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STATE PLANT
BOARD

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**NOTICE OF EMERGENCY EXEMPTION FOR THE USE OF COUMAPHOS TO CONTROL
VARROA MITE AND SMALL HIVE BEETLE IN BEE HIVES
February 25, 2004**

The Environmental Protection Agency has granted a specific exemption under the provisions of Section 18 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, as amended, to the Arkansas State Plant Board for the use of CheckMite+ (aka Bayer Bee Strips) (coumaphos) for the control of varroa mites and small hive beetle in bee hives. **Applicators must be in possession of the CheckMite+ Emergency Exemption Labeling at the time of application.** All applicable directions, restrictions, and precautions on the product label must be followed.

To control varroa mite, remove honey supers before application of CheckMite+ Strips and **do not replace until 14 days after the strips have been removed.** Use one strip for each five combs of bees in each brood chamber (Langstroth deep frames or their equivalent). Hang the strips in separate spaces between the combs as near the center of the bee/brood cluster as possible. If two deep brood chambers are used for the brood nest, hang CheckMite+ Strips in both the top and bottom brood chambers. Treat all infested colonies within the yard. Treatment is most effective when brood rearing is lowest. Effective control may be achieved by treating hives in the spring before the first honey flow and in the fall after the last honey flow. For maximum efficacy leave the strips in the hive for at least 42 days (six weeks). **Do not leave strips in hive for more than 45 days. Do not treat more than twice a year for varroa mites. Honey supers may be replaced 14 days after strips are removed.**

To control the small hive beetle, remove honey supers before application of CheckMite+ Strips and **do not replace until 14 days after the strips have been removed.** Prepare a piece of corrugated cardboard approximately 4x4 inches by removing one side. Remove one CheckMite+ Strip. Cut strip in half crossways and staple the two pieces to the corrugated side of the cardboard. Tape over the smooth side of the cardboard (the side opposite the strips) with duct tape, shipping tape or similar tape to prevent the bees from chewing and removing the cardboard. Or use one sided plastic corrugated sheets. Place cardboard as near to the center of the bottom board as possible with the strips down. Make sure the bottom board is clean and the strips lay flat on the bottom board. For maximum efficacy leave the strips in the hive for at least forty two (42) days. **Remove after 45 days. Do not treat more than four times per year for the small hive beetle. Honey supers may be replaced 14 days after strips are removed.**

Treatments may only be made at a time when bees are not producing surplus honey.

Chemical resistant gloves must be worn when handling strips.

Securely wrap used strips and/or container packaging in several layers of newspapers and dispose in a sanitary land fill.

A report of each application made under the Exemption must be filed with the Plant Board within 10 days of the time the strips are placed in the hives. The following format is suggested for use by the applicator so the information required by the EPA will be provided: **THIS INFORMATION IS NOT TO BE REPORTED ON PINK FORM NUMBER 1007.**

REPORT OF COUMAPHOS APPLICATION TO BEE HIVES

Applicator's Name:
Applicator's Address:
Farmer's Name:
Farmer's Address:
Number of Hives Treated:
Number of Strips Used per Hive:
Location of Hives:
Time and Date of Application:

Reports may be mailed to: Arkansas State Plant Board-Pesticide Division, PO Box 1069, Little Rock, AR 72203-1069 or faxed to: (501)-312-7053.

THIS EXEMPTION EXPIRES FEBRUARY 01, 2005

Report of Section 18 Application

Pesticide: COUMAPHOS (CHECKMITE+)

Applicator's Name: _____

Applicator's Address: _____

Farmer's Name: _____

(May be left blank if same as Applicator's Name)

Farmer's Address: _____

(May be left blank if same as Applicator's Address)

Number of Hives Treated: _____

Strips per Hive: _____

Location of Hives: _____

Date of Application: _____

(List date the strips were placed in the hive)

Time of Application: _____

Mail reports to the Arkansas State Plant Board, PO Box 1069, Little Rock, AR 72203
or Fax to (501) 312-7053. Reports must be submitted within **10 days** of application.

This report only applies to individuals who apply Coumaphos impregnated strips to control
Varroa Mites or Small Hive Beetles in their Bee Hives.

Please disregard this report if you do not apply Coumaphos impregnated strips to Bee Hives.