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MĀNOA

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Subject: *Potential Threat to **Trifluralin** Production and Use*

The following comments are being submitted in response to an email message sent on January 20, 2010 regarding *Potential Threat to Trifluralin Production and Use - Your Input is Needed*. These comments are being submitted on behalf of the Western Integrated Pest Management Center and provide input on the use of trifluralin in the ornamental crop production and landscape industries in Hawai'i.

As a component of commonly-used granular herbicides, trifluralin is important to the production of potted ornamental crops like palms, other foliage plants and in newly installed landscapes in Hawai'i. Because trifluralin is highly water insoluble, it is ideal product for the porous media used in Hawaiian ornamental potted plant production. Combination herbicides like Snapshot and Showcase, that contain trifluralin, are also used extensively in landscape weed control, especially new installations. Its low water solubility keeps trifluralin at or near the soil surface where it can persist and control a variety of weedy species. The loss of trifluralin will result in the use of other products with higher levels of mobility with increased risk of ground water contamination.

This information has been provided by an extension specialist of the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, and agricultural chemical vendors.

Comments compiled and submitted by:

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