



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Directorate E – Safety of the food chain  
Unit E.3 - Chemicals, contaminants, pesticides

Bifenox  
SANCO/3776/08 – final  
31 January 2008  
May 2009<sup>1</sup>

**COMMISSION WORKING DOCUMENT - DOES NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT  
THE VIEWS OF THE COMMISSION SERVICES**

Review report for the active substance **bifenox**

Finalised in the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health at its meeting on  
14 March 2008  
in view of the inclusion of bifenox in Annex I of Directive 91/414/EEC

**1. Procedure followed for the re-evaluation process**

This review report has been established as a result of the re-evaluation of bifenox, made in the context of the work programme for review of existing active substances provided for in Article 8(2) of Directive 91/414/EEC concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market, with a view to the possible inclusion of this substance in Annex I to the Directive.

Commission Regulation (EC) No 451/2000<sup>(2)</sup> laying down the detailed rules for the implementation of the second and third stages of the programme of work referred to in Article 8(2) of Council Directive 91/414/EEC, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1490/2002<sup>(3)</sup>, has laid down the detailed rules on the procedure according to which the re-evaluation has to be carried out. bifenox is one of the existing active substances covered by this Regulation.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 451/2000, Feinchemie Schwebda notified to the Commission of their wish to secure the inclusion of the active substance bifenox in Annex I to the Directive.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 451/2000, the Commission designated Belgium as rapporteur Member State to carry out the assessment of bifenox on the

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<sup>1</sup> On May 2009 the Standing Committee on Food Chain and Animal Health took note of this amended revision which includes the results of the confirmatory studies on the specification to be used for future assessments.

<sup>2</sup> OJ No L 55, 29.02.2000, p.25.

<sup>3</sup> OJ No L 224, 21.8.2002, p.23. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1095/2007 (OJ L 246, 21.09.2007, p. 19).

basis of the dossiers submitted by the notifier. In Regulation (EC) No 1490/2002 the Commission specified furthermore that the deadline for the notifier with regard to the submission to the rapporteur Member States of the dossiers required under Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1490/2002, as well as for other parties with regard to further technical and scientific information was 30 November 2003.

The notifier submitted by the deadline a dossier to the rapporteur Member State which did not contain substantial data gaps, taking into account the supported uses. Therefore Feinchemie Schwebda was considered to be the sole data submitter.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 10(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1490/2002, Belgium submitted on 4 July 2005 to the EFSA the report of their examination, hereafter referred to as the draft assessment report, including, as required, a recommendation concerning the possible inclusion of bifenoX in Annex I to the Directive. Moreover, in accordance with the provisions of Article 10(2) of Regulation (EC) 1490/2002, the Commission and the Member States received also the summary dossier on bifenoX from the notifier.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of Regulation (EC) No 1490/2002, the EFSA organised the consultation on the draft assessment report by all the Member States as well as by Feinchemie Schwebda being the sole data submitter, on 25 January 2006 by making it available.

The EFSA organised an intensive consultation of technical experts from a certain number of Member States, to review the draft assessment report and the comments received thereon (peer review).

In accordance with the provisions of Article 11 (4) of Regulation 1490/2002 the EFSA sent to the Commission its conclusion on the risk assessment [Conclusions regarding the peer review of the pesticide risk assessment of the active substance bifenoX (finalised 29 November 2007)<sup>4</sup>]. This conclusion refers to background document A (draft assessment report) and background document B (EFSA peer review report).

In accordance with the provisions of Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 1490/2002, the Commission referred on 14 March 2008 a draft review report to the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health, for final examination. The draft review report was finalised in the meeting of the Standing Committee on 14 March 2008.

The present review report contains the conclusions of the final examination by the Standing Committee. Given the importance of the conclusion of the EFSA, and the comments and clarifications submitted after the conclusion of the EFSA (background document C), these documents are also considered to be part of this review report.

On May 2009, the **Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health**, took note of the present revision in which the results of the confirmatory studies on the specification have been included in an addendum to the draft assessment report. This specification will become the **EU reference specification**, which means that all technical equivalence checks should entail a comparison to this specification.

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3 EFSA Scientific Report (2007) 119, 1-84.

## **2. Purposes of this review report**

This review report, including the background documents and appendices thereto, has been developed and finalised in support of the Directive **2008/66/EC**<sup>5</sup> concerning the inclusion of bifenoX in Annex I to Directive 91/414/EEC, and to assist the Member States in decisions on individual plant protection products containing bifenoX they have to take in accordance with the provisions of that Directive, and in particular the provisions of article 4(1) and the uniform principles laid down in Annex VI.

