

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

FEB 2 4 2000

Certified Mail - Return Receipt Requested

Mr. Bill Lyon Serum Products, LLC 850 Pickens Industrial Drive Marietta, Georgia 30062

SUBJ: Docket No. FIFRA-04-2009-3022(b)

Serum Products, LLC

Dear Mr. Lyon:

Enclosed is a copy of the ratified Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) in the above-referenced matter. The original CAFO has been filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk and served on the parties as directed in Section 22.6 of the Consolidated Rules of Practice, 40 CFR Part 22.

As stated in Section IV of the CAFO, the initial payment of \$1,375.41 of the assessed penalty of \$5,400 is due within 30 days from the effective date. Section IV also provides information on when remaining payments are due. Please ensure that the face of your cashier's or certified check includes the name of the company and the docket number of this case.

Penalty payment questions should be directed to Ms. Lori Weidner either by telephone at (513) 487-2125 or by written correspondence to her attention at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Cincinnati Accounting Operations address identified in the CAFO. Should you have any questions about this matter or your compliance status in the future, please call me at (404) 562-8979 or Mr. Phillip Beard at (404) 562-9012.

Also enclosed is a copy of a document entitled "Notice of Securities and Exchange Commission Registrants' Duty to Disclose Environmental Legal Proceedings." This document puts you on notice of your potential duty to disclose to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) any environmental enforcement actions taken by EPA.

Sincerely,

Jeaneanne M. Gettle

Chief

Pesticides and Toxic Substances Branch

Enclosures

cc: Tommy Gray, Director, Georgia Department of Agriculture

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In the Matter of:)	24 324
Serum Products, LLC) Docket No. FIFRA-04-20	17: The state of t
Respondent.)))	8

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

I. Nature of the Action

- 1. This is a civil penalty proceeding pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Federal Insecticide,
 Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a) (hereinafter "FIFRA"),
 and pursuant to the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing Administrative Assessment
 of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits
 (Consolidated Rules), 40 CFR Part 22. Complainant is the Director of the Air, Pesticides,
 and Toxics Management Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency,
 Region 4 (EPA). Respondent is Serum Products, LLC.
- 2. Complainant and Respondent have conferred for the purpose of settlement pursuant to 40 CFR § 22.18 and desire to resolve this matter and settle the allegations described herein without a formal hearing. Therefore, without the taking of any evidence or testimony, the making of any argument, or the adjudication of any issue in this matter, and in accordance with 40 CFR § 22.13(b), this Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) will simultaneously commence and conclude this matter.

II. Preliminary Statements

- 3. The authority to take action under Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136*l*(a), is vested in the Administrator of EPA. The Administrator of EPA has delegated this authority under FIFRA to EPA Region 4 by EPA Delegation 5-14 dated May 11, 1994.
- 4. Pursuant to 40 CFR § 22.5(c)(4) the following individual represents EPA in this matter and is authorized to receive service for EPA in this proceeding:

Phillip Beard
Pesticides Section
U.S. EPA – Region 4
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960
(404) 562-9012.

- The Respondent is Serum Products, LLC., a Georgia corporation located at 850 Pickens Industrial Drive, Marietta, Georgia 30062.
- 6. Respondent is a "person" as defined by Section 2(s) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(s), and as such is subject to FIFRA and the regulations promulgated thereunder.
- Serum Products, LLC violated the ratified Consent Agreement and Final Order, dated March 7, 2008, as follows.
- On or about June 13, 2008, the Indoor Air Quality Association, Inc., held a
 Conference ("the IAQA Conference") in Tampa, Florida.
- An EPA representative was present at the IAQA Conference and participated in the activities.
- 10. EPA personnel noticed a Serum Products, LLC display at the IAQA Conference at which "Serum 1000" and "Serum 2000" products were identified as being offered for sale by the Respondent.
- The "Serum 1000 and Serum 2000" labels and related literature distributed by
 Respondent proclaimed that these products possess pesticide properties. As such,

- "Serum 1000 and Serum 2000 are pesticides as defined in Section 2(u) of FIFRA,
 7 U.S.C. § 136(u). The definition of pesticide includes any substance or mixture of
 substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.

