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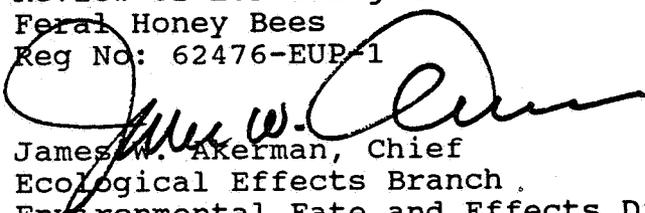
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF
PESTICIDES AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES

MEMORANDUM

January 23, 1990

SUBJECT: Review of EUP using Avermectin to Control
Feral Honey Bees
Reg No: 62476-EUP-1

FROM:  James W. Akerman, Chief
Ecological Effects Branch
Environmental Fate and Effects Division H7507C

TO: George LaRocca PM 15
Insecticide/Rodenticide Branch
Registration Division H7505C

The USDA has proposed to experimentally use Avermectin as a control of feral honey bees. The EEB commented previously on this issue in a memorandum dated 9-08-89 in which we were asked if the proposed experimental use warranted an EUP. In that memorandum, EEB concluded that such an experiment would likely result in minimal effects to nontarget organisms, and would not be expected to affect endangered species. The Registration Division approved the experimental application in a December 27, 1989 letter to the USDA. In this action, USDA is providing further description of the experimental use.

The location is 10 miles north of Raymondville, Kenedy County, Texas. The total amount of Avermectin used during this experiment would be no more than 1.8 grams. No more than 0.1 gram ai/acre would be released into the environment. The avermectin is applied as a paste to the individual drone bees after they are captured in a net trap. The application will be from April through May, 1990.

After review of the details of the experimental use program, the EEB concurs with their previous conclusion and determines that this use will have minimal effects on nontarget organisms, and is not likely to affect endangered species. If you have questions, please contact Dan Rieder (557-1451).