

ACTION® - A NEW HARVEST AID IN COTTON

H. Ray Smith, Jerry Wells, et. al.

Novartis Crop Protection

College Station, TX

Greensboro, NC

Abstract

Action®, formerly CGA-248757 (fluthiacet-methyl) is a herbicidal harvest aid being developed by Novartis Crop Protection in cotton. Action® is a PPO inhibitor that induces accumulation of protoporphyrins which leads to irreversible damage to cell membranes and cell function. This activity on the foliage of cotton is very rapid, and usually shows symptoms within 24 hours.

Laboratory and field studies have shown that Action® stimulates the production of ethylene from cotton leaves similar to that of Def 6 or Folex. In field studies conducted since 1993, Action has provided effective cotton defoliation at a rate of 0.6 oz product/A alone (one to two applications) or in combination with Dropp. Action® resulted in leaf drop comparable to that of Def 6 or Folex, but showed greater regrowth inhibition than Def 6 or Folex.

Action® will be marketed as a 0.91 lb/gal E.C. at a rate of 0.6 to 0.9 oz/A, but not to exceed 1.25 oz/A per year. Registration is expected the second quarter of the year 2000.