



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY  
AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

Texas Department of Agriculture  
P.O. Box 12847  
Austin, TX 78711

**Effective Date:** APR 28 2017  
**Expiration Date:** October 31, 2017  
**Report Due:** April 30, 2018  
**File Symbol:** 17TX05

**Attn:** Kevin Haack

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency hereby issues a specific exemption under the provisions of Section 18 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, as amended, to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the use of sulfoxaflor (CAS Reg. No. 946578-00-3) on cotton to control tarnished plant bug (*Lygus lineolaris*) in Texas. This specific exemption is subject to the conditions set forth in your request dated April 20, 2017, as well as the following conditions, modifications and restrictions:

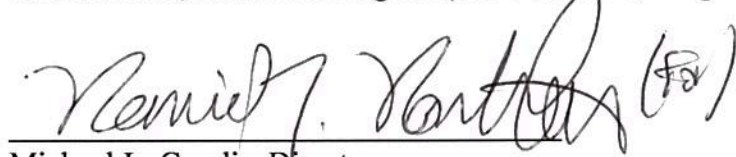
1. The Texas Department Agriculture (TDA) is responsible for ensuring that all provisions of this specific exemption are met. TDA is also responsible for providing information in accordance with 40 CFR 166.32(b). Accordingly, a report summarizing the results of this program must be submitted to EPA Headquarters and the EPA Region 6 Office within 6 months following the expiration of this exemption or prior to requesting a subsequent specific exemption for this use. In accordance with 40 CFR 166.32(a), these offices shall also be immediately informed of any adverse effects resulting from the use of this pesticide in connection with this exemption.
2. The registered product, Transform<sup>®</sup> WG Insecticide (EPA Reg. No. 62719-625, containing 50% sulfoxaflor), manufactured by Dow AgroSciences, may be applied. All applicable directions for use, restrictions, and precautions on the EPA-registered product label including Worker Protection Standards must be followed, as well as those outlined on the Section 18 use directions submitted with your request, unless otherwise modified in this authorization document.
3. Foliar applications may be made by ground or air at a rate of 1.5-2.25 oz. of product (0.047-0.071 lb a.i.) per acre. A maximum of 4 applications may be made per year, but no more than 8.5 oz. of product (0.266 lb a.i.) may be applied per acre per year.

4. To minimize spray drift and potential exposure of bees when foraging on plants adjacent to treated fields, applications are prohibited when wind speeds are above 10 miles per hour (mph).
5. Retreatments are prohibited within 5 days of application. A restricted entry interval (REI) of 24 hours applies to all applications.
6. Pre-harvest interval (PHI): Do not apply within 14 days of harvest.
7. A maximum of 4,000,000 acres of cotton fields may be treated in the following 93 Texas counties: Andrews, Armstrong, Atascosa, Austin, Bailey, Baylor, Bee, Borden, Brazoria, Briscoe, Brooks, Calhoun, Callahan, Cameron, Carson, Castro, Childress, Cochran, Coke, Coleman, Collingsworth, Colorado, Cottle, Crosby, Dallam, Dawson, Dickens, Donley, Duvall, Fayette, Fisher, Floyd, Foard, Fort Bend, Gaines, Garza, Goliad, Gonzales, Gray, Hale, Hall, Hansford, Hardeman, Hartley, Haskell, Hemphill, Hildago, Hockley, Howard, Hutchinson, Jackson, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Jones, Kent, King, Kleberg, Knox, Lamb, Lavaca, Lipscomb, Lubbock, Lynn, Martin, Matagorda, Mitchell, Moore, Motley, Nolan, Nueces, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Refugio, Roberts, Runnels, San Patricio, Scurry, Shackelford, Sherman, Starr, Stonewall, Swisher, Taylor, Terry, Throckmorton, Victoria, Washington, Wharton, Wheeler, Willacy, Wilson, and Yoakum.
8. **Environmental Hazards Statement:** “This product is highly toxic to bees exposed through contact during spraying and while spray droplets are still wet. This product may be toxic to bees exposed to treated foliage for up to 3 hours following application. Toxicity is reduced when spray droplets are dry. Risks to managed and native pollinators from contact with pesticide spray or residues can be minimized when applications are made before 7:00 am or after 7:00 pm local time or when the temperature is below 55 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) at the site of application.”
9. **Advisory Pollinator Statement:** “Notifying known beekeepers within 1 mile of the treatment area 48 hours before the product is applied will allow them to take additional steps to protect bees. If known apiaries are within one mile of cotton fields intended for treatment, applications should be made within three hours of sunset during the flowering period. Prior to use of Transform<sup>®</sup> WG Insecticide, growers are advised to refer to and, where feasible, observe the cooperative standards outlined in the Texas Apiary Inspection Service (TAIS) for additional guidance and bee conservation stewardship efforts.”
10. This specific exemption expires October 31, 2017.
11. Applications made in accordance with the above provisions are not expected to result in combined residues of sulfoxaflor, including its metabolites and degradates, in or on cotton commodities in excess of the following existing tolerances at 40 CFR at 180.668(a): cottonseed subgroup 20C at 0.20 ppm; cotton, gin byproducts at 6.0 ppm; cotton, hulls at 0.35 ppm. The Agency has determined that these levels are adequate to protect the public health.

12. This is the first year that TDA has requested a Section 18 emergency exemption for the use of sulfoxaflor on cotton to control tarnished plant bug. In the event that TDA requests this use pattern next year, the EPA has made a preliminary determination that this use is eligible for a streamlined application under the re-certification program (40 CFR 166.20(b)(5)) in 2018.

Any future correspondence regarding this exemption should refer to file symbol 17TX05.

If you have any questions regarding this authorization, please contact Emergency Response Team member Tamica Cain (703-347-8110; [cain.tamica@epa.gov](mailto:cain.tamica@epa.gov)) or the Emergency Response Team Leader, Tawanda Maignan (703-308-8050; [maignan.tawanda@epa.gov](mailto:maignan.tawanda@epa.gov)).



Michael L. Goodis, Director  
Registration Division  
Office of Pesticide Programs

Date: 4/28/2017

cc: Jeffrey Lammers, USEPA Region 6- Regional Coordinator  
Elizabeth Reyes, USEPA Region 6- Tribal Coordinator