

B. Tolerance Reassessment Priorities

In order to comply with FQPA reassessment priorities and reregistration scheduling requirements, EPA has divided the pesticides with tolerances and exemptions subject to the reassessment schedule into three groups. In general, tolerances and exemptions for Group 1 pesticides will be subject to reassessment first, followed by groups 2 and 3. While the actual reassessment of the tolerances and exemptions in these three groups may not correspond directly with the three FQPA reassessment deadlines of August 1999, August 2002, and August 2006, this grouping reflects the overall scheduling priorities for tolerance reassessment.

1. **Group 1**--i. Risk- and hazard-based priorities. EPA has placed into Group 1 those tolerances and exemptions associated with the following types of pesticides, which based on the best available information to date appear to pose the greatest risk to the public health:
 - (1) Pesticides of the **organophosphate, carbamate, and organochlorine classes** (it is EPA's intent to conduct tolerance reassessments for organophosphate pesticides in the first three years of the schedule).
 - (2) Pesticides that EPA has classified **as probable human (groups B1 and B2) carcinogens, and possible human (group C) carcinogens** for which EPA has quantified a cancer potency.
 - (3) **High-hazard inert ingredients.**
 - (4) Any pesticides that, based on the best available data at the time of scheduling, **exceed their reference dose (RfD).**

In making the determination as to which pesticides appear to pose the greatest risk to the public health, whenever possible EPA has taken into account exposure to infants, children, and other sensitive subpopulations.

ii. Reregistration priorities. Because EPA must, in addition to meeting the tolerance reassessment schedule, also complete the reregistration program by 2002, tolerance reassessments for those pesticides for which REDs were substantially complete prior to FQPA's enactment are also included in Group 1, even though the tolerances for these pesticides may not be among those that appear to pose the greatest risk to the public health. For the sake of completeness and for tracking purposes, those food-use pesticides for which REDs were issued after August 3, 1996 are also listed in Group 1, even though EPA has completed their FQPA tolerance reassessments.

iii. Tolerance revocations. EPA has also placed in Group 1 pesticides for which tolerances and exemptions are in the process of being proposed for revocation. These tolerances and exemptions are included in the total 9,728 tolerances and exemptions. In some cases, revocations reduce theoretical risk in dietary assessments where tolerance-level residues are used. This year, EPA has begun to issue a number of proposed rules to revoke over 1,000 tolerances and exemptions: one notice proposes to revoke tolerances and exemptions associated with pesticides for which all registrations have been canceled; a second notice proposes to revoke tolerances for uses that have been deleted from pesticide registrations; a third notice proposes to revoke tolerances for uses canceled in order to reduce theoretical risks to levels below the reference dose; a fourth notice, already issued, proposes to revoke tolerances for uses no longer considered to be significant livestock feed items; and several other notices propose to revoke tolerances for individual pesticides.

2. Group 2. Possible human carcinogens not included in Group 1 will be reassessed as part of Group 2. Because EPA intends to complete the reregistration program in 2002, tolerances and exemptions for all remaining pesticides subject to reregistration will also be reassessed as part of Group 2. Other pesticides have been placed into Group 2 based on scheduling considerations.

3. Group 3. EPA has placed in Group 3 the biological pesticides, as well as those inert ingredients referenced in 40 CFR part 180 that EPA has not identified as high-hazard inerts. Also in Group 3 are, as part of the registration renewal program, those post-1984 pesticides with tolerances and/or exemptions not yet reassessed under FQPA.