application occurred prior to the revocation of the tolerance. EPA will take action to revoke this tolerance earlier if any experience with, scientific data on, or other relevant information on this pesticide indicate that the residues are not safe.

III. Objections and Hearing Requests

Under section 408(g) of the FFDCA, as amended by the FQPA, any person may file an objection to any aspect of this regulation and may also request a hearing on those objections. The EPA

procedural regulations which govern the submission of objections and requests for hearings appear in 40 CFR part 178. Although the procedures in those regulations require some modification to reflect the amendments made to the FFDCA by the FOPA of 1996, EPA will continue to use those procedures, with appropriate adjustments, until the necessary modifications can be made. The new section 408(g) provides essentially the same process for persons to "object" to a regulation for an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance issued by EPA under new section 408(d), as was provided in the old FFDCA sections 408 and 409. However, the period for filing objections is now 60 days, rather than 30 days.

A. What Do I Need To Do To File an Objection or Request a Hearing?

You must file your objection or request a hearing on this regulation in accordance with the instructions provided in this unit and in 40 CFR part 178. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, you must identify docket control number OPP–2002–0061 in the subject line on the first page of your submission. All requests must be in writing, and must be mailed or delivered to the Hearing Clerk on or before July 29, 2002.

1. Filing the request. Your objection must specify the specific provisions in the regulation that you object to, and the grounds for the objections (40 CFR 178.25). If a hearing is requested, the objections must include a statement of the factual issues(s) on which a hearing is requested, the requestor's contentions on such issues, and a summary of any evidence relied upon by the objector (40 CFR 178.27). Information submitted in connection with an objection or hearing request may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as CBI. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the information 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.

Mail your written request to: Office of the Hearing Clerk (1900), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460. You may also deliver your request to the Office of the Hearing Clerk in Rm. C400, Waterside Mall, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. The Office of the Hearing Clerk is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone

number for the Office of the Hearing Clerk is (202) 260–4865.

2. Tolerance fee payment. If you file an objection or request a hearing, you must also pay the fee prescribed by 40 CFR 180.33(i) or request a waiver of that fee pursuant to 40 CFR 180.33(m). You must mail the fee to: EPA Headquarters Accounting Operations Branch, Office of Pesticide Programs, P.O. Box 360277M, Pittsburgh, PA 15251. Please identify the fee submission by labeling it "Tolerance Petition Fees."

EPA is authorized to waive any fee requirement "when in the judgement of the Administrator such a waiver or refund is equitable and not contrary to the purpose of this subsection." For additional information regarding the waiver of these fees, you may contact James Tompkins by phone at (703) 305–5697, by e-mail at tompkins.jim@epa.gov, or by mailing a request for information to Mr. Tompkins at Registration Division (7505C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

If you would like to request a waiver of the tolerance objection fees, you must mail your request for such a waiver to: James Hollins, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

3. Copies for the Docket. In addition to filing an objection or hearing request with the Hearing Clerk as described in Unit III.A., you should also send a copy of your request to the PIRIB for its inclusion in the official record that is described in Unit I.B.2. Mail your copies, identified by docket control number OPP-2002-0061, to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460. In person or by courier, bring a copy to the location of the PIRIB described in Unit I.B.2. You may also send an electronic copy of your request via e-mail to: oppdocket@epa.gov. Please use an ASCII file format and avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Copies of electronic objections and hearing requests will also be accepted on disks in WordPerfect 6.1/8.0 or ASCII file format. Do not include any CBI in your electronic copy. You may also submit an electronic copy of your request at many Federal Depository Libraries.

B. When Will the Agency Grant a Request for a Hearing?

A request for a hearing will be granted if the Administrator determines that the material submitted shows the following: There is a genuine and substantial issue of fact; there is a reasonable possibility that available evidence identified by the requestor would, if established resolve one or more of such issues in favor of the requestor, taking into account uncontested claims or facts to the contrary; and resolution of the factual issues(s) in the manner sought by the requestor would be adequate to justify the action requested (40 CFR 178.32).

