



PPC

PESTICIDE POLICY COALITION
A Coalition Working for Sound Pest Management Policies

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PESTICIDES MEET TOUGH NEW FOOD SAFETY STANDARDS

Washington, D.C.,- Americans today can be reassured that the food their families eat meet the highest and strictest health and safety standards. The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) successful assessment of pesticides clearly demonstrates that Americans enjoy the safest and most abundant food supply in the world.

On Aug. 3, 2006, EPA will complete a 10-year review of 231 food use pesticides under the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA), passed in 1996, that implemented these standards.

"Food safety standards established by FQPA recognize the benefits of pesticide use in food production but also guarantee those pesticides have wide margins of safety designed to protect human health and the environment," said Rebeckah Freeman Adcock, Chair of the Pesticide Policy Coalition. "Consumers can be confident that our currently registered pesticides meet those standards," she said.

EPA's review of pesticides has also assured the safe use of products on turf, in landscapes, nurseries and around the home. These pesticides protect structures, golf courses, parks and homes from devastating pests and disease. Included in EPA's review are critical public health pesticides that help to prevent the spread of dangerous diseases such as Lyme disease, West Nile Virus, and malaria.

EPA worked with stakeholders to implement the new law through numerous advisory committees and public comment opportunities. The high degree of stakeholder involvement improved the process and implementation of FQPA. "While we certainly didn't agree with all of EPA's decisions over the past ten years, the transparency of the process has never been greater," said Adcock.

Tremendous amounts of new data and enhanced risk assessment methodologies were developed in response to FQPA's requirements. EPA made great strides in assuring that pesticides were evaluated based on scientific data rather than worst-case assumptions. The success of FQPA demonstrates that consumers and producers benefit when government agencies evaluate risks transparently using the best available science.

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The Pesticide Policy Coalition (PPC) represents food, agriculture, pest management and related organizations that support transparent, fair and science-based regulation of pest management. The PPC members include: nationwide and regional farm, commodity, specialty crop, and silviculture organizations; cooperatives; food processors and marketers; pesticide manufacturers; pest- and vector-control operators; research organizations; and other interested parties. The PPC serves as a forum for the review, discussion, development and advocacy of pest management policies and issues important to our members. (www.pesticidepolicy.org)