

# Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)

The objective of FIFRA is to provide federal control of pesticide distribution, sale, and use. All pesticides used in the United States must be registered (licensed) by EPA.

July 9, 2013 -- Pesticide Use Reporting & Information Workgroup – F. W. (Rick) Kutz, Ph.D.

# Brief History of FIFRA

- \* First enacted into law in 1947 (primary focus on efficacy)
- \* Initially administered by U.S. Department of Agriculture
- \* Transferred to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency upon its creation (public health and environmental protection) -- Federal Environmental Pesticide Control Act of 1972
- \* Has been amended numerous times; most recently & significantly by the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996
- \* Massive data requirements – Company provides data & pays fee
- \* Pesticides registered and regulated by use
- \* Some regulatory responsibilities delegated to States

# Hazard & Benefit Assessments under FIFRA

- \* Risk Assessment
  - \* Health Effects
  - \* Environmental Effects
- \* Exposure Assessment
  - \* Monitoring Studies
- \* Benefit Analyses
  - \* Economic Determinations
  - \* Viability of Alternatives

“Pesticide use must provide more benefits than risks”  
or in current terms

“EPA must find that a pesticides poses a "reasonable  
certainty of no harm" before that pesticide can be registered  
for use on food or feed”

# Summary of FIFRA

- \* **Overview:** properly labeled pesticides, if used in accordance with specifications, will not cause unreasonable harm to public health or the environment
- \* Tolerances and Exemptions (Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act)
- \* Registration of New Pesticides
- \* Special Local Needs (24(c)) Registrations
- \* Emergency Exemption From Registrations (Section 18)
- \* Restricted-Use Classification and Certification of Applicators
- \* Reregistration of Pesticides
- \* Labeling Requirements
- \* Worker Protection Standards for Agricultural Pesticides
- \* Cancellation and Suspension of Pesticide Registrations
- \* Pesticide Imports and Exports
- \* Registration of Pesticide-Producing Establishments
- \* Plant Incorporated Protectant Rule
- \* Pesticide Container and Containment Rule

# How Is EPA Organized to Administer FIFRA?

## Office of Pesticide Programs Organizational Chart



# FIFRA Regulation – An Open Process

## **OPPT Comments**

Comments directed at EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs can be sent:

▶ *By mail* to the Document Control Office (7407M), OPPT, EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20460-0001

▶ *In person or by courier* to OPPT Document Control Office (DCO), EPA East Building, Room 6428, 1201 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C.

▶ *Electronically* via the Internet at: [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

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