IV. Regulatory Assessment Requirements

This final rule re-establishes a timelimited tolerance under FFDCA section 408. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has exempted these types of actions from review under Executive Order 12866, entitled Regulatory Planning and Review (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993). Because this rule has been exempted from review under Executive Order 12866 due to its lack of significance, this rule is not subject to Executive Order 13211, Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001). This final rule does not contain any information collections subject to OMB approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq., or impose any enforceable duty or contain any unfunded mandate as described under Title II of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA) (Public Law 104–4). Nor does it require any special considerations under Executive Order 12898, entitled Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations (59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994); or OMB review or any Agency action under Executive Order 13045, entitled Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997). This action does not involve any technical standards that would require Agency consideration of voluntary consensus standards pursuant to section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (NTTAA), Public Law 104-113, section

12(d) (15 U.S.C. 272 note). Since tolerances and exemptions that are established on the basis of a FIFRA section 18 petition under FFDCA section 408, such as the tolerance in this final rule, do not require the issuance of a proposed rule, the requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) do not apply. In addition, the Agency has determined that this action will not have a substantial direct effect on States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government, as specified in Executive Order 13132, entitled Federalism (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999). Executive Order 13132 requires EPA to develop an accountable process to ensure "meaningful and timely input by State and local officials in the development of regulatory policies that have federalism implications.' "Policies that have federalism implications" is defined in the Executive order to include regulations that have "substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government." This final rule directly regulates growers, food processors, food handlers and food retailers, not States. This action does not alter the relationships or distribution of power and responsibilities established by Congress in the preemption provisions of FFDCA section 408(n)(4). For these same reasons, the Agency has determined that this rule does not have any "tribal implications" as described in Executive Order 13175, entitled Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments (65 FR 67249, November 6, 2000). Executive Order 13175, requires EPA to develop an accountable process to ensure "meaningful and timely input by tribal officials in the development of regulatory policies that have tribal implications." "Policies that have tribal implications" is defined in the Executive order to include regulations that have "substantial direct effects on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and the Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and

responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes." This rule will not have substantial direct effects on tribal governments, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, as specified in Executive Order 13175. Thus, Executive Order 13175 does not apply to this rule.

V. Submission to Congress and the Comptroller General

The Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. 801 et seq., as added by the Small **Business Regulatory Enforcement** Fairness Act of 1996, generally provides that before a rule may take effect, the agency promulgating the rule must submit a rule report, which includes a copy of the rule, to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. EPA will submit a report containing this rule and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States prior to publication of this final rule in the Federal Register. This final rule is not a "major rule" as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 180

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Agricultural commodities, Pesticides and pests, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: May 16, 2002.

Debra Edwards,

Acting Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

Therefore, 40 CFR chapter I is amended as follows:

PART 180— [AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 180 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 21 U.S.C. 321(q), 346(a) and 374.

§180.516 [Amended]

2. In § 180.516, revise the entry in paragraph (b) for Caneberries to read as follows:

(b) * * *

Commoditiy					Parts per million	Expiration/ revocation date
* Caneberry	*	*	*	*	* 5.0	* 12/31/03
*	*	*	*	*	*	*

[FR Doc. 02–13252 Filed 5–28–02; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 6560–50–S

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 25

[CC Docket 92-297; FCC 01-164]

Redesignate the 27.5–29.5 GHz Frequency Band, To Reallocate the 29.5–30.0 GHz Frequency Band, To Establish Rules and Policies for Local Multipoint Distribution Service and for Fixed Satellite Services

AGENCY: Federal Communications

Commission. **ACTION:** Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued a document disposing of petitions for reconsideration of a previous order that established a frequency-use plan for Ka-Band satellite services. The reconsideration order eliminates a rule provision that restricted eligibility for license authority for uplink transmission in the 29.25–29.5 GHz frequency band and clarifies provisions concerning inter-system coordination in that band.

DATES: Effective May 29, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

William Bell at (202) 418–0741. Internet: bbell@fcc.gov, International Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's Memorandum Opinion and Order in CC Docket No. 92–297, FCC 01–164, adopted May 22, 2001 and released on May 24, 2001. The complete text of this MO&O is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room), 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554, and also may be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Service, Inc. (ITS, Inc.), 1231 20th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 857–3800.

