

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



SHAUGHNESSEY NO.
098301

REVIEW NO.

EEB BRANCH REVIEW

DATE: IN 6-28-84 OUT 05 JUL 1984

FILE OR REG. NO. 264-000

PETITION OR EXP. PERMIT NO.

DATE OF SUBMISSION 4-28-84

DATE RECEIVED BY HED 6-26-84

RD REQUESTED COMPLETION DATE 7-26-84

EEB ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE 7-22-84

RD ACTION CODE/TYPE OF REVIEW 420/General Correspondence

TYPE PRODUCT(S): I, D, H, F, N, R, S Insecticide

DATA ACCESSION NO(S).

PRODUCT MANAGER NO. J. Ellenberger (12)

PRODUCT NAME(S) Aldicarb (Temik)

COMPANY NAME

SUBMISSION PURPOSE Letter from beekeeper concerning alleged
bee losses from use of aldicarb in citrus

SHAUGHNESSEY NO.	CHEMICAL, & FORMULATION	% A.I.
098301	Aldicarb (Temik)	

0 5 JUL 1984

MEMORANDUM

To: Judy Loranger, PMT-12
Insecticide/Rodenticide Branch
Registration Division (TS-767)

Thru: Clayton Bushong, Chief
Ecological Effects Branch
Hazard Evaluation Division (TS-769)

Subject: Response to letter from [REDACTED] re.
aldicarb

Bees

Based on review of bee toxicity studies and aldicarb labels in EEB files, I would say it is highly unlikely that aldicarb caused this woman's bee problems. First, tests in citrus at twice the maximum label rate resulted in Temik being found in the nectar of blossoms at 20-25 days post-treatment, but only at levels which were moderately toxic to bees for a few days. Second, the Temik label specifies one application per year. These are not the kind of factors that contribute to large-scale colony destruction, which is what [REDACTED] is writing about.

I discussed this matter with a bee researcher at the University of Florida. He agreed that aldicarb is probably not to blame, but told me that there has been a lot of adverse publicity on Temik due to other concerns (e.g., groundwater contamination.) He was aware that beekeepers in that area have had some problems, but indicated that the University's investigations have failed to determine the cause to date.

Fish and Wildlife

I reviewed the EEB file on aldicarb and came up with the following information.

- Moderately to very highly toxic to waterfowl; highly toxic to upland game birds; hazard to birds is greatest when granules are on soil surface, due to spillage or incomplete incorporation; has been cited in a number of bird kill incidents.

TS-769:VaughanA:ph:Rm.1102:557-7600:7/02/84

PRIVACY ACT DATA IS NOT INCLUDED

- Very highly toxic to freshwater fish, freshwater invertebrates, and estuarine/marine organisms; however, we do not have enough fate data to determine whether aldicarb levels in aquatic environments will be hazardous to aquatic organisms.
- Highly toxic to mammals; however, hazard mitigated to some degree due to limited exposure from a dietary standpoint; no reported incidents to date.

Allen W. Vaughan
Entomologist
Ecological Effects Branch

cc: N. Cook

When you your 1102...

[Redacted]
Vero Beach, Fl. 32960
[Redacted]

April 28, 1984

U. S. EPA
Office of Pesticide Program
401 Main Street
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Sir:

I am a Beekeeper in Indian River County, Vero Beach, Fl. I live here.

I have a problem "Temik" another name Aldicarb. Last year and this year I have had heavy bee kills during March, and April, and a large loss of honey due to the kill.

I maintain a 1000 colonies of bees, and 1500 queen nuc. On a normal year on citrus I should produce 200 drums of Orange Blossom Honey or 130,000 lbs.. In 1983 I produced 29 drums or 18,550 lbs of Orange blossom Honey. This year I will be lucky to produce 50 drums. This Certainly won't buy feed for bees, gas to work bees, labor, equipment, and feed my family.

In 1983 a 1/4 of my colonies didn't survive the kill.

This year started out good, the bees were strong and producing honey. Suddenly bees weren't covering their brood. They stopped making honey when there was plenty of blossom on the trees. I talked to grove caretakers, and acquired literature on Temik. I found out that anything in the grove will die, Temik is highly toxic. Temik (Aldicarb) not only kills bees it kills rabbits, fish, birds, and groveworkers are in danger to this chemical.

Bees won't stop to read signs, neither will dogs, cows, horses, cats, and certainly not children.

Please ban Temik (Aldicarb)!

I need a response from you please. Thank You.

[Redacted]

PS. As you can tell I am just a beekeeper .

PRIVACY ACT DATA IS NOT INCLUDED