
EDBC Use on Potato -- California

From: Rick Melnicoe
To: Kent Smith
Subject: RE: Pesticide Information Request for EBDC on potato
Date: December 6, 2007

Kent,

[Attached](#) (PDF* 67K) is the reply from CA.

Rick

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From: [Kent Smith](#)
Sent: Monday, November 19, 2007 12:27 PM
To: Ayers, John; Gray, Michael; Herbst, Linda; Tom Holtzer; Jess, Lynnae; Koplinka-Loehr, Carrie; Melnicoe, Rick; Olsen, Larry; Susan Ratcliffe; Stinner, Ron; Toth, Steve; VanKirk, James
Cc: Jennings, Allen
Subject: Pesticide Information Request for EBDC on potato

Dear IPM Center Directors,

Could you ask the indicated states to answer the attached pesticide information request? This request from EPA has evolved from a petition submitted to reduce the PHI for the EBDC fungicides from 14 to 3 days.

Some states already have a PHI of 3 days for this use. For this reason, we DO NOT need this question answered for CT, DE, FL, MA, ME, MI, NH, NY, OH, PA, RI, VT, and WI. The information is desired for all other states.

Thank you for your help in answering this question.

Regards,

Kent

[Kent L. Smith](#), Ph.D.
Plant Pathologist
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The Western IPM Center is headquartered in the UC Agriculture and Natural Resources Building at 2801 Second Street, Davis, CA 95618.



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December 6, 2007

Dr. Kent Smith
USDA/ARS/OPMP
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 3871-South Bldg., Mail Stop 0315
Washington, DC 20250-3191

Dear Kent,

This letter is a response for California to your request on November 19, 2007, regarding the use of EBDC fungicides on potatoes. The questions you asked were:

If the PHI for the EBDCs (maneb, mancozeb, and metiram) on potatoes was changed from 14 to 3 days in your state, providing an additional use window, how would the total usage of EBDCs on potatoes change? If possible, please divide your answer among these three questions:

1) What percent of the current EBDC-treated potato acreage would you expect to receive an additional treatment of an EBDC fungicide during this additional use window?

Answer: Replies ranged from none to no more than 10%.

2) What percent of the potato acreage currently untreated with an EBDC fungicide would you expect to receive treatment with an EBDC fungicide during this additional use window?

Answer: None

3) What is your rationale for your responses to questions 1 and 2?

Answer: The 14 day interval should cover until harvest. The tops are removed before harvest and fields are dried down before harvest to set the skins, so there are 10-14 days before harvest with no tops to protect. There should not be any reason to spray. However, chippers (about 20% of the potatoes grown in Kern County, for the whole state it is probably lower) are harvested green with the tops still present, so they may use the additional opportunity to spray.

Most growers are using EBDCs for late blight and early blight control. It is a cheap effective material, so most fields are already getting treated with EBDCs.

Maneb or Mancozeb would only be applied that close to harvest as a preventative for tuber infection by late blight. We have not seen late blight in the Klamath Basin for a number of years. Clean seed, seed treatments and preventive spraying during the season seem to be keeping this potential problem in check.

There would probably be no impact in overall usage on the Tulelake-Lower Klamath NWR (Tulelake, CA) lease lands. Fish and Wildlife Service and Bureau of Reclamation have limited usage of mancozeb to 4 applications @ 1 lb a.i./acre due to ecological risk concerns for birds and fish. Use is also limited to May-August to limit potential exposure of bald eagles and T&E suckers to mancozeb. Other EBDC fungicides (e.g., maneb, metiram) not approved for use on lease land crops.

Contact Information

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If you have any further questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Rick Melnicoe, Director
Western IPM Center