



## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0574; FRL-9356-8]

### FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel; Notice of Public Meeting

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** There will be a 3-day meeting of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act Scientific Advisory Panel (FIFRA SAP) to consider and review Scientific Issues Concerning the Draft Product Performance Data Needs Assessment for Products Claiming Efficacy Against Invertebrate Pests.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on March 19 - 21, 2013, from approximately 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 pm.

*Comments.* The Agency encourages that written comments be submitted by March 5, 2013, and requests for oral comments be submitted by March 12, 2013. However, written comments and requests to make oral comments may be submitted until the date of the meeting, but anyone submitting written comments after March 5, 2013, should contact the Designated Federal Official (DFO) listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. For additional instructions, see Unit I.C. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

*Nominations.* Nominations of candidates to serve as ad hoc members of FIFRA SAP for this meeting should be provided on or before [*insert date 15 days from date of publication in the Federal Register*].

*Webcast.* This meeting may be webcast. Please refer to the FIFRA SAP's

website, <http://www.epa.gov/scipoly/sap> for information on how to access the webcast.

Please note that the webcast is a supplementary public process provided only for convenience. If difficulties arise resulting in webcasting outages, the meeting will continue as planned.

*Special accommodations.* For information on access or services for individuals with disabilities, and to request accommodation of a disability, please contact the DFO listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** at least 10 days prior to the meeting to give EPA as much time as possible to process your request.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Environmental Protection Agency, Conference Center, Lobby Level, One Potomac Yard (South Bldg.), 2777 S. Crystal Dr., Arlington, VA 22202.

*Comments.* Submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0574 by one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

- *Mail:* OPP Docket, Environmental Protection Agency Docket Center (EPA/DC), Mail Code: (28221T), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001.

- *Hand Delivery:* To make special arrangements for hand delivery or delivery of boxed information, please follow the instructions at <http://www.epa.gov/dockets/contacts.htm>.

Additional instructions on commenting or visiting the docket, along with more information about dockets generally, is available at <http://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

*Nominations, requests to present oral comments, and requests for special accommodations.* Submit nominations to serve as ad hoc members of FIFRA SAP, requests for special seating accommodations, or requests to present oral comments to the DFO listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joseph E. Bailey, DFO, Office of Science Coordination and Policy (7201M), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (202) 564-2045; fax number; (202) 564-8382; email address: [bailey.joseph@epa.gov](mailto:bailey.joseph@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. General Information**

*A. Does this Action Apply to Me?*

This action is directed to the public in general. This action may, however, be of interest to persons who are or may be required to conduct testing of chemical substances under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), FIFRA, and the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (FQPA). Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the DFO listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

*B. What Should I Consider as I Prepare My Comments for EPA?*

When submitting comments, remember to:

1. Identify the document by docket ID number and other identifying information

(subject heading, **Federal Register** date and page number).

2. Follow directions. The Agency may ask you to respond to specific questions or organize comments by referencing a Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part or section number.

3. Explain why you agree or disagree; suggest alternatives and substitute language for your requested changes.

4. Describe any assumptions and provide any technical information and/or data that you used.

5. If you estimate potential costs or burdens, explain how you arrived at your estimate in sufficient detail to allow for it to be reproduced.

6. Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns and suggest alternatives.

7. Explain your views as clearly as possible, avoiding the use of profanity or personal threats.

8. Make sure to submit your comments by the comment period deadline identified.

### *C. How May I Participate in this Meeting?*

You may participate in this meeting by following the instructions in this unit. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, it is imperative that you identify docket ID number EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0574 in the subject line on the first page of your request.

1. *Written comments.* The Agency encourages that written comments be submitted, using the instructions in **ADDRESSES**, no later than March 5, 2013, to provide FIFRA SAP the time necessary to consider and review the written comments. Written comments are accepted until the date of the meeting, but anyone submitting written comments after March 5, 2013, should contact the DFO listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Anyone submitting written comments at the meeting should bring 30 copies for distribution to FIFRA SAP.