 Respondent, "distributes or sells" pesticides. The term "to distribute to sell" as defined
 by Section 2(gg) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(gg), includes to distribute, sell, offer for sale,
 hold for distribution, hold for sale, hold for shipment, ship, deliver for shipment, or
 release for shipment
- 12. A pest is defined in Section 2(t) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(t), as any insect, rodent, nematode, fungus, weed, or any other form of terrestrial or aquatic plant or animal life or virus, bacteria, or other micro-organism (except viruses, bacteria, or other microorganisms on or in living man or other living animals) which the Administrator declares to be a pest under Section 25(c)(1) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136w(c)(1).
- 13. At the IAQA Conference "Serum 1000" and "Serum 2000," made pesticidal claims on their labels. Some of the pesticidal claims identified on the Serum 1000 label are: "Prescription for mold and mildew," "Cleans mold and mildew from surfaces," and; "Does not contain chlorine." Some of the pesticidal claims identified on the Serum 2000 label are: "Prevents mold and mildew stains and odors," "Prescription for mold and mildew," "stains and odors caused by mold and mildew," and; "use Serum 1000 to remove organic and non-organic matter from the surface."
- 14. At the IAQA Conference, "Serum 1000" and "Serum 2000" were not registered as pesticides with EPA.

- 15. Under Section 12(a)(1)(A) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(A), it is unlawful for any person in any State to distribute or sell any pesticide that is not registered under Section 3 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136a.
- 16. Respondent offered for sale the pesticides on at least two occasions as described below:

 Serum 1000: offered for sale at the IAQA Conference on June 13, 2008

 Serum 2000: offered for sale at the IAQA Conference on June 13, 2008
- 17. Respondent violated Section 12(a)(1)(A) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(A), on at least two occasions and is therefore subject to the assessment of civil penalties under Section 14 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l.
- 18. Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136*l*(a), in conjunction with the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, authorizes the assessment of a civil penalty.
- 19. Section 14(a)(4) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a)(4), requires EPA to consider the appropriateness of the assessed penalty to the size of business of the Respondent, the effect on Respondent's ability to continue in business, and the gravity of the violation.
- 20. After consideration of the factors set forth in Section 14(a)(4) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C.
 § 136l(a)(4), the EPA proposes to assess a total civil penalty of FIVE THOUSAND
 FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$5,400), plus interest at three percent per annum, against the Respondent for the above-described violations. Civil penalties under Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a), may be assessed by Administrative Order.

III. Consent Agreement

21. For the purposes of this CAFO, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations set forth above and neither admits nor denies the factual allegations.

- the civil penalty as set forth in this CAFO.
- 24. Respondent certifies that as of the date of its execution of this CAFO, it is in compliance with all relevant requirements of FIFRA.
- 25. Compliance with this CAFO shall resolve the allegations of the violations contained herein. This CAFO shall not otherwise affect any liability of Respondent to the United States. Other than as expressed herein, neither EPA nor Complainant waives any right to bring an enforcement action against Respondent for violation of any federal or state statute, regulation or permit, to initiate an action for imminent and substantial endangerment, or to pursue criminal enforcement.
- 26. Complainant and Respondent agree to settle this matter by their execution of this CAFO.
 The parties agree that the settlement of this matter is in the public interest and that this
 CAFO is consistent with the applicable requirements of FIFRA.

IV. Final Order

- 27. Respondent is assessed a civil penalty of FIVE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$5,400), plus interest at three percent per annum, which shall be paid according to the schedule agreed upon, as shown in this section.
- 28. The first installment payment of \$1,375.41 shall be made on April 1, 2009, or within 30 days from the date this CAFO is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk, whichever is later.

The remaining three installment payments will be made as set forth below:

DATE	AMOUNT		
July 1, 2009	\$1,375.41		
October 1, 2009	\$1,375.41		
January 1, 2010	\$1,375.41.		

29. Respondent shall remit the penalty by either a cashier's or certified checks on or before the due dates payable to the "Treasurer, United States of America," and shall mail the checks via U.S. mail to the following address:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Fines and Penalties Cincinnati Finance Center P.O. Box 979077 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000.

Each check shall reference on its face the name of the

Respondent and the Docket Number assigned to this CAFO.

30. At the time of payment, Respondent shall send a separate copy of each check and a written statement that the payment is being made in accordance with this CAFO, to the following persons at the following addresses:

Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. EPA – Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960;

Phillip Beard
Pesticides Section
U.S. EPA – Region 4
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960;

and

Saundi Wilson Office of Environmental Accountability U.S. EPA – Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960.

