

Report: November 2024 Silvana V. Paula-Moraes

EPA Announcements of Interest to ESA Members

ENTOMOLOGICAL

SOCIETY OF AMERICA

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Sources: Regulations.gov, epa.gov, and EPA Weekly Digest Bulletin

Registration and registration review of insecticides

New Pesticide Veratridine proposal registration

The new active ingredient (AI) veratridine is an insecticide for the management of pests, targeting insect nervous systems like the pyrethroids, but potentially without concerns for cross-resistance with those other chemicals. The insecticide is used directly on walls and other man-made structures, such as transportation equipment for non-food commodities.

Public comments are open until November 30, 2024, and more information can be found at <u>https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0772</u>

Registration review process for chlorpyrifos is still ongoing

Currently, all pre-August 2021 final rule chlorpyrifos tolerances have been reinstated and are in effect. The expectation is that the proposal to revoke the tolerances associated with all food uses, except the 11 food (along with geographic limitations and additional mitigation measures), could decrease the average annual pounds of chlorpyrifos applied in the U.S. by 70% compared to historical usage. The mitigations for chlorpyrifos include restrictions on when to apply, restrictions on tank mixing, and use limitations related to both runoff and drift, as well as wind speed restrictions.

An amended Proposed Interim Decision for chlorpyrifos for public comment is expected in early 2025, with an expected Interim Decision in late 2025.

Pesticides and Endangered Species Educational Resources Toolbox

Educational resources are updated and available on one EPA page with helpful material, including guidance documents, handouts, presentations, informational webinars, and other resources relating to EPA's endangered species work, Bulletin Lives Two, etc.

The toolbox can be accessed at: <u>https://www.epa.gov/endangered-species/pesticides-and-endangered-species-educational-resources-toolbox</u>

Strategy to Better Protect Endangered Species from Insecticides

The public comments on the Draft Insecticide Strategy are now closed and under EPA review. This draft followed the release of the draft Herbicide Strategy in 2023, incorporating lessons from the earlier draft Herbicide Strategy. The information about the document, supporting case studies, and appendices can be accessed at: <u>https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OPP-2024-0299/document</u>.

The EPA held a webinar with information about the Insecticide Strategy to reduce exposure of federally listed endangered and threatened species and designated critical habitats from the use of conventional agricultural insecticides and can be accessed at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xzr_el5-Or8</u>