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Standard Terminology Relating to Pesticides¹

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- absorption**—a process in which one material (the absorbent) takes in and retains another (the absorbate).
- acclimation period**—the time necessary for an animal to adjust to the laboratory and specific test environments.
- amphoteric surfactant**—a surface-active agent capable of forming, in aqueous solution, either surface-active anions or surface-active cations depending on the pH.
- anionic surfactant**—a surface-active agent in which the active portion of the molecule containing the lipophilic segment forms exclusively a negative ion (anion) when placed in aqueous solution.
- attractant**—an agent that increases the attentive frequency of an organism.
- avicide**—a chemical used to kill, control, or cause other adverse effects on birds.
- band application**—an application of a pesticide to a continuous restricted area such as in or along a crop row rather than over the entire field area.
- binder**—a substance used in dry formulations to produce or enhance cohesion of solid particles.
- broadcast application**—the distribution of a material uniformly over the entire area to be treated and not just to portions of the area.
- carcinogen**—an agent producing or inciting cancerous growth.
- carrier**—(1) a gas, liquid, or solid used to propel or transport a pesticide;*(2) an organism that bears an infectious agent, but that shows no marked symptoms of the disease caused by that agent.
- cidaphobia**—sensitivity of target animals that increases their aversion to the high mortality within the population.
- chemical repellent**—any substance whose odor, taste, appearance, tactile sensation, or combination thereof produces an aversion response in the target animal.
- colorant**—a material used to alter the color of a formulation.
- contact herbicide**—a chemical that kills those plant parts with which it comes into contact.
- corrosion inhibitor**—a material added to a product to reduce its tendency to degrade metals.
- defoliant**—a chemical that causes the foliage to drop from plants.
- deposit**—the amount of pesticide on a unit area of surface.
- dermal toxicity**—the toxic effect to an organism resulting from contact of the pesticide with the skin.
- diluent**—a gas, liquid, or solid used to reduce the concentration of an active ingredient in the formulation or application of a pesticide.
- directed application**—an application to a restricted area such as a row, bed, or at the base of plants.
- disinfestant**—an agent that kills, inactivates, or repels organisms in or on plants, animals, or inanimate objects.
- dispersant**—a material that inhibits the agglomeration of suspended particles by electrostatic or steric stabilization.
- dose, dosage**—the quantity of substance applied per unit treated or applied to or entering an organism.
- drift**—The physical movement of an agrochemical through the air at the time of application or soon thereafter to any non or off-target site. Drift shall not include movement to non or off-target sites caused by erosion, migration, volatility or wind blown soil particles that occur after application unless specifically advertised on the label.
- emulsifiable concentrate**—a single-phase liquid system having the property of forming an emulsion when mixed with water.
- emulsifier**—see **emulsifying agent**
- emulsifying agent**—a surfactant that promotes the suspension of one liquid in another.
- emulsion**—a suspension of fine particles or globules of one or more liquids in another liquid.
- eradication**—the complete elimination of a pest from an area.
- fragrance**—an odorant used to mask another odor to impart a specific smell to a formulation.
- freeze protection agent**—a material that lowers the freezing point or helps to restore the formulation to its original state after freezing and thawing.
- fumigant**—a chemical used in gaseous form to kill or inhibit pests.
- fungistat**—an agent that inhibits the germination of fungus spores or the development of mycelium.
- invert emulsion**—a water in oil emulsion also known as closed phase emulsion, total emulsion and invert.

¹ This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E35 on Pesticides and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E35.90 on Executive.

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