

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

8-8-89

Shaughnessy No: 080803

Date Out of EFGWB: AUG 8 1989

TO: Robert J. Taylor/Cynthia Giles
Product Manager #25
Registration Division (H7505C)

FROM: Emil Regelman, Supervisory Chemist
Environmental Chemistry Review Section #2
Environmental Fate and Ground Water Branch, EFED (H7507C)

THRU: Henry M. Jacoby, Acting Chief
Environmental Fate and Ground Water Branch/EFED (H7507C)

Attached, please find the EFGWB review of:

Reg./File #: 127

Common Name: Atrazine

Chemical Name: 2-Chloro-ethylamino-6-isopropyl-s-triazine

Type product: Herbicide

Product Name: AATRAEX

Company Name: Ciba-Geigy Corporation

Purpose: Respond (for RD records) letter from registrant reporting findings of atrazine in ground water.

Date Received: 7/11/89 Action Code: 350

Date Completed: 8/3/89 EFGWB #(s): 90675

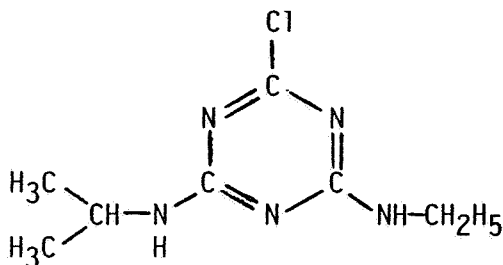
Total Reviewing Time (decimal days): 0.1 day

- Deferrals to: _____ Ecological Effects Branch, EFED
- _____ Science Integration & Policy Staff, EFED
- _____ Non-Dietary Exposure Branch, HED
- _____ Dietary Exposure Branch, HED
- _____ Toxicology Branch, HED

1. CHEMICAL:

Chemical name: 2-chloro-4-ethylamino-6-isopropylamino-s-triazine
Chemical Abstracts #: 1912-24-9
Common name: ATRAZINE

Structure:



Physical state: powder
Color: white
Odor: odorless
Melting point: 175-177°C
Boiling point: not applicable
Vapor pressure: 3.0×10^{-7} mmHg at 20°C
Density: 1.19 gcm⁻³ at 20°C
Solubility at 20°C:

Water.....	33 ppm
Chloroform.....	5.2%
Diethyl ether.....	1.3%
Ethyl acetate.....	1.8%
n-pentane.....	0.04%

2. TEST MATERIAL: N/A.

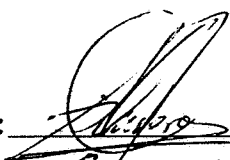
3. STUDY/ACTION TYPE: Response (for RD records) to letter reporting findings of ATRAZINE in ground water.

4. STUDY IDENTIFICATION:

- Letter of K.S. Stumpf (Regulatory Affairs, Ciba-Geigy Corporation) reporting findings of Ciba-Geigy's chemicals (including atrazine) in ground water. Letter is dated 7/6/89.
Copy of this letter is attached.

5. REVIEWED BY:

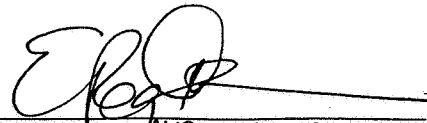
Silvia C. Termes
Chemist, Review Section #2
OPP/HED/EAB

Signature: 

Date: August 3, 1989

6. APPROVED BY:

Emil Regelman
Supervisory Chemist
Review Section #2
OPP/HED/EAB

Signature: 
Date: AUG 8 1989

7. CONCLUSIONS:

Ciba-Geigy has informed the Agency that residues of several of their chemicals (in addition to others) were found in wells surrounding a dealer location in Illinois. There is no official report to date as to the levels of these residues. The Company has requested this information twice, but have not received the information. Because of the lack of details, the Company has considered that it is premature to report the names of the chemicals or the levels found (the Company had obtained the information via the telephone).

Ciba-Geigy has also informed the Agency that it has obtained copies of reports that indicate findings of various chemicals in ongoing monitoring studies:

a. Washington Department of Ecology - Pilot Study on Agricultural Chemicals in Selected Ground Water Areas of Washington

Atrazine.....One detection (Yakima County Study Area).....0.4 ppb
(level below Lifetime Health Advisory (LHA) and the Proposed Maximum Contaminant Level (PMCL))

Prometon.....Detected twice (Whatcom county Study Area)....0.05-06 ppb
(levels below LHA and PMCL)

b. State of Hawaii, Department of Agriculture- Report to the Fifteenth Legislature, 1989 Regular Session in Response to Section 46C of the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1988.

Ametryn.....Extremely high levels found at a mixing and loading location for a sugar[cane] plantation

Atrazine.....Many of the detections were said to be below the LHA, but others were rather high.

Detections of chemicals other than Ciba-Geigy's are said to be reported in this document.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS:

The registrant should be informed that the Branch has received a copy of the letter reporting findings of atrazine and other Ciba-Geigy's chemicals in ground water. A copy of the letter will be given to the Ground Water Section for their information.

EFGWB recommends that the Agency be notified (in writing) of the findings in Illinois as soon as the Company receives the official report.

The Agency is also requesting that the registrant sends a copy of the report from the State of Washington. However, the Agency will request a copy of the report from the State of Hawaii directly from the Department of Agriculture in this State since chemicals other than Ciba-Geigy's were detected.

CIBA-GEIGY

Cultural Division
CIBA-GEIGY Corporation
P.O. Box 18300
Greensboro, North Carolina 27419
Telephone 919 292 7100

CERTIFIED MAIL

July 6, 1989

Mr. Robert J. Taylor
Product Manager (25)
Registration Division (H7505C)
Office of Pesticide Programs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
401 M. Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Mr. Taylor:

SUBJECT: REPORTS OF FINDINGS IN GROUNDWATER

Recently, CIBA-GEIGY has received several reports of findings of its chemicals in groundwater. In Illinois, it was learned that residues of several of our chemicals in addition to others were found in wells surrounding a dealer location. To this date, we have no official report regarding the levels of the findings. We have requested this information from Illinois on two occasions, but have not received it as yet. Until such time as we do receive the details of these findings, we feel it premature to report the names of the chemicals or reported findings which were obtained via the telephone.

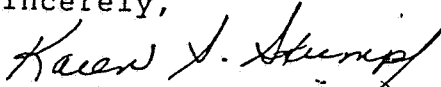
In addition, CIBA-GEIGY has obtained copies of the following reports which indicate findings of various chemicals in ongoing monitoring studies:

From the Washington Department of Ecology - Pilot Study on Agricultural Chemicals in Selected Ground Water Areas of Washington. In this study atrazine was detected once in the Yakima County Study Area at a level of 0.4 ppb, which is below the Lifetime Health Advisory (LHA) and the Proposed Maximum Contaminant Level (PMCL). Prometon was detected twice in the Whatcom County Study Area at levels of 0.05-0.06 ppb, also below the LHA and PMCL's.

From the State of Hawaii, Department of Agriculture - Report to the Fifteenth Legislature, 1989 Regular Session in Response To Section 46C of the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1988. In this study detections of atrazine and ametryn were reported.

An extremely high level of ametryn was found at site 1 which was a mixing and loading location for a sugar plantation. The sample was collected near the area where pesticides were mixed before application. Many of the detections for atrazine were below the LHA, however some were rather high. Because chemical detections are reported in this document for chemicals other than CIBA-GEIGY's, it is recommended that the Agency request a copy of this report for its use.

Sincerely,



Karen S. Stumpf
Senior Regulatory Specialist
Regulatory Affairs

