



Georgia Department of Agriculture

Pesticide Division, Room 550 – 19 M.L.K. Jr. Dr., • Atlanta, GA 30334
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Tommy Irvin
Commissioner

December 9, 2002

Document Processing Desk (SLN)
OPP (H7504C), U.S. EPA
401 M Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Reviewer:

Re: EPA SLN GA-020005
ACTIGARD 50 WG (Acibenzolar-S-methyl) – EPA Reg. # 100-922
FOR PRE-TRANSPLANT TREATMENT IN PLANT/FLOAT HOUSES OR SEED BEDS,
AND AS A BANDED FOLIAR TREATMENT SHORTLY AFTER TRANSPLANT, TO
SUPPRESS TOMATO SPOTTED WILT VIRUS (TSWV) IN FLUE CURED TOBACCO IN
GEORGIA

This is to notify you of our decision to issue a special local need registration for the above referenced product. ACTIGARD 50 WG contains the active ingredient acibenzolar-S-methyl, and would be applied at a maximum rate of 0.5 ounces ACTIGARD 50 WG per 25,000 – 50,000 plants in plant houses, float houses, and outside seed beds, and a rate of 0.5 ounces per acre for post transplant field application.

Our Extension Specialist advises that this product has been shown to be effective in numerous field trials and studies. Tomato spotted wilt virus (TSWV) has become the most important and most damaging disease of tobacco in Georgia over the past several years. The disease has become endemic in the Georgia, and we can expect losses of 30 to 40% during years when disease pressure is high. Acibenzolar-S-methyl has been evaluated since 1997 for management of TSWV on tobacco in Georgia, and has been evaluated in other states since that time as well. A summary of the various studies conducted on this product is included with this package. This use is fully supported by Syngenta and the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service.

We trust you will find our approval in order.

Sincerely,

Douglas N. Jones, Jr.
Agriculture Manager
Pesticide Division

cc: Patrick McCain, Syngenta
Alex Csinos, UGA Cooperative Extension Service
Paul Bertrand, UGA Cooperative Extension Service
Paul Guillebeau, UGA Cooperative Extension Service