



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8

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HEARING CLERK

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**SENT BY ELECTRONIC MAIL**  
**DELIVERY RECEIPT REQUESTED**

From: David Cobb  
Supervisor, Toxics and Pesticides Enforcement Section  
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division

To: U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Bureau of Customs and Border Protection  
Port of Sweetgrass, Montana 3310

Subject: Requested action to be taken regarding the UltraKlean 200 Pond Filter in the Section 321 shipment described below FIFRA-08-2024-0031

By this memorandum, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8, is informing the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (CBP) that the products in the import shipment described below should be **Denied Entry-Refused Delivery** into the United States pursuant to the authority of section 17(c) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), 7 U.S.C. § 136o(c), and the implementing regulations at 19 C.F.R. §12.114. On April 24, 2024, the EPA inspected the shipment and informed CBP of the recommendation to refuse entry.

The following information pertains to the shipment:

- The shipper is Ziqiang Kevin Guo, Calgary, Canada.
- The consignee is STL3 Amazon Fulfillment Center, 3200 East Sawyer Road, Brookline, Missouri 65619.
- The UPS Ground Tracking Number was 1Z 228 22R 03 3198 3601.
- The file date was April 24, 2024.
- The quantity is 1 UltraKlean 200 Pond Filter, weighing 45 pounds.
- The port of entry is Sweetgrass, Montana, 3310.

Section 2(t) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(t) defines “pest” as “(1) any insect, rodent, nematode, fungus, weed, or (2) any other form of terrestrial or aquatic plant or animal life or virus, bacteria, or other micro-organism (except viruses, bacteria, or other micro-organisms on or in living man or other living animals) which the Administrator declares to be a pest under section 136w(c)(1) of this title.”

Section 2(p) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(p), defines “label” as “the written, printed, or graphic matter on, or attached to, the pesticide or device or any of its containers or wrappers” and defines “labeling” in part, as “all labels and all other written, printed, or graphic matter – (A) accompanying the pesticide or

device at any time; or (B) to which reference is made on the label or in literature accompanying the pesticide....”

Section 2(h) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(h), defines “device” as “any instrument or contrivance (other than a firearm) which is intended for trapping, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest or any other form of plant or animal life (other than man and other than bacteria, virus, or other microorganism on or in living man or other living animals); but not including equipment used for the application of pesticides when sold separately therefrom.” See also 40 C.F.R § 152.500(a).

The labels for the UltraKlean 200 Pond Filter had the following language:

- “Ultraklean 2000”
- “Quickly eliminates and prevents unsightly green water”
- “Biological pressure filter with 14 watt ultraviolet clarifier”
- “Eliminates unsightly green water with the use of its integrated UV clarifier”
- “Integrated UV Clarifier”
- “Prevents and controls green water algae blooms”
- “Eliminates unsightly green water”
- “The integrated UV Clarifier prevents green water algae blooms before they happen. If a green water problem exists, it normally takes two or three weeks to eliminate”
- “Water is pumped from the pond through the UltraKlean BioBalls, Providing efficient mechanical and biological filtration”
- “EPA Establishment Number, “90462-CHN-1”

These statements demonstrate a pesticidal intent pursuant to the definitions above. The UltraKlean 200 Pond Filter are devices under FIFRA section 2(h), 7 U.S.C. § 136(h), and 40 C.F.R § 152.500(a) because they fall within the definition of “any instrument or contrivance (other than a firearm) which is intended for trapping, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest, [which includes virus, bacteria, or other micro-organism,] or any other form of plant or animal life (other than man and other than bacteria, virus, or other microorganism on or in living man or other living animals); but not including equipment used for the application of pesticides when sold separately therefrom.”

The shipment that arrived at the border for import is in violation of FIFRA section 12(a)(2)(N), 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(2)(N), because a registrant, wholesaler, dealer, retailer, or other distributor failed to file reports required by FIFRA. As required by 19 C.F.R. §12.113 a Notice of Arrival of Pesticides and Devices, EPA form 3540-1, and a copy of one product label must be submitted.

The EPA hereby notifies CBP that the UltraKlean 200 Pond Filter in the shipment referenced above should be refused admission pursuant to the authority of FIFRA § 17(c), 7 U.S.C. § 136o(c), and the implementing regulations at 19 C.F.R. § 12.114. The importer should export this merchandise or dispose of the products under supervision of the CBP within ninety calendar days from the date of this memorandum or within such additional time as the District Director of CBP specifies. Failure to do so may result in either the destruction of the merchandise as authorized by the FIFRA or in any action necessary to enforce the terms of any bond under which the shipment has been released to the consignee. Alternatively, CBP may elect to seize the products as a prohibited importation pursuant to their authorities as set out at 19 U.S.C. § 1595a(c)(2)(A).

On April 24, 2024, the EPA informed the CBP Cargo Chief in Sweetgrass, Montana, that it would deny entry of this shipment.

Please contact Christine Tokarz, the import enforcement coordinator, by phone at (303) 312-6147, or by email at [tokarz.christine@epa.gov](mailto:tokarz.christine@epa.gov), if you have any questions concerning this matter.