

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

MAR 26 2012

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF: LC-8J

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL.</u> Receipt No.7009 1680 0000 7672 1165

Nufarm Americas Inc.
ATTN: Tom Lyons
150 Harvester Drive, Suite 200
Burr Ridge, Illinois 60527

Consent Agreement and Final Order
Nufarm Americas Inc. Docket No. FIFRA-05-2012-0006

Dear Mr. Lyons:

Enclosed pleased find a copy of a fully executed Consent Agreement and Final Order, in resolution of the above case. This document was filed on March 26, 2012, with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

The civil penalty in the amount of \$22,500 is to be paid in the manner described in paragraphs 62 and 63. Please be certain that the number <u>BD 2751245P005</u> and the docket number are written on both the transmittal letter and on the check. Payment is due by April 25, 2012 (within 30 calendar days of the filing date)

Thank you for your cooperation in resolving this matter.

Sincerely,

Estrella Calvo

Pesticides and Toxics Compliance Section

Enclosures



REGIONAL HEARING CLERK U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 5

In the Matter of:) .	Docket No. FIFRA-05-2012-0006
Nufarm Americas Inc.	j.	Proceeding to Assess a Civil Penalty
Burr Ridge, Illinois	j	Under Section 14(a) of the Federal
	j.	Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide
Respondent.)	Act, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a)
		,

Consent Agreement and Final Order

Preliminary Statement

- 1. This is an administrative action commenced and concluded under Section 14(a) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a), and Sections 22.13(b) and 22.18(b)(2) and (3) of the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits (Consolidated Rules) as codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 22.
- The Complainant is the Director of the Land and Chemicals Division,
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5.
- 3. Respondent is Nufarm Americas Inc., a corporation doing business at 150 Harvester Drive, Suite 200, Burr Ridge, Illinois 60527.
- 4. Where the parties agree to settle one or more causes of action before the filing of a complaint, the administrative action may be commenced and concluded simultaneously by the issuance of a consent agreement and final order (CAFO). 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b).
- 5. The parties agree that settling this action without the filing of a complaint or the adjudication of any issue of fact or law is in their interest and in the public interest.

6. Respondent consents to the assessment of the civil penalty specified in this CAFO, and to the terms of this CAFO.

Jurisdiction and Waiver of Right to Hearing

- 7. Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations in this CAFO and neither admits nor denies the factual allegations in this CAFO.
- 8. Respondent waives its right to request a hearing as provided at 40 C.F.R. § 22.15(c), any right to contest the allegations in this CAFO, and its right to appeal this CAFO.
 - 9. Respondent certifies that it is complying with FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. §§ 136 to 136y.

Statutory and Regulatory Background

- 10. The importation of pesticides into the United States is governed by Section 17(c) and (e) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. §§ 1360(c) and 1360(e), and the regulations promulgated thereunder by the Secretary of the Treasury in consultation with the Administrator of the EPA (the Administrator). These regulations are found at 19 C.F.R. Part 12.
- 11. 19 C.F.R. § 12.112 states, in pertinent part, that an importer desiring to import pesticides into the United States shall submit to the Administrator a Notice of Arrival of Pesticides or Devices (NOA) (EPA form 3540-1), prior to the arrival of the shipment to the United States. See also Section 17(c) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 1360(c).
- 12. Section 12(a)(1)(E) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(E), states that it is unlawful for any person in any State to distribute or sell to any person a pesticide which is adulterated or misbranded.
- 13. Section 2(q)(1)(A) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(q)(1)(A), defines a pesticide as "misbranded" if its labeling bears any statement, design, or graphic representation relative thereto or to its ingredients which is false or misleading in any particular.

- 14. Section 12(a)(1)(B) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(B), states that it is unlawful for any person in any state to distribute or sell to any person any registered pesticide if any claims made for it as a part of its distribution or sale substantially differ from any claims made for it as a part of the statement required in connection with its registration under Section 3 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136a.
- 15. Section 2(gg) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(gg), defines the term "distribute or sell" to mean to distribute, sell, offer for sale, hold for distribution, hold for sale, hold for shipment, ship, deliver for shipment, release for shipment, or receive and (having so received) deliver or offer to deliver.
- 16. Section 2(t) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(t), defines a "pest" as any insect, rodent, nematode, fungus, weed, or any other form of terrestrial or aquatic plant or animal life or virus, bacteria, or other microorganism (except viruses, bacteria, or other living microorganisms on or in living man or other living animals) which the Administrator declares to be a pest under Section 25(c)(1) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136w(c)(1).
- 17. Section 2(u) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(u), defines a "pesticide" as any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.
- 18. Section 2(s) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(s), defines a "person" as any individual, partnership, association, corporation, or any organized group of persons whether incorporated or not.
- 19. 40 C.F.R. § 156.140, which became effective on August 16, 2011, states, in pertinent part, that for products other than plant-incorporated protectants, the following statements, as applicable, must be placed on the label or container:
 - (a) Nonrefillable container. For non-refillable containers, the statements in

paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(4) of 40 C.F.R. § 156.140 are required.

