



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, DC 20460

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY
AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

September 30, 2022

Miriam Frugis
US Federal Registration Leader
Regulatory Affairs
ADAMA US
3120 Highwoods Boulevard, Suite 100
Raleigh, NC, 27604

Subject: Reduced Risk Determination for Metamitron on Pome Fruit

Dear Miriam Frugis:

Thank you for your submission requesting reduced risk designation for the use of the plant growth regulator metamitron for fruit thinning in pome fruit, crop group 11-10. On May 16, 2022 the Reduced Risk Committee completed its review of this reduced risk submission, and approved reduced risk status for the use of metamitron on pome fruit.

Based on the committee's evaluation of the information provided, metamitron appears to have favorable human health and environmental characteristics in comparison to alternatives identified by the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP). The following alternatives were identified by OPP as leading plant growth regulators used as fruit thinning agents on pome fruit: carbaryl, naphthylacetic acid (NAA), and benzyladenine (6-BA). However, as 6-BA is classified as a biopesticide it was not included in this Conventional Chemical Reduced Risk Comparison.

Under the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA), submissions that include uses designated as "reduced risk" should receive an expedited time frame for review. Although companies are not allowed to put a reduced risk pesticide claim on their labels, EPA believes that companies use the conventional reduced risk pesticide status to their marketing advantage, and end users of treated crops give preference to crops treated with reduced risk pesticide products.

Please note that the reduced risk status of any chemical is an initial assessment. Should information warrant, the Agency may re-evaluate your submission's reduced risk status. Also, should it be determined at any time that the database for metamitron is unacceptable or incomplete, the Agency may stop any expedited process for the registration applications. The

Registration Division's Herbicide Branch will now handle all regulatory aspects of this application.

Thank you for your interest in reduced risk pesticides. If you have any questions regarding the reduced risk pesticide program, please contact Sarah Meadows at meadows.sarah@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Daniel Rosenblatt
Deputy Director, Registration Division
Office of Pesticide Programs

cc: Lindsay Roe, Emily Schmid, Theresa Gerber