2. *Oral comments.* The Agency encourages that each individual or group wishing to make brief oral comments to FIFRA SAP submit their request to the DFO listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** no later than March 12, 2013, in order to be included on the meeting agenda. Requests to present oral comments will be accepted until the date of the meeting and, to the extent that time permits, the Chair of FIFRA SAP may permit the presentation of oral comments at the meeting by interested persons who have not previously requested time. The request should identify the name of the individual making the presentation, the organization (if any) the individual will represent, and any requirements for audiovisual equipment (e.g., overhead projector, 35 mm projector, chalkboard). Oral comments before FIFRA SAP are limited to approximately 5 minutes unless prior arrangements have been made. In addition, each speaker should bring 30 copies of his or her comments and presentation slides for distribution to the FIFRA SAP at the meeting.

3. *Seating at the meeting.* Seating at the meeting will be open and on a first-come basis.

4. *Request for nominations to serve as ad hoc members of FIFRA SAP for this meeting.* As part of a broader process for developing a pool of candidates for each meeting, FIFRA SAP staff routinely solicits the stakeholder community for nominations of prospective candidates for service as ad hoc members of FIFRA SAP. Any interested person or organization may nominate qualified individuals to be considered as prospective candidates for a specific meeting. Individuals nominated for this meeting should have expertise in one or more of the following areas:

- Insecticide testing/bioassay design,

- Medical entomology and pest management,
- Veterinary entomology and pest management, and
- Urban entomology and pest management.

Nominees should be scientists who have sufficient professional qualifications, including training and experience, to be capable of providing expert comments on the scientific issues for this meeting. Nominees should be identified by name, occupation, position, address, and telephone number. Nominations should be provided to the DFO listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** on or before [*insert date 15 days from date of publication in the Federal Register*]. The Agency will consider all nominations of prospective candidates for this meeting that are received on or before this date. However, final selection of ad hoc members for this meeting is a discretionary function of the Agency.

The selection of scientists to serve on the FIFRA SAP is based on the function of the panel and the expertise needed to address the Agency's charge to the panel. No interested scientists shall be ineligible to serve by reason of their membership on any other advisory committee to a Federal department or agency or their employment by a Federal department or agency except the EPA. Other factors considered during the selection process include availability of the potential panel member to fully participate in the panel's reviews, absence of any conflicts of interest or appearance of lack of impartiality, independence with respect to the matters under review, and lack of bias. Although, financial conflicts of interest, the appearance of lack of impartiality, lack of independence, and bias may result in disqualification, the absence of such concerns does not assure that a candidate will be selected to serve on the FIFRA SAP. Numerous

qualified candidates are identified for each panel. Therefore, selection decisions involve carefully weighing a number of factors including the candidates' areas of expertise and professional qualifications and achieving an overall balance of different scientific perspectives on the panel. In order to have the collective breadth of experience needed to address the Agency's charge for this meeting, the Agency anticipates selecting approximately 10 ad hoc scientists.

FIFRA SAP members are subject to the provisions of 5 CFR part 2634, Executive Branch Financial Disclosure, as supplemented by the EPA in 5 CFR part 6401. In anticipation of this requirement, prospective candidates for service on the FIFRA SAP will be asked to submit confidential financial information which shall fully disclose, among other financial interests, the candidate's employment, stocks and bonds, and where applicable, sources of research support. The EPA will evaluate the candidates financial disclosure form to assess whether there are financial conflicts of interest, appearance of a lack of impartiality or any prior involvement with the development of the documents under consideration (including previous scientific peer review) before the candidate is considered further for service on the FIFRA SAP. Those who are selected from the pool of prospective candidates will be asked to attend the public meetings and to participate in the discussion of key issues and assumptions at these meetings. In addition, they will be asked to review and to help finalize the meeting minutes. The list of FIFRA SAP members participating at this meeting will be posted on the FIFRA SAP website at <http://www.epa.gov/scipoly/sap> or may be obtained from the OPP Regulatory Public Docket at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