Summary of Memorandum Opinion and Order

Deletion of Repeating-Groundtracks Requirement

In the First Report and Order, 61 FR 39425, July 29, 1996 in Docket No. 92–297, the Commission designated two adjacent frequency bands, 29.1–29.25 GHz and 29.25–29.5 GHz, for feeder uplinks for Mobile Satellite Service

systems using non-geostationary-orbit satellites (*i.e.*, "NGSO/MSS" systems). The Commission also designated the 29.1–29.25 GHz band for hub-to-subscriber transmission by Local Multipoint Distribution Service ("LMDS") systems and the 29.25–29.5 GHz band for uplinks for Fixed Satellite Service systems using geostationary satellites (*i.e.*, "GSO/FSS" systems).

In a petition for reconsideration of the First Report and Order, Motorola Satellite Communications, Inc. asked for deletion of a rule provision, 47 CFR 25.258(c), that limits eligibility for NGSO/MSS feeder uplink assignments in the 29.25–29.5 GHz band to systems whose satellites retrace the same path over the earth's surface on every orbit. Motorola argued that the restriction should be eliminated because it severely constrains system design, is unnecessary for inter-system coordination, and was adopted without adequate prior notice.

The FCC concludes that there is no evidence of record that an NGSO/MSS system must operate with repeating ground tracks in order to coordination with GSO/FSS systems. The FCC therefore decides to eliminate the rule provision in question.

Geographic Separation

A petitioner requested that 47 CFR 25.258(b) be amended to allow GSO FSS licensees to rely on geographic separation for coordination of uplink transmission with NGSO FSS systems. The FCC denies the request because it has concluded that the rule already permits reliance on geographical separation for that purpose.

"Licensed"

A petitioner contended that the word "Licensed" should be stricken from § 25.258(b) because its use in that context might foster an impression that NGSO/MSS licensees need not coordinate with GSO/FSS systems proposed in pending applications. The FCC denies this amendment request. It holds that the petitioner's concern is unwarranted and, in any case, that merely deleting "Licensed" would not change the meaning of the rule provision.

Clarifying Amendments to § 25.258

Several petitioners proposed amendments to 47 CFR 25.258 to make it clear that interference should be minimized with respect to both GSO FSS and NGSO MSS systems and that NGSO applicants should demonstrate the feasibility of sharing with previously-licensed GSO systems that are not yet operational. The FCC agrees

that these proposed changes should be made.

Limits on LMDS Operation

In the First Report and Order the FCC prohibited use of the 29.1-29.25 GHz frequency band for LMDS subscriber-tohub links, but indicated that the limitation might be reconsidered in the future based on evidence that sharing is feasible. A petitioner sought clarification regarding the process that would be used to reach a determination in this regard. The FCC says in the reconsideration order that it sees no reason to prescribe a specific process for making such a determination at this time and that clarification of requirements for fixed service leasing of LMDS spectrum is under consideration in another proceeding.

Final Regulatory Flexibility Certification

The Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980, as amended ("RFA") requires that a regulatory flexibility analysis be prepared for rulemaking proceedings, unless the agency certifies that "the rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities." The RFA generally defines "small entity" as having the same meaning as the terms "small business," "small organization," and "small governmental jurisdiction." In addition, the term "small business" has the same meaning as the term "small business concern" under the Small Business Act. A small business concern is one which: (1) Is independently owned and operated; (2) is not dominant in its field of operation; and (3) satisfies any additional criteria established by the **Small Business Administration** ("SBA").

First, in this Memorandum Opinion and Order we eliminate a rule provision that barred use of the 29.25-29.5 GHz frequency band for transmission from earth stations to non-geostationary-orbit (i.e., "NGSO") satellites that do not trace constant paths over the ground in successive orbits. Any applicant for a license for NGSO uplink transmission in that band is required by other provisions in the Commission's rules to demonstrate that the proposed operation (1) would not interfere with authorized operation in that band by previouslylicensed systems or (2) would be conducted in accordance with coordination agreements with the licensees of such systems. With these protective measures in place, we believe that the elimination of the restriction on use of the 29.25-29.5 GHz frequency band will not have a significant economic impact on any small entities.