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Description Notes Alvin L. Young filed this item under the category "DDT/Human Toxicology and Environmental Fate"; Includes one attachment dated June 20, 1978 regarding Interim Directive No. 3 in the Forest Service Manual.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

JUL 11 1978

TO ALL WITH AN INTEREST IN THE NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE USE OF
HERBICIDES IN FORESTRY

The enclosed Forest Service Interim Directive further defines Forest Service policy on the use of 2,4,5-T and related compounds. It adds appropriate sections to the current Forest Service Manual on Pesticide-Use Management to provide for: (1) Special procedures for employment of women of child-bearing age, and (2) specific safety plans for each project where 2,4,5-T or related compounds are used.

The cancellation of certain uses of 2,4,5-T in 1970 was based on the conclusion that fetal abnormalities found in mice exposed to 2,4,5-T constituted a reasonable doubt of safety, particularly to women of child-bearing age.

Social changes over the last few years have given women the opportunity for employment in areas that once were considered open only to men. Since women of child-bearing age are now employed in occupations such as pesticide applicators, operators of highway maintenance equipment, foresters, and chemical formulators, they have again become part of the population with potential for high exposure to 2,4,5-T and/or TCDD. However, due to the uncertainty that small animal test data can be extrapolated to an estimate of human risk, all women will be given an opportunity to review the information and decide for themselves if they want to assume whatever risk might exist.

Properly prepared project work and safety plans are invaluable training aids for new personnel and for acquainting everyone involved with the potential hazard of pesticide use.

These provisions, which are in addition to those sent to you on April 28, further reflect our increasing effort to prevent possible adverse effects from using pesticides. We hope you agree.

M. Rupert Cutler
M. RUPERT CUTLER
Assistant Secretary for
Conservation, Research, and Education

Enclosure

FOREST SERVICE MANUAL
Washington, DC

INTERIM DIRECTIVE NO. 3

June 20, 1978

DURATION: One year from issuance date unless previously terminated
reissued

CHAPTER: 2140 - PESTICIDE-USE MANAGEMENT

POSTING NOTICE: Last ID was No. 2 in FSM 2140

This interim directive adds a revised item 5 to Section 2142.11 and additional instructions to 2142.12. Interim Directive No. 2 is hereby superseded.

2142.11 - Project Work Plans

5. A requirement to employ women of child-bearing age in mixing, loading, monitoring during application, and applying 2,4,5-T or other herbicides containing TCDD only after they certify they are knowledgeable about the information on the possible hazard to human health from exposure to these materials.

A special information fact sheet on this subject, with provisions for certification, will be made available to all employees assigned to projects involving the use of 2,4,5-T or other TCDD-containing pesticides.

2142.12 - Project Safety Plan

. . . and (4) will unequivocally follow label directions. To accomplish the above objectives, a safety plan will be prepared for each major project, and for any project where 2,4,5-T or related materials containing TCDD are to be used.

s/R. Max Peterson

for JOHN R. McGUIRE
Chief