|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
| American Soybean Association |
|  |

 |

 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
| ****Ag Groups Formally Object to EPA Chlorpyrifos Rule, Citing Harm to Growers and Lack of Scientific Basis**** |

|  |
| --- |
|  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
|  |
|  |

**Washington, D.C., October 19, 2021.** This week, more than 80 agricultural groups filed formal objections to the Environmental Protection Agency’s Aug. 30 rule to revoke all tolerances of chlorpyrifos. Stakeholders, by law, can object to pesticide tolerance changes or cancellations, and the EPA Administrator must then respond.  In the coalition letter, objectors from across the agriculture sector cited numerous concerns with EPA’s revocation decision, including the processes EPA used and lack of scientific basis. EPA’s own scientific record on chlorpyrifos shows there are many safe, high-benefit uses of the chemistry that do not pose a dietary or environmental risk. Regardless, the agency is opting to revoke tolerances for these safe, low-risk uses.   **American Farm Bureau** President Zippy Duvall called the EPA action shortsighted, saying, “Taking care of the land and our natural resources is a top priority for farmers, and this revocation rule actually makes it harder for us to do that. EPA veered from its own scientific evidence in a decision that could be damaging to the land, to farmers and to our efforts to fight food insecurity.”  Additionally, EPA’s rule revokes tolerances on crop uses where many growers have few or no pest management alternatives, leaving them exposed to hundreds of millions of dollars in irreparable crop damage. The revocation rule would also require food holders to provide retroactively-required application documents, which could result in the destruction of millions of dollars of safe food over a paperwork issue.  “It is upsetting that EPA has revoked such an important chemistry without input from USDA or other stakeholders. Chlorpyrifos is critical to the Michigan and Wisconsin cherry industries, as there are no other products that effectively control trunk borers. With more than 4 million cherry trees, Michigan grows 75% of the total U.S. production of tart cherries and roughly 20% of the total U.S. production of sweet cherries. Without this product, our growers risk losing a lot of trees, potentially jeopardizing their family farms,” said Mike VanAgtmael, a west Michigan cherry grower and chairman of the **Cherry Marketing Institute**.  Kevin Scott, soy grower from Valley Springs, South Dakota, and **American Soybean Association** president said, “Chlorpyrifos is a vital tool in the soybean grower’s toolbox, one which EPA has itself said poses no food or environmental risk of concern. Without it, many farmers may have to increase the amount of alternative pesticides they apply, as there are no one-to-one replacements for several pests chlorpyrifos helps control. EPA’s action—counterproductive to the agency’s intended mission—is undermining the ability of growers to be good environmental stewards.”  Dan Younggren, a fifth-generation farmer from Hallock, Minnesota and president of the **American Sugarbeet Growers Association** also expressed that concern and said, “The use of chlorpyrifos is essential in our ability to control the sugar beet root maggot (SBRM), thereby maximizing yields and ensuring stability of the U.S. food supply. Alternative chemistries, which are not as effective, will require more frequent applications and will increase GHG emissions. And, having one less chemistry in our Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy could increase the likelihood of insecticide resistance. Without chlorpyrifos, we could experience significant yield losses of up to 45%, which would be economically devastating to our growers.”  EPA also has failed to conduct required interagency reviews pertaining to its decision on the rule, which are required in this case because the rule could realistically lead to well over $100 million in additional costs to the food and agriculture economy; EPA is required to conduct interagency reviews if harm could be found to total more than this threshold.  The groups ask EPA to postpone implementation of the rule until these objections can be formally considered and addressed by the agency.  A full copy of the stakeholder objection letter can be found [**here**](http://asa.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0xMDI3MzY2OSZwPTEmdT0xMDM1OTc0Njg2JmxpPTkwMzEyNDk3/index.html).  --  The **American Soybean Association** represents U.S. soybean farmers on domestic and international policy issues important to the soybean industry. ASA has 26 affiliated state associations representing 30 soybean-producing states and more than 500,000 soybean farmers. More information at [**soygrowers.com**](http://asa.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0xMDI3MzY2OSZwPTEmdT0xMDM1OTc0Njg2JmxpPTkwMzEyNDk4/index.html).  The **American Farm Bureau Federation** is the nation’s largest general farm organization with member families in all 50 states and Puerto Rico. Learn more at [**fb.org**](http://asa.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0xMDI3MzY2OSZwPTEmdT0xMDM1OTc0Njg2JmxpPTkwMzEyNDk5/index.html) or follow [**@FarmBureau**](http://asa.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0xMDI3MzY2OSZwPTEmdT0xMDM1OTc0Njg2JmxpPTkwMzEyNTAw/index.html) on Twitter.  The **American Sugarbeet Growers Association** represents all of the 10,000 family farmers who grow sugarbeets on 1.1 million acres in eleven states (California, Colorado, Idaho, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming). All twenty-one sugarbeet processing factories are owned by our farmers. More at [**americansugarbeet.org**](http://asa.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0xMDI3MzY2OSZwPTEmdT0xMDM1OTc0Njg2JmxpPTkwMzEyNTAx/index.html).   **Cherry Marketing Institute** is a national organization that represents U.S. tart cherry growers in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Utah for a variety of issues including national and international marketing, government, research, and other industry needs. CMI also represents the Michigan sweet cherry industry, as well. For more, visit [**usacherries.com**](http://asa.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0xMDI3MzY2OSZwPTEmdT0xMDM1OTc0Njg2JmxpPTkwMzEyNTAy/index.html).  |

 |

|  |
| --- |
|   ###      The American Soybean Association (ASA) represents U.S. soybean farmers on domestic and international policy issues important to the soybean industry. ASA has 26 affiliated state associations representing 30 soybean-producing states and more than 500,000 soybean farmers. More information at [***soygrowers.com***](http://asa.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0xMDI3MzY2OSZwPTEmdT0xMDM1OTc0Njg2JmxpPTkwMzEyNTAz/index.html).   |

 |

|  |
| --- |
| **For more information contact:** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
| Wendy Brannen, American Soybean Association, wbrannen@soy.orgMike Tomko, American Farm Bureau Federation, miket@fb.orgLuther Markwart, American Sugarbeet Growers Association, lmarkwart@americansugarbeet.orgKyle Harris, Cherry Marketing Institute, kharris@usacherries.com   |

 |

|  |
| --- |
| Access this release online at [**SoyGrowers.com**](http://asa.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0xMDI3MzY2OSZwPTEmdT0xMDM1OTc0Njg2JmxpPTkwMzEyNTA0/index.html). |

|  |
| --- |
|         |

|  |
| --- |
| If you no longer want to receive News Releases from the American Soybean Association, [**opt out here.**](http://asa.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0xMDI3MzY2OSZ1PTEwMzU5NzQ2ODYmbGk9OTAzMTI1MDUmbD1odHRwOi8vYXNhLmluZm9ybXoubmV0L2FzYS9wYWdlcy9kZWZhdWx0X2Zvcm0_X3pzPVVBZFZYMXxfem1pPUQwZXM/index.html) [**Unsubscribe**](http://asa.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0xMDI3MzY2OSZ1PTEwMzU5NzQ2ODYmbGk9OTAzMTI1MDYmbD1odHRwOi8vYXNhLmluZm9ybXoubmV0L2FzYS9wYWdlcy9kZWZhdWx0X3Vuc3Vic2NyaWJlP196cz1VQWRWWDF8X3ptaT1EMGVz/index.html) from all ASA email. |

 |

 |

 |