

November 28, 1980

LABEL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:
DELETION OF SALT WATER EMESIS STATEMENTS

The Notice states:

This Notice requires that registrants of pesticide products discontinue recommendations for salt water emesis on pesticide labels. Registrants who adopt EPA-recommended language are not required to submit an application for amended registration. One year will be allowed to make the revision, after which products will be deemed misbranded under the Act.

I. BACKGROUND

In 1976, EPA established a policy regarding the use of label practical treatment statements recommending salt water as an emetic agent for inducing vomiting. Salt solutions were no longer regarded by the medical community as efficacious in inducing vomiting, and in some cases, presented hazards of salt poisoning, especially in children. The Agency adopted a policy that salt water recommendations would no longer be acceptable on pesticide labels, and recommended instead the following means of inducing vomiting:

"If swallowed - drink 1 or 2 glasses of water and induce vomiting by touching back of throat with finger. Do not induce vomiting or give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Get medical attention."

Since 1976, new products have not been registered bearing the unacceptable practical treatment statement, and old products whose registrations were amended have been revised to delete the incorrect recommendation. Many pesticides registered prior to 1976, whose labels still bear salt water emesis statements, remain on the market. Accordingly, by this Notice, EPA is requiring the deletion of salt water emesis statements on all pesticide labels, and the substitution of alternative recommendations for inducing vomiting.

II. PROCEDURE

The label of each pesticide product bearing a recommendation for salt water emesis must, at the time of next printing, but in no case later than November 30, 1981, be revised to discontinue that recommendation. An application for amended registration is not required to be submitted solely for the purpose of making this change, provided that one of the substitute statements given below is used exactly. If, however, a label is submitted to the

Agency for other purposes (e.g., reregistration, amendment) prior to November 30, 1981, it must reflect the change.

Alternate statement I (under the heading PRACTICAL TREATMENT):

"If swallowed: Call a physician or Poison Control Center. Drink 1 or 2 glasses of water and induce vomiting by touching back of throat with finger. Do not induce vomiting or give anything by mouth to an unconscious person."

Alternate statement II (under the heading PRACTICAL TREATMENT):

"If swallowed: Call a physician or Poison Control Center. Drink 1 or 2 glasses of water and induce vomiting by touching back of throat with finger, or, if available, by administering syrup of ipecac. Do not induce vomiting or give anything by mouth to an unconscious person."

A registrant who wishes to propose alternate language for the emesis statement, or to make additional changes in label text or format, must submit an application for amended registration to the appropriate product manager in the Registration Division. Registrants who wish to propose alternate statements should proceed immediately, as no extension of the November 30, 1981, deadline will be given.

Existing stocks of product in channels of trade as of November 30, 1981, need not be relabeled. All products released for shipment after November 30, 1981, must have been revised in accordance with this Notice, or they will be deemed to be misbranded under §2(q)(1)(G) of FIFRA. Failure to revise your label in accordance with this Notice may result in the initiation of cancellation proceedings.

III. FURTHER INFORMATION

Questions on this Notice may be directed to Jean Frane, Registration Division, at (202) 426-2510. Questions on the status of individual products, or on procedures for amending registrations should be directed to Product Managers.

The Notice was signed:

Douglas D. Campt
Director
Registration Division (TS-767)

December 30, 1980

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: PR Notice 80-2 - Deletion of Salt Water Emesis Statements

TO: See below

The attached PR Notice 80-2 was signed by Doug and will be sent Certified mail to registrants as soon as it can be printed.

Note that specific applications are required only if different emesis language is proposed. We have no way of identifying which products actually retain salt water emesis statements. PMS and TSS precautionary reviewers should check labels coming through for other amendments to ensure that salt water emesis solutions are not recommended.

Incidentally, if anyone is developing a particular document to be transmitted to all registrants, its mailing can be combined with this PR Notice mailing. Let me know - we should attempt to recognize the cost savings of combined mailing as much as possible.

Jean Frane
Policy and Liaison Staff
Registration Division (TS-767)

Attachment

Addressees:

RD Branch Chief
RD Section Heads
RD Product Managers
OPP Division Directors