



TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

KEN GIVENS
COMMISSIONER

REGULATORY SERVICES
Ag inputs and Pesticides

MEMORANDUM

TO: Tennessee Nursing Homes Serviced by Biotech Management, Inc.

FROM: Tennessee Department of Agriculture and Tennessee Department of Health

SUBJECT: Possible Misapplication of Pesticides

DATE: June 29, 2009

Your facility has been identified as having been recently serviced by Bio-Tech Management, Inc, based in Pelham, Alabama.

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture is investigating possible misapplications of pesticides administered by Bio-Tech after being notified by the Georgia Department of Agriculture of indications of improper use of pesticides in nursing homes in that state.

The department has obtained application records from Bio-Tech and is currently visiting each nursing home serviced by the company in order to obtain samples necessary in determining possible misapplications. We are also working closely with the Tennessee Department of Health to determine any health risks associated with this issue.

Specifically, we are looking for the presence of Terimidor and other products intended for outdoor use that may have been improperly applied indoors. Based on preliminary sampling by our department, state Health officials have determined that the presence of this chemical in low concentrations poses minimal risk to human health.

While preliminary test results indicate a very low health risk, as a precautionary measure, Agriculture and Health officials recommend that each nursing home facility serviced by Bio-Tech clean the areas normally treated with pesticides. Cleaning can be accomplished using mild detergents and water. Additional cleaning instructions are attached for your convenience.

Should test results on samples obtained from your nursing home facility indicate levels of pesticide that would be of concern to human health, you will be notified.

We are committed to ensuring the safe use of pesticides in Tennessee and will continue working with state Health officials to ensure the safety of healthcare facilities. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Tennessee Department of Agriculture Regulatory Services Division at 615-837-5148, or the Tennessee Department of Health at 615-741-7221.

Ellington Agricultural Ctr, Box 40627, Nashville, TN 37204 Phone (615) 837-5148 Fax (615) 837-5012