

Cranberry

Crop Management Newsletter

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CALLISTO® SECTION 18 EMERGENCY EX- EMPTION APPROVED FOR WISCONSIN CRANBERRIES

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) have approved the request for an Emergency Exemption (Section 18) for Callisto on cranberry. Section 18 exemptions are issued for a limited time period to control particular new problem pests that currently registered pesticides will not alleviate. Significant economic impact must also be demonstrated when the emergency pest situation is left uncontrolled. In this case, Callisto may be applied to bearing or non-bearing cranberry beds only for control or suppression of birdsfoot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), violet (*Viola* spp.), marsh St. Johnswort (*Triadenum* Raf.), and buttercup (*Ranunculus* spp.). This emergency exemption is valid from April 23, 2007 through September 30, 2007. For specific crop use directions, precautions, and restrictions please read the Section 18 exemption available

on the DATCP special pesticide registrations web site: <http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/pest-fert/pesticides/SpecialRegistrations043007.htm>. Click on the product name "Callisto" in the listing for cranberry to access the printable exemption label. This exemption must be in the possession of the user at the time of application. Also, consult the main registered product label for Callisto on other crops for further applicable directions and restrictions.

The EPA is scheduled to evaluate the traditional Section 3 full label request for Callisto on cranberry in the near future. The Section 18 Emergency Exemption will allow cranberry growers to manage the four specific weeds listed above prior to evaluation of the Section 3 label request. One of the conditions of a Section 18 Emergency Exemption is that we will be required to report Callisto use on cranberry (geographic location, acreage applied, and total volume applied) to EPA at the end of the season. We will send a usage report this fall for growers to fill out and return.

The active ingredient in Callisto, mesotrione, is an HPPD-inhibitor or bleaching type herbicide. It has herbicide activity when applied pre-emergence or post-emergence to the weeds and provides residual weed control. The symptomology of bleaching type herbicides is very characteristic – affected plants will

turn white or yellow. In our research trials, we have not observed a reduction of cranberry yield from Callisto application. However, as with any new pesticide, it would be advisable to test this product in a small area with the emergency exemption weeds given that research plots cannot account for all climatic conditions, cranberry varieties and bed age, and other variables that differ greatly among marshes.

*Jed Colquhoun, Extension Weed Specialist, UW-Madison, Dept. of Horticulture
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NEWSLETTER CONTINUES

This edition begins volume XX of the Wisconsin Cranberry Crop Management newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to get information into the hands of decision makers on Wisconsin cranberry marshes. We try to provide timely articles on topics of current interest to cranberry growers. If you have suggestions for topics that might be covered, please feel free to suggest them to Teryl Roper.

The success of this newsletter is a result of many people working together. Financial support is provided by The Wisconsin Cranberry Board, Inc., Ocean Spray Cranberries, and Clement Pappas. Articles come from University specialists and crop consultants.

In addition to the paper copy that most of you receive, the newsletter is distributed electronically via e-mail and it is posted on the web—along with archives from previous years.

We hope this newsletter is a valuable service to you. We don't expect you to necessarily agree with everything that is printed herein, but we hope that it will cause you to think and ask questions. Asking questions is always beneficial.

Teryl Roper, UW-Madison Extension Horticulturist

ORBIT FUNGICIDE REGISTERED FOR COTTONBALL CONTROL

After many years of Section 18 registrations, Orbit fungicide now has a regular label for cottonball control in Wisconsin, Oregon, and Washington. Orbit is a product of Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc. The active ingredient is propiconazole, which is a sterol demethylation inhibitor (DMI or SI) fungicide. While the language on the new label is similar to language on previous Section 18 labels, there is a very important difference with regard to permitted spray intervals (see below). You may notice that the label lists "berries" and then names almost every berry you've ever heard of, and some you haven't. Cranberry is NOT on this list. It has its own category, and you must follow the instructions listed for cranberry rather than "berries." Here are some details from the Orbit label:

- Rate per acre: 4-6 fl. oz. (fluid ounces) per acre.
- Spray timing and intervals: Quoting directly from the label, "Make the first application at leaf bud break and repeat in 14 days. Make the third application at early bloom and repeat in 14 days." This is an unfortunate change from the previous labels, which stated a 7- to 10-day spray interval between the two bud break sprays and the two bloom sprays. My concern is that the 14-day interval, especially for the bloom sprays, is too long. Syngenta is working with EPA to get this changed. However, until further notice, you must follow the instructions on the label.
- Ground or aerial application in at least 20 gallons of water per acre.
- Re-entry interval (REI) is 24 hours.
- Do not apply more than 24 fl. oz. per acre per season.
- Do not apply within 45 days of harvest.

