

# Government News

## State Certification

Maine and Utah applicator certification plans have been given "full approvals" by the EPA, according to notices published in the August 31 Federal Register. Colorado, Massachusetts and Nebraska are now the only states without an EPA approved certification program.

The notice on the Maine plan stated that the only comments on it were filed by the National Cannery Association, and that the State's responses to the comments were satisfactory to EPA.

## "Grandfather Clause"

The proposed Federal applicator certification rule, titled "Federal Certification of Pesticide Applicators in States or on Indian Reservations without an EPA-Approved Certification Plan", has a "grandfather clause" which would permit the EPA to "issue a certificate to an individual possessing any other valid Federal, State, or Tribal certificate without further demonstration of competency."

Under the proposal, commercial applicators would be certified by passing written examinations; be recertified every two years; keep and maintain records on use and application of restricted pesticides for at least two years and make the records available for inspection and copying by EPA representatives.

## Record Requirements

The commercial applicator record-keeping requirements include: "(a) name and address of the person for whom the pesticide was applied; (b) location of pesticide application; (c) target pest(s); (d) specific crop, commodity, and site to which the pesticide was applied; (e) year, month, day, and time of application; (f) trade name and EPA registration number of pesticide applied; (g) amount and concentration in pounds or gallons per unit or percentages of active ingredient per unit of the pesticides used; (h) types and amounts of pesticides disposed, methods of disposal, date(s) of disposal, and location of disposal sites; and (i) other information as the Administrator may deem appropriate."

## Heptachlor/Chlordane

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) has concluded, in its final validated report, that in separate bioassays of chlordane and heptachlor, mice receiving either compound in feed responded with significant incidences of liver cancer, but that rats given either compound did not have liver cancer increases that could be related to the chemicals. The final NCI results also showed that both chlordane and heptachlor were possible causes of thyroid tumors in rats, although that report cautioned that this evidence was not conclusive.