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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE
PESTICIDES REGULATION DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

May 1, 1970

NOTICE TO MANUFACTURERS, FORMULATORS, DISTRIBUTORS, AND
REGISTRANTS OF ECONOMIC POISONS

Attention: Person Responsible for Federal Registration of
Economic Poisons

Cancellation of 2,4,5-T Products Bearing Certain Directions
for Use

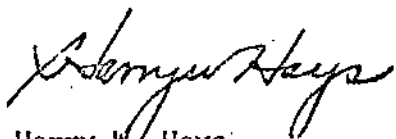
Recent studies by the National Environmental Health Service of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare have shown that the subcutaneous administration of high concentrations of the purest samples of 2,4,5-T that are practical to manufacture at the present time produced a significant number of fetal abnormalities in mice. On April 15, 1970, Secretary of Agriculture Clifford M. Hardin, Secretary of the Interior Walter J. Hickel, and Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare Robert J. Finch announced the suspension of certain uses of 2,4,5-T.

The President's Science Advisory Committee Report in 1963 on "use of pesticides" recommended continuing review of pesticide uses and, after hazard evaluation, restriction or disapproval on a basis of "reasonable doubt" of safety. The Eleventh Report by the Committee on Government Operations (House Report No. 91-637) stated "The Committee recommends that the United States Department of Agriculture take appropriate steps to insure that cancellation proceedings are promptly initiated whenever a reasonable question as to the safety of a registered product becomes apparent."

Since there are no finite tolerances established for the use of 2,4,5-T on food crops intended for human consumption and since women of child bearing age may be exposed to granular material for use around the home, a reasonable doubt exists as to the safety of certain uses of this material and, therefore, whether products registered for these uses are in compliance with the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 135 et seq.). In accordance with the provisions of Section 4.c. of the Act, you are hereby notified that the registration of all products with directions for use as listed below are hereby cancelled effective 30 days following receipt of this notice, unless within such time all directions for such uses are deleted from the labeling of such products or other procedures provided for under Section 4.c. of the Act are invoked:

- I. All granular 2,4,5-T formulations for use around the home, recreation areas and similar sites.
- II. All 2,4,5-T uses on food crops intended for human consumption.

Labeling for products containing 2,4,5-T that can be modified by deleting the above claims should be amended. Five copies of the revised label must be submitted to the Registration Branch, Pesticides Regulation Division, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, for amended registration (PR Form 9-198).



Harry W. Hays
Director