## **II. Background**

### *A. Purpose of the FIFRA SAP*

The FIFRA SAP serves as the primary scientific peer review mechanism of EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) and is structured to provide scientific advice, information and recommendations to the EPA Administrator on pesticides and pesticide-related issues as to the impact of regulatory actions on health and the environment. The FIFRA SAP is a Federal advisory committee established in 1975 under FIFRA that operates in accordance with requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The FIFRA SAP is composed of a permanent panel consisting of seven members who are appointed by the EPA Administrator from nominees provided by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. FIFRA, as amended by FQPA, established a Science Review Board consisting of at least 60 scientists who are available to the SAP on an ad hoc basis to assist in reviews conducted by the SAP. As a peer review mechanism, the FIFRA SAP provides comments, evaluations and recommendations to improve the effectiveness and quality of analyses made by Agency scientists. Members of the FIFRA SAP are scientists who have sufficient professional qualifications, including training and experience, to provide expert advice and recommendation to the Agency.

### *B. Public Meeting*

The FIFRA SAP will meet to consider scientific issues associated with product performance data that may be needed for EPA to evaluate the efficacy of pesticide products used to control invertebrate pests. The SAP's recommendations will be considered as EPA develops the proposed invertebrate product performance data requirements. Once EPA codifies product performance data requirements, the

regulations will provide the regulated community and other interested parties a better understanding of the data required to support registration of a product claiming pesticidal activity against three categories of invertebrate pests.

Recent developments in vector-borne diseases, such as the spread of the West Nile virus, outbreaks of dengue in Florida, and epidemic Rocky Mountain spotted fever on Indian Lands, together with the re-emergence of bed bugs in public housing and multifamily dwellings, have signaled the need to assess more carefully the threat of invertebrate pests to public health. At the same time, invasive wood-destroying insects such as the Emerald Ash Borer or Asian long-horned beetle present significant economic impacts to homes and native plant species. EPA-registered insecticide products are an important part of pest management programs and consumer efforts to accomplish pest control. EPA is considering the product performance data needed to support the registration of pesticide products claiming efficacy against invertebrate pests of significant public health or economic importance. The data being considered include a category of invertebrate pests identified to be of significant public health importance (e.g., ticks, mosquitoes, cockroaches). The other two categories are considered to be of significant economic importance: Wood-destroying insects (e.g., termites), and invasive invertebrate species.

In response to these recent developments, EPA is considering the product performance data that may be needed for EPA to evaluate the efficacy of pesticide products used to control invertebrate pests. The FIFRA SAP will meet to consider certain scientific issues identified by the Agency. The main topics for consideration by the FIFRA SAP are the science criteria for: (1) identifying the public health pests, wood-

destroying insects, and invasive species for which product performance data are needed; (2) evaluating pest groupings and selection of appropriate surrogate species for efficacy testing; (3) adequacy of the performance standards being considered; (4) providing consistency in product performance studies submitted to EPA; and (5) ensuring the likelihood that EPA- registered products will perform as expected. The Agency also believes that revision of these product performance data requirements will improve the transparency of EPA practices to the public and registrants.

### *C. FIFRA SAP Documents and Meeting Minutes*

EPA's background paper, related supporting materials, charge/questions to the FIFRA SAP, the FIFRA SAP composition (i.e., members and ad hoc members for this meeting), and the meeting agenda will be available by mid-February. In addition, the Agency may provide additional background documents as the materials become available. You may obtain electronic copies of these documents, and certain other related documents that might be available electronically, at <http://www.regulations.gov> and the FIFRA SAP homepage at <http://www.epa.gov/scipoly/sap>.

The FIFRA SAP will prepare meeting minutes summarizing its recommendations to the Agency approximately 90 days after the meeting. The meeting minutes will be posted on the FIFRA SAP website or may be obtained from the OPP Regulatory Public Docket at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

**List of Subjects**

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: August 1, 2012.

Frank Sanders,

*Director, Office of Science Coordination and Policy.*

[FR Doc. 2012-31277 Filed 12/27/2012 at 8:45 am; Publication Date: 12/28/2012]