

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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OFFICE OF
PESTICIDES AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Proposed use of a blend of technical DEET from four producers in Toxicology Test Program

FROM: Whang Phang, Pharmacologist
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TO: Timothy Gardner, PM (17)
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THRU: Alan Katz, Toxicologist
Acting Head, Section III *Alan Katz 3/26/86*
and
Theodore Farber, Ph. D.
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Chemical: N,N-Diethyl-m-toluamide (DEET)

Caswell No.: 346

EPA I.D. No. : CSMA-DEET

Company: Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association

Action Requested: Respond to the Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association (CSMA) regarding the selection of a technical chemical to be used in the Toxicological testing of DEET.

Background: DEET is a common name for N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide, which is a multi-purpose insect repellent registered for direct application to human skin, clothing, household pets, tents, and screens. The toxicological data base concerning DEET is incomplete, particularly in the area of chronic studies. A complete toxicological data base is necessary to better assess the health effects of DEET. The CSMA has submitted some information on the chemical composition of technical DEET from four different producers. In addition, the CSMA proposed to use a blend of these four sources of technical DEET as the material for testing.

Conclusion: The proposed use of a blend (1:1:1:1) of the four available sources of technical DEET as the material for toxicological studies is acceptable.