Grace-Sierra pulls Calo-Clor, Calo-Gran

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Environmental Protection Agency has canceled the registration of the mercury-based pesticides Calo-Clor and Calo-Gran as voluntarily requested by the registrant, Grace-Sierra.

Both pesticides contain two active ingredients — mercuric chloride and mercuric chloride — at different percentages. Used to control pink and grey snow mold, Calo-Clor and Calo-Gran were the last two mercury-based pesticides registered for use in the United States. Approximately 21,000 combined pounds of the two pesticides were sold annually. The cancellation action was effective Nov. 1, 1993. But under the terms of the action, Grace-Sierra will sell and distribute products which had been labeled for release or shipment on or before June 25, 1993, until June 24, 1994. Retailers and other distributors may sell these products until their stocks are gone. Likewise, users may use these products until their stock is exhausted.

Non-ag pesticide use the subject of EPA survey

WASHINGTON, D.C. — An Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) survey of non-ag use of pesticides by certified applicators was scheduled to begin at the close of January, reports Allen James, executive director of RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment).

The 1990 "Farms" Bill mandated applicator record-keeping. James explained. Now, the United States Drug Administration and EPA must survey non-ag, as well as agricultural use of both restricted and non-restricted products, then report to Congress.

EPA notes some 4,000 non-ag applicator firms will be interviewed. Golf course "applicants" appear to have been spared this process — for now.

RISE has moved its offices — across the street. The new address is 1156 15th Street, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20005. Phone/fax numbers remain the same.

The RISE Annual Meeting will be heading south. According to James, the fourth annual congregation of members will be held Sept. 8-11, 1994, somewhere in Florida. A hotel site has not yet been chosen, he said. The previous three annual meetings were held at the Ritz-Carlton Tyson's Corner in Mclean, Va.

RISE founding member Bill Culpepper has resigned from the Board of Directors after leaving DowElanco to form his own business, SeFro, which will become a new RISE member as a basic ingredient manufacturer. His Board vacancy will be filled by DowElanco.

In other action, the RISE Board of Directors has approved a resolution urging voting members to provide data on active and inert pesticide ingredients to the nation's poison control centers for use only by medical personnel for emergency treatments. Means of disclosure would be confidential database services, said James.