- (a)(1) Statement identifying a nonrefillable container. The following phrase is required: "Nonrefillable container."
- (a)(2) Reuse statement. One of the following statements is required.
 - (a)(2)(i) "Do not use or refill this container."
 - (a)(2)(ii) "Do not reuse this container to hold materials other than pesticides or dilute pesticides (rinsate). After emptying and cleaning, it may be allowable to temporarily hold rinsate or other pesticide-related materials in the container. Contact your state regulatory agency to determine allowable practices in your state."
 - (a)(2)(iii) The following statement may be used if a product is "ready to use" and its directions for use allow a different product (that is similar, but concentrated formulation) to be poured into the container and diluted by the end user: "Do not reuse or refill this container unless the directions for use allow a different (concentrated) product to be diluted in the container."
- (a)(3) Recycling or reconditioning statement. One of the following statements is required:
 - (a)(3)(i) "Offer for recycling if available."
 - (a)(3)(ii) "Once cleaned, some agricultural plastic pesticide containers can be taken to a container collection site or picked up for recycling. To find the nearest site, contact your chemical dealer or manufacturer or contact [a pesticide container recycling organization] at [phone number]

or [web site]."

- (a)(3)(iii) A recycling statement approved by EPA and published in an EPA document, such as a Pesticide Registration Notice.
- (a)(3)(iv) An alternative recycling statement that has been reviewed and approved by EPA.
- (a)(3)(v) "Offer for reconditioning if appropriate."
- (a)(4) Batch Code. A lot number, or other code used by the registrant or producer to identify the batch of the pesticide product which is distributed and sold is required.
- (b) Refillable container. For refillable containers, one of the following statements is required.
 - (b)(1) "Refillable Container. Refill this container with pesticide only. Do not reuse this container for any other purpose.
 - (b)(2) "Refillable Container. Refill this container with [common chemical name] only. Do not reuse this container for any other purpose."
- 20. The Administrator of EPA may assess a civil penalty against any registrant or other distributor who violates any provision of FIFRA of up to \$7,500 for each offense that occurred after January 12, 2009 pursuant to Section 14(a)(1) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136*l*(a)(1), and 40 C.F.R. Part 19.

Factual Allegations and Alleged Violations

- 21. Respondent is, and was at all times relevant to this Complaint, a corporation and, therefore, is a "person" as that term is defined in Section 2(s) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(s).
 - 22. On or about February 9, 2012, World Commerce Services, Inc., located at 2551

Allan Drive, Elk Grove Village, Illinois 60007 was the broker/agent for Respondent for import shipments under entry numbers BEA-9502054-7, BEA-9502055-4 and BEA-9501805-3.

- 23. On or about February 9, 2012, Respondent submitted a NOA to EPA for an import shipment of the product "Bromoxynil Mixed Ester," EPA Registration Number (EPA Reg. No.) 264-533, from the United Kingdom under entry numbers BEA-9502054-7.
- 24. On or about February 9, 2012, Respondent submitted a NOA to EPA for an import shipment of the product "Bromoxynil Octanoate," EPA Reg. No. 264-442, from the United Kingdom under entry number BEA-9502055-4.
- 25. On or about February 13, 2012, Respondent submitted a NOA to EPA for an import shipment of the product "Triclopyr Bee Technical," EPA Reg. No. 42750-174, from India under entry number BEA-9501805-3.
- 26. The importer of record listed on the three NOAs for the shipments under entry numbers BEA-9502054-7, BEA-9502055-4 and BEA-9501805-3 was Nufarm Americas Inc.
- 27. Respondent, as the importer of record of pesticide products, and by doing business in the United States, is subject to the requirements of FIFRA and the regulations promulgated thereunder.
- 28. "Bromoxynil Mixed Ester," "Bromoxynil Octanoate," and "Triclopyr Bee Technical" are registered pesticides, as defined in Section 2(u) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(u).

Bromoxynil Mixed Ester – EPA Reg. No. 264-533

- 29. On or about February 14, 2012, a shipment of "Bromoxynil Mixed Ester" entered into the United States at the Chicago, Illinois port of entry.
 - 30. On or about February 14, 2012, Respondent distributed or sold the pesticide product

"Bromoxynil Mixed Ester," as those terms are defined in 2(gg) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(gg).

