UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE
PESTICIDES REGULATION DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

June 25, 1970

NOTICE TO MANUFACTURERS, FORMULATORS, DISTRIBUTORS, AND REGISTRANTS OF ECONOMIC POISONS

Attention: Person Responsible For Federal Registration Of Economic Poisons

Requirements For Additional Labeling On Products Containing Sodium Hypochlorite

In September 1967, PR Notice 67-5 "Notice to Manufacturers, Formulators, Distributors, and Registrants of Economic Poisons Containing Sodium Hypochlorite," was distributed to all registrants. Problems of deficiencies in active ingredients experienced in our enforcement activities were explained along with the need for additional data on stability of certain sodium hypochlorite formulations. Registrants with products containing sodium hypochlorite were asked to submit data from stability tests conducted under actual conditions of formulation, transportation, storage, and use.

It was further stated that our registration policy would be reevaluated and changed as warranted by available information.

The information received has been thoroughly considered. It is the responsibility of the registrant to make certain that economic poisons have the composition claimed as long as they are offered for sale. However, there is a continuing problem of effective use due to rapid degradation of sodium hypochlorite products. To reduce the likelihood of ineffective use of these products, it has been determined that additional labeling is necessary.

The requirements set forth below for each category of products are being adopted:

I. Products bearing label claims for 7.0% sodium hypochlorite or less:

No change in requirements at this time.

II. Products bearing label claims for more than 7.0% to 12.5% sodium hypochlorite:

Add the label statement, "Degrades with age. Use a test kit and increase dosage as necessary to obtain required level of available chlorine."

Such products packaged in containers less than one gallon are not acceptable.

III. Products bearing label claims for more than 12.5% sodium hypochlorite are not acceptable for registration.

Some overformulation to maintain claimed concentrations may be necessary; however, such overformulation should not exceed 25% of the claimed concentrations.

Labeling for products affected by these changes should be amended to bring them into compliance as soon as possible. Five copies of revised labeling and five copies of the revised statement of composition should be submitted with an application for amended registration (PR Form 9-198). Withdrawal or relabeling of stocks of products affected by these changes is not considered necessary.

Harold G. Alford
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