- 31. For the purposes of state and federal income taxation, Respondent shall not be entitled, and agrees not to attempt, to claim a deduction for any civil penalty payment made pursuant to this CAFO. Any attempt by Respondent to deduct any such payments shall constitute a violation of this CAFO.
- 32. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717, EPA is entitled to assess interest and penalties on debts owed to the United States and a charge to cover the cost of processing and handling a delinquent claim. Interest will therefore begin to accrue on the civil penalty from the date of entry of this CAFO, if the penalty is not paid by the date required. A charge will also be assessed to cover the administrative costs, both direct and indirect, of overdue debts. In addition, a late payment penalty charge shall be applied on any principle amount not paid within 90 days of the due date.
- 33. Complainant and Respondent shall bear their own costs and attorney fees in this matter.
- 34. This CAFO shall be binding upon the Respondent, its successors and assigns.
- 35. The undersigned representative of the party to this CAFO certifies that he or she is fully authorized by the party represented to enter into this CAFO and legally binds that party to this CAFO.

The remainder of this page was intentionally left blank.

V. Effective Date

36. The effective date of this CAFO shall be the date on which the CAFO is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

AGREED AND CONSENTED TO:					
Serum Products, LLC Docket No. FIFRA-04-2009-3022(b) By Celline May 7 ou (Signature) Date: 2/4/09					
Name: (Signature) Date:					
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency					
By: Date: 2/13/09 Carol L. Kemker Acting Director Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division 61 Forsyth Street					
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960 APPROVED AND SO ORDERED this					
Juse B. Achub Susan B. Schub					

Regional Judicial Officer

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the date set out below, I filed the original and one copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order and served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order, In the Matter of Serum Products, LLC, Docket Number: FIFRA-04-2009-3022(b), to the addressees listed below.

Mr. Bill Lyon Serum Products, LLC 850 Pickens Industrial Drive Marietta, GA 30062 (via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested)

Phillip Beard Pesticides Section U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, SW Atlanta, GA 30303 (via EPA's internal mail)

Rolando Bascumbe Office of Environmental Accountability U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, SW Atlanta, GA 30303

2-211-09

(via EPA's internal mail)

Patricia A. Bullock, Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4

Atlanta Federal Center 61 Forsyth St., SW Atlanta, GA 30303 (404) 562-9511

EPA ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE CONTROL NUMBER FORM

TO BE	E COMPLETED BY THE ORIGINATING tach a copy of the final order and transmittal le	OFFIC	<u>:E</u> : efendant/Resno	ndent)	
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This fo	rm was originated by:		Name)		on 2-12-09
		()	чине)		(Date)
in the_	Region 4, ORC, OEA			a	(404) 562- 9504
	(Office)			(Telephone Number)
	Non-SF Judicial Order/Consent Decree USAO COLLECTS		Ad FM	ministrative Order/0 10 COLLECTS PAY	Consent Agreement (MENT
	SF Judicial Order/Consent Decree DOJ COLLECTS		Se	ersight Billing - Cost at with bill t sent with bill	Package required:
	Other Receivable		Ov	ersight Billing - Cost	Package not required
	This is an original debt		Th	is is a modification	
PAYE	E: Serum Pro				
	(Name of person and/or C		Municipality m -	aking the payment)	
The To	otal Dollar Amount of the Receivable: \$_540	$\mathcal{U}_{\underline{}}$		·	
	(II installments, attach schedule of a	HIMMIN'S	_		side of this form.)
The Ca	ase Docket Number: FIFRA O	2009	3022	<u>(6)</u>	
The Si	te Specific Superfund Account Number:				
The De	esignated Regional/Headquarters Program Offic	æ:			
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if you	have any questions, please call:	_ of the	e Financial Mar	nagement Section at:	-
					
DISTR	<u>IBUTION</u> :				
	DICIAL ORDERS: Copies of this form with an attact	hed copy o	of the front page o	of the <u>FINAL JUDICIA</u>	L ORDER
1.	Debt Tracking Officer	2	Originating O	ffice (EAD)	
	Environmental Enforcement Section Department of Justice RM 1647	3.	Designated Pr		
	P.O. Bux 7611, Benjamin Franklin Station Washington, D.C. 20044				
B. <u>AD</u>	MINISTRATIVE ORDERS: Copies of this form wit	h en attac	hed copy of the fi	rout page of the Admini	istrative Order should be to:
ι.	Originating Office	3.		ogram Office	
7	Regional Hearing Clerk	1	Regional Cou	nsel (EAD)	