- 31. The labels on the shipments of "Bromoxynil Mixed Ester" that entered into the United States on or about February 14, 2012 were false or misleading because some information contained on the affixed label conflicted with the EPA accepted label dated August 10, 2010.
- 32. In particular, each drum of "Bromoxynil Mixed Ester" had an international label affixed to it that included the signal word "danger."
- 33. The EPA accepted label dated August 10, 2010, requires the product label to include the signal word "warning."
 - 34. The international label also included the following language: "Toxic if swallowed."
- 35. The August 10, 2010, accepted label requires the product label to include the following language: "May be fatal if swallowed."
- 36. Additionally, labels affixed to the drums of "Bromoxynil Mixed Ester" contained statements for both refillable and nonrefillable containers.
- 37. 40 C.F.R. § 156.140 requires container labeling statements to be placed on the label or container as applicable.

Bromoxynil Octanoate - EPA Reg. No. 264-442

- 38. On or about February 14, 2012, a shipment of "Bromoxynil Octanoate" entered into the United States at the Chicago, Illinois port of entry.
- 39. On or about February 14, 2012, Respondent distributed or sold the pesticide product "Bromoxynil Octanoate," as those terms are defined in 2(gg) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(gg).
- 40. Each drum of "Bromoxynil Octanoate" had an international label affixed to it that included the signal word "danger."
 - 41. The labels on the shipments of "Bromoxynil Octanoate" that entered into the United

States on or about February 14, 2012 were false or misleading because some information contained on the affixed label conflicted with the EPA accepted label dated October 6, 2010.

- 42. In particular, the EPA accepted label dated October 6, 2010, requires the product label to include the signal word "warning."
 - 43. The international label also included the following language: "Toxic if swallowed."
- 44. The October 6, 2010, accepted label requires the product label to include the following language: "May be fatal if swallowed."
- 45. Additionally, labels affixed to the drums of "Bromoxynil Octanoate" contained statements for both refillable and nonrefillable containers.
- 46. 40 C.F.R. § 156.140 requires container labeling statements to be placed on the label or container as applicable.

Triclopyr Bee Technical – EPA Reg. No. 42750-174

- 47. On or about February 15, 2012, one shipment of "Triclopyr Bee Technical" entered into the United States at the Chicago, Illinois port of entry.
- 48. On or about February 15, 2012, Respondent distributed or sold the pesticide product "Triclopyr Bee Technical," as those terms are defined in 2(gg) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(gg).
- 49. The label on the shipment of "Triclopyr Bee Technical" that entered into the United States on or about February 15, 2012 had claims on its label that substantially differed from claims made for it as a part of the statement required in connection with its registration under Section 3 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136a in violation of Section 12(a)(1)(B) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(B).
 - 50. The label affixed to bags of "Triclopyr Bee Technical" did not contain the applicable

container labeling statements as required by 40 C.F.R. § 156.140, which became effective on August 16, 2011.

Specific Allegations

Count 1

- 51. Complainant incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs1 through 50 of this Complaint.
- 52. On or about February 14, 2012, Respondent distributed or sold the pesticide product "Bromoxynil Mixed Ester," which constitutes an unlawful act, in violation of Section 12(a)(1)(E) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(E).
- 53. Respondent's violation of Section 12(a)(1)(E) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(E), subjects Respondent to the issuance of an Administrative Complaint assessing a civil penalty under Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a).

Count 2

- 54. Complainant incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs1 through 50 of this Complaint.
- 55. On or about February 14, 2012, Respondent distributed or sold the pesticide product "Bromoxynil Octanoate," which constitutes an unlawful act, each in violation of Section 12(a)(1)(E) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(E).
- 56. Respondent's violation of Section 12(a)(1)(E) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(E), subjects Respondent to the issuance of an Administrative Complaint assessing a civil penalty under Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a).

Count 3

57. Complainant incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs

1 through 50 of this Complaint.

- 58. On or about February 15, 2012, Respondent distributed or sold the pesticide product "Triclopyr Bee Technical," in violation of Section 12(a)(1)(B) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(B).
- 59. Respondent's violation of Section 12(a)(1)(B) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(B), subjects Respondent to the issuance of an Administrative Complaint assessing a civil penalty under Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a).

