INDUSTRY TASK FORCE II ON
2,4-D RESEARCH DATA

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News Release

2,4-D Herbicide Does Not Cause Cancer According to Extensive Research by EPA

(Washington, DC, August 13, 2007) An herbicide used by farmers, turf professionals and homeowners to control weeds in agricultural crops, lawns and other grassy areas has been found to have no human carcinogenic effects.

Last week, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced it would not begin a special review process of 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid better known as 2,4-D. The EPA first brought the herbicide under consideration for Special Review in 1986 – a process opened if the use of a pesticide is thought to cause "unreasonable adverse effects to people or the environment," according to EPA documents.

After more than 21 years of research and review, the EPA announced on August 8 its 'Decision Not to Initiate a Special Review' of 2,4-D because its findings concluded 2,4-D is not a carcinogen.

"The EPA's recent announcement reconfirms that 2,4-D poses no risk to human health," says Jack Dutra, executive director of the Industry Task Force II on 2,4-D Research Data. "2,4-D is recognized worldwide as a tool that improves the quality and growth of agricultural crops."

Dutra adds that 2,4-D also enhances millions of acres of turf grass in local communities across the U.S. "A healthy lawn benefits our environment in numerous ways by filtering pollution runoff, serving as a cooling agent around buildings and hindering the spread of fire," he explains. "Lawns also provide a living green space for families to enjoy outdoor activities."

Use of 2,4-D is also beneficial in controlling weeds that cause allergies such as common ragweed and poisonous plants like poison ivy and poison oak.

Full text of EPA's decision may be found at:

http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-PEST/2007/August/Day-08/p15109.htm

About 2,4-D Herbicide

2,4-D is an important herbicide used worldwide to protect a variety of crops such as wheat, corn, rice, soybeans, potatoes, sugar cane, pome fruits, stone fruits, nuts, as well as forestry and non-crop areas, such as lawns. It also controls invasive species in lakes and canals and federally protected areas. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the loss of 2,4-D would cost the U.S. economy $1.7billion annually in higher food production and weed control expenses.

About the Task Force

In 1989, the Industry Task Force II on 2,4-D Research Data (2,4-D Task Force) was created to fund new research required by the EPA and Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency for their respective pesticide re-registration/re-evaluation programs. The 2,4-D Task Force completed over 300 GLP laboratory and field studies for reregistration and special studies for cancer review. The current companies making up the Task Force are Dow AgroSciences (U.S.), Nufarm Limited (Australia) and Agro-Gor Corp., a U.S. corporation jointly owned by Atanor, S.A. (Argentina) and PBI-Gordon Corp. (U.S.).

For more information about 2,4-D, visit www.24d.org or call 800-345-5109.

Highlights of 2,4-D Herbicide's 62-year History

1945 – U.S. Patent No 2,390,941 is issued for 2,4-D to plant physiologist Dr. Franklin D. Jones of the American Chemical Paint Company.

1947 – 2,4-D is registered for use in the United States on crops and turf grass.

1950 – 14 million pounds of 2,4-D produced.

1964 – 54 million pounds of 2,4-D produced as farmers and homeowners alike discover the benefits of effective weed control. Studies at the time found that weeds typically destroyed 30 – 35 percent of crop yields.

1970 – Plant scientists continue to find new uses for 2,4-D in protecting crops, such as plant growth regulator on potatoes and weed control for blueberries, cranberries, raspberries and strawberries.

1980 – The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) initiates assessment for a toxicology review of 2,4-D.

1986 – EPA issues preliminary notification of Special Review.

1988 – Beginning of reregistration data development by the 2,4-D Task Force and review by EPA.

1996 – World Health Organization completes its toxicological review of 2,4-D and determines the compound does not present a risk to human health.

2001 – European Commission completes its toxicological and environmental assessment of 2,4-D and states "…that the plant protection products containing 2,4-D will fulfill the safety requirements laid down in the Directive 91/414/EEC."

2004 – The Henry Ford organization in Dearborn, Michigan declares 2,4-D one of the 75 most important innovations in the previous 75 years.

2005 – EPA releases 2,4-D Reregistration Eligibility Decision (RED). EPA's review of human health and environmental data concludes there is no additional evidence that would implicate 2,4-D as a cause of cancer and it does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health when product instructions are followed.

2007 – Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency issues "Proposed Acceptability for Continued Registration" and determines 2,4-D can be used safely when label directions are followed.

2007 – EPA determines the existing data do not support a conclusion that links human cancer to 2,4-D exposure and issues "Decision Not to Initiate a Special Review" after more than 21 years of research and agency review.