This review report provides also for the evaluation required under Section A.2.(b) of the above mentioned uniform principles, as well as under several specific sections of part B of these principles. In these sections it is provided that Member States, in evaluating applications and granting authorisations, shall take into account the information concerning the active substance in Annex II of the directive, submitted for the purpose of inclusion of the active substance in Annex I, as well as the result of the evaluation of those data.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 1490/2002, Member States will keep available or make available this review report for consultation by any interested parties or will make it available to them on their specific request.

The information in this review report is, at least partly, based on information which is confidential and/or protected under the provisions of Directive 91/414/EEC. It is therefore recommended that this review report would not be accepted to support any registration outside the context of Directive 91/414/EEC, e.g. in third countries, for which the applicant has not demonstrated to have regulatory access to the information on which this review report is based.

## **3. Overall conclusion in the context of Directive 91/414/EEC**

The overall conclusion from the evaluation is that it may be expected that plant protection products containing bifenoX will fulfil the safety requirements laid down in Article 5(1)(a) and (b) of Directive 91/414/EEC. This conclusion is however subject to compliance with the particular requirements in sections 4, 5, 6 and 7 of this report, as well as to the implementation of the provisions of Article 4(1) and the uniform principles laid down in Annex VI of Directive 91/414/EEC, for each bifenoX containing plant protection product for which Member States will grant or review the authorisation.

Furthermore, these conclusions were reached within the framework of the uses which were proposed and supported by the main data submitter and mentioned in the list of uses supported by available data (attached as Appendix II to this review report).

Extension of the use pattern beyond those described above will require an evaluation at Member State level in order to establish whether the proposed extensions of use can satisfy the requirements of Article 4(1) and of the uniform principles laid down in Annex VI of Directive 91/414/EEC.

The following reference values have been finalised as part of this re-evaluation:

ADI 0.3 mg/Kg bw/day

ARfD 0.5 mg/Kg bw

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<sup>5</sup> Commission Directive 2008/66/EC (OJ L 171, 01.07.2008, p.9)

AOEL 0.125 mg/Kg bw/day

With particular regard to residues, the review has established that the residues arising from the proposed uses, consequent on application consistent with good plant protection practice, have no harmful effects on human or animal health. The Theoretical Maximum Daily Intake (TMDI; excluding water and products of animal origin) for a 60 kg adult is 0.055% of the Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI), based on the FAO/WHO European Diet (August 1994). Additional intake from water is not expected to give rise to intake problems.

Estimates of acute dietary exposure of adults and children revealed that the Acute Reference Dose (ARfD) would not be exceeded ( According to the UK model :- 0.17% or 0.42% of the ARfD, respectively for adults and children).

While the consumer exposure to residues of Bifenox in wheat grain is expected to be insignificant (<1% of the ADI and ARfD, respectively), the exposure to residues in food of animal origin and in rotated crops cannot be assessed due to the lack of data.

The review has identified several acceptable exposure scenarios for operators, workers and bystanders, which require however to be confirmed for each plant protection product in accordance with the relevant sections of the above mentioned uniform principles.

The review has also concluded that under the proposed and supported conditions of use there are no unacceptable effects on the environment, as provided for in Article 4 (1) (b) (iv) and (v) of Directive 91/414/EEC.

#### **4. Identity**

The identity of bifenox is given in Appendix I.

The active substance shall comply with the minimum purity of 970 g/kg (see appendix I). The FAO specification is given in Appendix I of this report.

The review has established that for the active substance notified by the sole data submitter the manufacturing impurities 2,4-dichlorophenol and 2,4-dichloroanisole are considered to be of toxicological concern and maximum levels of 3 g/kg and 6 g/kg respectively are established.

#### **5. Endpoints and related information**

In order to facilitate Member States, in granting or reviewing authorisations, to apply adequately the provisions of Article 4(1) of Directive 91/414/EEC and the uniform principles laid down in Annex VI of that Directive, the most important endpoints were identified during the re-evaluation process. These endpoints are listed in the conclusion of the EFSA, and at section 3 of this report.

## **6. Particular conditions to be taken into account on short term basis by Member States in relation to the granting of authorisations of plant protection products containing bifenox**

On the basis of the proposed and supported uses (as listed in Appendix II), the following particular issues have been identified as requiring particular and short term attention from all Member States, in the framework of any authorisations to be granted, varied or withdrawn, as appropriate:

Member States should pay particular attention to:

- the operator and worker safety. Conditions of use should include protective measures, where appropriate.
- the potential residues of bifenox and hydroxybifenox acid (if this metabolite is toxicologically relevant) in food of animal origin and potential residues of bifenox in the rotated crops in order to perform a robust dietary risk assessment for the consumers.

