Coronavirus Cases Trigger EPA Rapid Response

https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/coronavirus-cases-trigger-epa-rapid-response

To minimize risk to its citizens, the U.S. government is proactively and aggressively working to detect and contain the 2019 novel (new) coronavirus outbreak (COVID-19) first discovered in China. As part of these efforts and in response to U.S. cases of the virus, EPA has activated its Emerging Viral Pathogens Guidance for Antimicrobial Pesticides.

Under this guidance, EPA is providing pesticide registrants with a voluntary process to enable the use of certain EPA-registered disinfectant products against this emerging viral pathogen. Registrants with a pre-qualified emerging viral pathogen designation can include an efficacy statement in technical literature distributed to health care facilities, physicians, nurses, public health officials, non-label-related websites, consumer information services, and social media sites.

EPA Releases List of Disinfectants to Use Against COVID-19

https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-releases-list-disinfectants-use-against-covid-19

EPA released a list of EPA-registered disinfectant products that have qualified for use against SARS-CoV-2, the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19.

Products appearing on EPA’s list registered disinfectant products have qualified for use against COVID-19 through the agency’s Emerging Viral Pathogen program. This program allows product manufacturers to provide EPA with data, even in advance of an outbreak, that shows their products are effective against harder-to-kill viruses than SARS-CoV-2. It also allows additional communications intended to inform the public about the utility of these products against the emerging pathogen in the most expeditious manner.

EPA Expediting Emerging Viral Pathogens Claim Submissions

https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/epa-expediting-emerging-viral-pathogens-claim-submissions

Due to the outbreak of the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, the cause of COVID-19, EPA is expediting the review of submissions from companies requesting to add Emerging Viral Pathogens claims to the labels of their already-registered surface disinfectants.

Claims that do not require review of new efficacy data are being expedited. These claims can be submitted as non-PRIA fast-track amendments.
EPA Expands COVID-19 Disinfectant List

https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-expands-covid-19-disinfectant-list

EPA released an expanded list of EPA-registered disinfectant products that have qualified for use against SARS-CoV-2, the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19. The list contains nearly 200 additional products—including 40 new products that went through the agency’s expedited review process. The agency also made key enhancements to the web-based list to improve its usefulness.

While disinfectant products on this list have not been tested specifically against SARS-CoV-2, the cause of COVID-19, they are expected to be effective against SARS-CoV-2 because they have been tested and proven effective on either a harder-to-kill virus or against another human coronavirus similar to SARS-CoV-2.

The product list has also been updated to include the product’s active ingredient and the amount of time the surface should remain wet to be effective against the given pathogen.

Administrator Wheeler Meets with Disinfectant Manufacturers Highlighting Agency Work to Fight Coronavirus

https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-wheeler-meets-disinfectant-manufacturers-highlighting-agency-work-fight

EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler hosted a series of conference calls with large and small disinfectant manufacturers, including members of the Consumer Brands Association and the Household & Commercial Products Association. On the calls they discussed the agency’s expanded and expedited work in response to the outbreak under the Emerging Viral Pathogens Guidance for Antimicrobial Pesticides.

Under the emerging viral pathogen program, EPA has expedited the review of submissions from companies requesting to add emerging viral pathogen claims to their already registered surface disinfectant labels. In many cases, the agency has been able to approve claims within 14 days, as resources allow, compared to the 90-day window these claims typically take.

EPA Continues Efforts to Help Increase the Availability of Disinfectant Products for Use Against the Novel Coronavirus

https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-continues-efforts-help-increase-availability-disinfectant-products-use-against

EPA took steps to provide additional flexibilities to manufacturers of disinfectants and other pesticides. EPA intends for these flexibilities to increase the availability of products for Americans to use against the novel coronavirus. After meeting with stakeholders last week and discussing supply chain challenges posed by the pandemic, EPA is allowing manufacturers to obtain certain inert ingredients—or inactive ingredients like sodium chloride or glucose—from different suppliers without checking with the agency for approval.
Other Novel Coronavirus-related EPA Web Sites

https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus


https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/frequently-asked-questions-about-list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2

EPA Offers Webinar to Discuss Draft Biological Evaluations for Carbaryl and Methomyl

https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/epa-offers-webinar-discuss-draft-biological-evaluations-carbaryl-and-methomyl

On April 16, 2020, EPA’s Office of Pesticide Programs will host a webinar to present the draft biological evaluations (BEs) for the insecticides carbaryl and methomyl. Register for the webinar here. During the webinar, EPA will answer clarifying questions from the public about the draft carbaryl and methomyl BEs with the goal of better informing stakeholders during the public comment period. EPA is accepting public comments on the draft BEs for carbaryl and methomyl until May 16, 2020. After carefully considering public comments, EPA will finalize the BEs.