

# Government News

As predicted, cadmium is about to become the first naturally occurring substance subject to a notice of rebuttable presumption against registration (RPAR). The EPA's position document points to findings by the Carcinogen Assessment Group (CAG) that: (1) the number of tumors at sites removed from the site of injection increased significantly in animals injected with cadmium; (2) significant increases in prostate cancer were found in persons occupationally exposed to cadmium; and (3) chronic oral studies, reported as negative by their authors, must be considered inconclusive because of histopathological deficiencies. Cadmium triggers not only the oncogenic and mutagenic criteria for an RPAR but also can be considered to cause a human risk because of its teratogenic and fetotoxic effects, according to the document.

Contingency approval has been given to the Illinois pesticide applicator certification plan. The Department of Agriculture was noted as the State lead agency in administering the plan. An estimated 2,200 commercial applicators and 80,000 private applicators will need certification.

Amendments to the Montana plan were also published. They included adding an option which allows qualification of private applicators by completion of an approved training course and stating more clearly the responsibilities and duties of the Montana Department of Agriculture when conducting an inspection.

The Missouri applicator certification plan has been granted an extension of contingency approval until January 10, 1978.

A summary of the Alabama plan estimated 16,000 private and 1,000 commercial applicators will need to be certified. The plan calls for commercial applicators to pass a written exam and notes that private applicators must complete necessary paper work, discuss use of the pesticide with the County Extension Agent. The agent then certifies the form and forwards it to the Department of Agriculture where the decision is made whether to issue a restricted use pesticide use permit.

Wisconsin's plan offers three options for private applicator certification, including: (1) successful completion of a Wisconsin Cooperative Extension Service training session; (2) passage of written exam; and (3) non-reader certification by oral evaluation. The plan estimates 7,000 commercial and 40-80,000 private applicators will need certification.