



August 3, 2009

Tony Britten, Team Leader
Emergency Response Team
U.S. EPA Office of Pesticide Programs (7505P)
Document Processing Desk (EMEX)
One Potomac Yard, Room S4900
2777 Crystal Drive
Arlington, VA 22202

RE: Section 18 Crisis Exemption – Gramoxone Inteon herbicide, EPA Reg. No. 100-1217

Dear Mr. Britten:

As Secretary of Agriculture, under the provisions of section 18 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, as amended, I am issuing a crisis exemption for the use of Gramoxone Inteon herbicide, EPA Reg. No. 100-1217, active ingredient paraquat dichloride, CAS No. 1910-42-5, manufactured by Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc., P.O. Box 18300, Greensboro, North Carolina, 27419-8300, for use as a harvest aid on hail damaged field corn. This crisis exemption will expire 12:00 p.m. midnight, August 17, 2009. A copy of this letter must be in the possession of the applicator.

Gramoxone Inteon herbicide is currently labeled as a harvest aid for field corn, popcorn and seed corn when applied to mature plants. Mature plants are defined on the label as meaning after the black layer has formed at the base of the kernels. A seven day pre-harvest interval is required. Residue tolerances currently in effect are 3 ppm for corn forage and 10 ppm for corn stover.

The corn crop in several counties in northeastern Iowa received extensive hail and wind damage mid-July. This crisis exemption will be limited to ground application only on 200,000 acres of hail damaged corn. A harvest aid is needed to help dry down high moisture immature corn plants so the remainder of the hail-damaged crop may be salvaged to be used as silage for livestock feed. The plants do not have mature ears or grain. The application rate of 1 to 2 pints per acre with a 7 day pre-harvest interval will be required. All other label use restrictions will be followed for use of Gramoxone Inteon herbicide for a harvest aid in field corn. The earliest anticipated harvest date of treated crop would be August 10, 2009, or seven days following pesticide application.

In discussing this proposed use with Syngenta and EPA, meat and milk from livestock fed the treated hail-damaged immature corn are not expected to exceed currently approved tolerances for paraquat residues. No part of treated crop will be permitted for direct human consumption.

If you need any additional information please contact Chuck Eckermann, Pesticide Bureau Chief, at 515-281-8590 or e-mail chuck.eckermann@iowaAgriculture.gov or FAX 515-242-6497.

Sincerely,

Bill Northey
Secretary of Agriculture

cc: Karey Claghorn
John Whipple

Chuck Eckermann
Mike Owen

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