US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

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

May 19, 1994

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Review of Metolachlor Preliminary Characterization Data

FROM: Kevin Costello
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THROUGH: Elizabeth Behl, Section Head
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TO: Jane Mitchell
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The sites described in CIBA's "Preliminary Site Review for Metolachlor Groundwater Study Sites" are acceptable for more detailed characterization, based on the data provided. As stated by CIBA in that document, EFGWB cannot make a final decision on site acceptability until a detailed study protocol, with the final site characterization report, is reviewed and approved.

The more detailed site characterization will need to answer several questions:

- The Macon County, GA site (RO1), has a sandy clay loam horizon seen at around 15 feet. It is necessary to better determine the extent of this layer, and the range in clay and silt contents, to be sure it does not constitute a much less permeable layer than the loamy sand above;

- The source of the irrigation water for each site must be described. It must be shown that the existing well to be used in Wisconsin, and the well that will be installed in Georgia, will not greatly affect the ground water flow in the vicinity

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of the study fields.

EFGWB has recently completed its recommendations for the metolachlor Reregistration Eligibility Document (RED). There are serious concerns regarding the leaching potential of metolachlor. EFGWB would welcome the opportunity to discuss these recommendations with SRRD.