

AN UPDATE ON PESTICIDES REGISTERED FOR CONTROL OF VERTEBRATE PESTS

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Federal registration certifies that it is legal to market and use the produce in question in the United States, subject to the conditions and restrictions stipulated on the approved label. Federal registration does not guarantee that a particular chemical or product will be available throughout the country or even that the product will actually be marketed at all. If a particular product cannot be found in a local outlet, the manufacturer should be contacted. If the name of the manufacturer is not known, this information can be obtained from the extension specialist or from Product Management Team 16, Registration Division (TS-767), Office of Pesticide Programs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C. 20460.

Federal registration does not guarantee that a particular pesticide will be effective in controlling a specific pest claimed in every possible situation. The product label provides directions for using the product to best advantage in an environmentally safe manner. Users should read labels carefully before proceeding, and should consult with extension agents if any questions remain.

"Baits" are formulations which are designed to be consumed by the target pests. Baits may be "dry" formulations such as whole grains or pelleted grain mixtures treated with a toxicant, or liquid formulations to be presented for target organisms to drink. "Weather-resistant" baits are dry baits treated with a material such as paraffin which is intended to make the baits resistant to the effects of excessive moisture and/or heat.

"Technical" products consist of the active ingredient in pure or relatively pure form. Technicals are usually sold for manufacturing purposes only, but there are a few which can legally be mixed into baits or other types of formulations and applied as pest control agents.

Products identified as "concentrates" are formulated with active ingredient strengths lower than those found in technicals but higher than the concentrations which are used in pest control applications. Concentrates are of 2 types. One type is sold for manufacturing or formulating purposes only. The labels of these products bear no use directions. It is unlawful to use such products directly in pest control operations. Such concentrates can be formulated into products which can be registered and sold as pesticides. The second

type of concentrate bears label directions for mixing and applying the product. In vertebrate pest control, this type of concentrate product enables the experienced worker to mix baits suited to the peculiarities of the particular infestations encountered.

"Restricted Use Pesticides" are products which can only be used by persons who have been trained and certified to use them. Nearly all pesticide-user certification programs are run by state governments. A pesticide may become classified as "Restricted" because the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has determined that the product is highly toxic and must be handled especially carefully or that special training is necessary to insure that the material is used effectively or in a safe manner. Occasionally, products are classified as "Restricted" at the request of their manufacturers.

A 47-page listing of pesticide formulations registered for use in controlling terrestrial vertebrate organisms has been prepared by the author, Registration Division (TS-767), Office of Pesticide Programs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C. 20460 and is available on request. This includes a listing of the chemicals registered, the types of formulations available, the number of registered products (as of Winter 1983) for each type of formulation, and any special factors which must be considered prior to using a particular type of product. Information is included (in table form) for 29 types of terrestrial vertebrate animals, and a listing of state registrations if a chemical is registered in 3 or more states. This list has also been published (W. W. Jacobs, 1983, Registered vertebrate pesticides, in *Prevention and control of wildlife damage*, ed. R. M. Timm, Great Plains Agricultural Council and Nebraska Cooperative Extension Service, Lincoln, Neb.).