Cottonball is the only cranberry disease listed on the label. In research trials over the past decade, Orbit (and another DMI that may be registered in 2007) has consistently been the top performer for cottonball control. It did not decrease yield or have negative effects on bloom or fruit set. I do not know if Orbit is effective on fruit rot or upright dieback, because we have never had high pressure from those diseases in our trials.

Fungicide resistance management. Orbit application is permitted four times per year, but very few growers have a severe enough problem to justify four sprays. This is very good news, because DMI fungicides, including Orbit, have succumbed to fungicide-resistant pathogens on many fruit and vegetable crops. In the late 1990s my research group tested cottonball samples from Wisconsin for resistance to DMI fungicides, including Orbit, and found that our populations were sensitive even at sites where Funginex (another DMI that is no longer available) had been used for many years. This is probably because the cottonball fungus has only two rounds of infection per year (this keeps populations relatively low), and because growers have sprayed DMI fungicides only a few times per year. Therefore, to keep Orbit effective for many years to come, I suggest minimizing its use. Under high disease pressure, where 3 or 4 fungicide sprays are needed, rotate Orbit with Abound. Abound (azoxystrobin) is in a different fungicide class. Abound is not permitted prior to bloom, however, so this will limit its use for cottonball control. Look for more on cottonball management in future editions of the Cranberry Crop Management Newsletter.

Patty McManus, UW-Madison Extension Plant Pathologist

<http://www.syngentacropprotection-us.com/labels/lblDownload.asp?Prdnm=Orbit&lblpdf=/pdf/labels/SCP702A-L2F0107.pdf>

POSTING REQUIREMENTS FOR PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS

Both federal and state laws require that land be posted following pesticide applications. Besides needing to comply with the law, it is also important to post to protect yourself, your employees and perhaps most importantly crop scouts. You and your employees may know where pesticides have been applied, but people coming onto your property to scout or to do research probably won't know if a pesticide was applied unless you tell them and have signs posted.

The state codes are quite clear on the posting requirements. The full regulations can be found in ATCP 29.

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/atcp/atcp029.pdf>

Who is responsible to see warning signs are placed? The owner or manager, the pesticide applicator, and the pesticide applicator's employee, if any. All may be held liable if proper posting is not in place.

Warning signs must be located at normal points of access to the site and at ¼ mile intervals along borders of a site that lie within 300 feet of a residence, day care facility, health care facility, commercial or industrial facility, public recreation area or other non-agricultural areas except a public road, where people are likely to be present during the label specified restricted entry interval (REI).

Signs required under the Worker Protection Standard must be covered or removed not more than 3 days following expiration of the REI, unless required for a subsequent application.

Posting protects you and your employees or contractors.

Teryl Roper, UW-Madison, Extension Horticulturist

The darkest day in life is the one in which we expect something for nothing.

Allen Shawn

YOUTH WORKER SAFETY SEMINARS

Do you hire middle school or high school students to work on your marsh during the summer? Would you like an easy way to meet the requirements for training in pesticide safety as required by the Worker Protection Standard? Would you like to reduce costly accidents involving teenagers on your marsh? If you answered yes to any of these questions then you'll want to make sure that your young summer employees (including family members) attend one of the Youth Safety Seminars sponsored by UW-Extension and the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association on Wednesday June 13.

At these seminars young people will be shown the Worker Protection Standard Pesticide Training Video. We'll provide documentation of completed training to the young people and to the marsh where they are employed. In addition to pesticide training we'll point out and demonstrate the importance of using safe practices for small equipment (string trimmers, lawn mowers, and 4-wheelers) and large equipment (tractors and PTO driven implements). This does not replace the required tractor safety course for those who will be driving or

operating tractors. We'll repeat the graphic demonstration of a dummy caught on a PTO shaft. Young people never forget the carnage that follows.

The first session will be held at the Russell Rezin and Son Marsh in Warrens from 10:00 to noon and the second session will be held at the Lake Dexter County Park on Highway 13 from 2:00 until 4:00 pm; both on June 13. There is no registration fee for this training, but we do ask that you contact the Wood County Extension Office (715-421-8440) to let them know how many young people will be coming from your marsh so we can have sufficient refreshments and information packets.

*Teryl Roper, UW-Madison Extension Horticulturist
Matt Lippert, Wood County Extension Office*

CALENDAR ITEMS

- June 13 Youth Safety Seminars
10:00 Warrens
2:00 Cranmoor
- August 8 Cranberry Field Day, Copper River Cranberry Co., Merrill

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