## **7. List of studies to be generated**

Further studies were identified which were at this stage considered necessary in relation to the inclusion of bifenox in Annex I under the current inclusion conditions. In particular

- information to confirm the assessment of consumer exposure to bifenox residues in rotational crops and to residues of bifenox and its metabolite hydroxybifenox acid in products of animal origin,
- information to further address the long-term risk to herbivorous mammals arising from the use of bifenox

Some other endpoints however may require the generation or submission of additional studies to be submitted to the Member States in order to ensure authorisations for use under certain conditions. The list of studies to be generated, still ongoing or available but not peer reviewed can be found in the relevant part of the EFSA Scientific report (page 33-34).

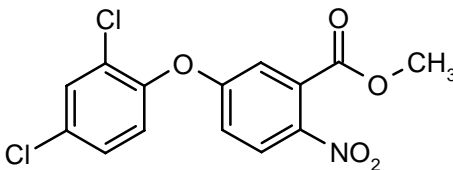
## **8. Information on studies with claimed data protection**

For information of any interested parties, the rapporteur Member State will keep available a document which gives information about the studies for which the main data submitter has claimed data protection and which during the re-evaluation process were considered as essential with a view to annex I inclusion. This information is only given to facilitate the operation of the provisions of Article 13 of Directive 91/414/EEC in the Member States. It is based on the best information available but it does not prejudice any rights or obligations of Member States or operators with regard to its uses in the implementation of the provisions of Article 13 of the Directive 91/414/EEC and neither does it commit the Commission.

## **9. Updating of this review report**

The information in this report may require to be updated from time to time in order to take account of technical and scientific developments as well as of the results of the examination of any information referred to the Commission in the framework of Articles 7, 10 or 11 of Directive 91/414/EEC. Any such adaptation will be finalised in the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health, in connection with any amendment of the inclusion conditions for bifenoxy in Annex I of the Directive.

**APPENDIX I****Identity****BIFENOX**

<b>Common name (ISO)</b>	bifenox
<b>Chemical name (IUPAC)</b>	<i>Methyl 5-(2,4-dichlorophenoxy)-2-nitrobenzoate</i>
<b>Chemical name (CA)</b>	Methyl 5-(2,4-dichlorophenoxy)-2-nitrobenzoate
<b>CIPAC No</b>	413
<b>CAS No</b>	42576-02-3
<b>EEC No</b>	EINECS: 255-894-7
<b>FAO SPECIFICATION</b>	413/TC/S/F (1992), published in AGP:CP/308 (1994): purity: "the Bifenox content shall be declared (not less than 970 g/kg) and, when determined, the content obtained shall not differ from that declared by more than $\pm 20$ g/kg"
<b>Minimum purity</b>	970 g/kg (commercial plant)
<b>Molecular formula</b>	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>9</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>5</sub>
<b>Molecular mass</b>	342.14
<b>Structural formula</b>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bifenox</b></p>

**APPENDIX II**  
**List of uses supported by available data**

**BIFENOX**

Crop and/or situation (a)	Member State or Country	Product name	F G or I (b)	Pests or Group of pests controlled (c)	Formulation		Application				Application rate per treatment			PHI (days) (l)	Remarks: (m)
					Type (d-f)	Conc. of as (i)	method kind (f-h)	growth stage & season (j)	number min max (k)	interval between applications (min)	g as/hl min max	water l/ha min max	g as/ha min max		
Winter wheat, winter barley	North and South Europe	Milan	F	Broad leaved weeds	SC	B: 500 P: 9	Tractor mounted boom sprayer	Post emergence in spring BBCH 13 to BBCH 29	1	Not applicable	B: 188 - 750 P: 3 - 13.5	100 - 400	B: 750 P: 13.5	Not applicable	

B: Bifenox; P: Pyraflufen-ethyl

- Remarks:**
- (a) For crops, the EU and Codex classifications (both) should be used; where relevant, the use situation should be described (e.g. fumigation of a structure)
  - (b) Outdoor or field use (F), glasshouse application (G) or indoor application (I)
  - (c) e.g. biting and suckling insects, soil born insects, foliar fungi, weeds
  - (d) e.g. wettable powder (WP), emulsifiable concentrate (EC), granule (GR)
  - (i) g/kg or g/l
  - (j) Growth stage at last treatment (BBCH Monograph, Growth Stages of Plants, 1997, Blackwell, ISBN 3-8263-3152-4), including where relevant, information on season at time of application
  - (k) The minimum and maximum number of application possible under practical conditions of use must be provided

- (e) GCPF Codes - GIFAP Technical Monograph No 2, 1989
- (f) All abbreviations used must be explained
- (g) Method, *e.g.* high volume spraying, low volume spraying, spreading, dusting, drench
- (h) Kind, *e.g.* overall, broadcast, aerial spraying, row, individual plant, between the plants - type of equipment used must be indicated
- (l) PHI - minimum pre-harvest interval
- (m) Remarks may include: Extent of use/economic importance/restrictions

