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May 23, 1997

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Attention: 8(e) Coordinator
Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20460-0001

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Dear 8(e) Coordinator:

Flusilazole
(CAS No. 85509-19-9)

This letter is to inform you of the preliminary results of a recently completed rat pilot dermal developmental toxicity study with a R&D proprietary mixture containing flusilazole and Triton X-15 (octyl phenol ethoxylate). Groups of 8 mated rats were exposed dermally (topical application) to concentrations of 0, 5, 50, or 400 mg/mL test material over days 6-19 of gestation.

Briefly, excessive maternal toxicity was seen at 400 mg/mL; all animals from this group died or were sacrificed in extremis prior to the conclusion of the study. At 50 mg/mL, there was significant, adverse maternal and developmental toxicity. Slight but not statistically significant developmental effects were noted at 5 mg/mL.

At 400mg/mL, clinical signs of toxicity including stained fur were seen. Prior to terminating the exposure of this group, there were also large reductions in maternal weight gain and food consumption. As stated earlier, all animals from this group died or were sacrificed in extremis by day 15 of gestation. Seven of the eight females were pregnant; three females aborted.

At 50 mg/mL, a slight reduction in maternal body weights, body weight gain, and food consumption were noted. Developmental toxicity was evident as a significant increase in embryo/fetal mortality (decrease in live fetuses and an increase in resorptions/litter) and enlarged placentas(4/8). Additionally, an altered sex ratio was observed; the ratio was 72% male/28% female.

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At 5 mg/mL, no changes were noted in maternal body weight gain or food consumption. Enlarged placentas were noted in 3/8 dams and a slight, but not statistically significant, increase in embryo/fetal mortality (fetal resorptions) was seen.

The effects described above are being reported in accordance with the guidance given in the EPA TSCA Section 8(e) Reporting Guide (June, 1991).

Sincerely,