Civil Penalty And Other Relief

- 60. Section 14(a)(4) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. §136l(4), requires the Administrator to consider the size of the business of the person charged, the effect on the person's ability to continue in business, and the gravity of the violation, when assessing an administrative penalty under FIFRA.
- 61. Based on an evaluation of the facts alleged in this complaint, the factors in Section 14(a)(4) of FIFRA and EPA's Enforcement Response Policy for the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, dated December 2009, Complainant has determined the appropriate penalty to settle this action is \$22,500.
- 62. Within 30 days after the effective date of this CAFO, Respondent must pay a \$22,500 civil penalty for the FIFRA violations. Respondent must pay the penalty by sending a cashier's or certified check, payable to the "Treasurer, United States of America," to:

U.S. EPA Fines and Penalties Cincinnati Finance Center P.O. Box 979077 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

The check must note "In the Matter of Nufarm Americas Inc.," the docket number of this CAFO

and the billing document (BD) number.

63. A transmittal letter, stating, Respondent's name, the case title, Respondent's complete address, the case docket number and the BD number must accompany the payment. Respondent must send a copy of the check and transmittal letter to:

Regional Hearing Clerk (E-19J) U.S. EPA, Region 5 77 West Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604

Estrella Calvo (LC-8J)
Pesticides and Toxics Compliance Section
U.S. EPA, Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Nidhi O'Meara (C-14J) Office of Regional Counsel U.S. EPA, Region 5 77 West Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604

- 64. This civil penalty is not deductible for federal tax purposes.
- 65. If Respondent does not pay the civil penalty in a timely manner, EPA may refer the matter to the Attorney General who will recover such amount by action in the appropriate United States district court under Section 14(a)(5) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a)(5). The validity, amount and appropriateness of the civil penalty are not reviewable in a collection action.
- 66. Pursuant to 31 C.F.R. § 901.9, Respondent must pay the following on any amount overdue under this CAFO. Interest will accrue on any amount overdue from the date payment was due at a rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury. Respondent must pay a \$15 handling charge each month that any portion of the penalty is more than 30 days past due. In addition, Respondent must pay a 6 percent per year penalty on any principal

amount 90 days past due.

- 67. Respondent will relabel all violative pesticide product identified, above, as required by FIFRA before the product can be further distributed or sold.
- 68. Respondent agrees to prepare and implement a Compliance Plan. The purpose of the Compliance Plan is to prevent or eliminate all future violations of Sections 12(a)(1)(B) and 12(a)(1)(E) of FIFRA. A copy of the Compliance Plan will be provided to EPA within 30 days after the effective date of this CAFO.

General Provisions

- 69. This CAFO resolves only Respondent's liability for federal civil penalties for the violations and facts alleged in the CAFO.
- 70. This CAFO does not affect the right of EPA or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violations of law.
- 71. This CAFO does not affect Respondent's responsibility to comply with FIFRA and other applicable federal, state, and local laws.
- 72. This CAFO is a "final order" for purposes of EPA's Enforcement Response Policy for FIFRA.
 - 73. The terms of this CAFO bind Respondent, its successors, and assigns.
- 74. Each person signing this agreement certifies that he or she has the authority to sign for the party whom he or she represents and to bind that party to its terms.
 - 75. Each party agrees to bear its own costs and attorney's fees, in this action.
 - 76. This CAFO constitutes the entire agreement between the parties.

In the Matter of: Nufarm Americas Inc.

Nufarm Americas Inc., Respondent

3/14/12

Date

Tom Lyons

Executive Vice President Nufarm Americas Inc.

In the Matter of: Nufarm Americas Inc.

United States Environmental Protection Agency, Complainant

Sof Margaret M. Guerriero Director

Land and Chemicals Division



REGIONAL HEARING CLERK U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

In the Matter of: Nufarm Americas Inc. Docket No. FIFRA-05-2012-0006

Final Order

This Consent Agreement and Final Order, as agreed to by the parties, shall become effective immediately upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk. This Final Order concludes this proceeding pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.18 and 22.31. IT IS SO ORDERED.

3-26-12 Date:

Susan Hedman

Regional Administrator

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Region 5

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the original signed copy of the Consent Agreement and Final Order in the resolution of the civil administrative action involving Nufarm Americas Inc., was filed on March 26, 2012 with the Regional Hearing Clerk (E-19J), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, 60604, and that I mailed by Certified Mail, Receipt No.7009 1680 0000 7672 1165, a copy of the original to the Respondent:

Nufarm Americas Inc. ATTN: Tom Lyons 150 Harvester Drive, Suite 200 Burr Ridge, Illinois 60527

MAR 26 2012

REGIONAL HEARING CLERK
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY

and forwarded copies (intra-Agency) to:

Marcy Toney, Regional Judicial Officer, ORC/C-14J Nidhi O'Meara, Regional Judicial Officer, ORC/C-14J Eric Volck, Cincinnati Finance/MWD

Frederick Brown

Pesticides and Toxics Compliance Section

U.S. EPA - Region 5

77 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, Illinois 60604

Docket No. FIFRA-05-2012-0006