the comment date. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–830 Filed 1–13–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

OPPTS–00231; FRL–5765–9]

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act Scientific Advisory Panel; Panel on Bacillus Thuringiensis Plant Pesticides and Resistance Management; Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: There will be a 2–day meeting of a Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) Subpanel on managing the emergence of resistance in insect pest populations to *Bacillus Thuringiensis* (*Bt*) plant-pesticides. The meeting will be open to the public. The Panel will discuss specific questions posed by the Agency based on an EPA report. This meeting will be the second in a series of SAP meetings the Agency intends to hold on resistance management and *Bt*. The first meeting was held on March 1, 1995. EPA anticipates it will hold a third meeting in late 1998 or early 1999, to review a second report it intends to prepare issuing information submitted to EPA in late 1997 and 1998.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Monday and Tuesday, February 9 and 10, 1998, starting at 9 a.m. and ending at 5 p.m. Should this meeting be canceled because of weather-related problems, the meeting will then be rescheduled for February 17 and 18, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at EPA, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Rm. 1126, Arlington, VA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Creavery Lloyd, SAP Committee Management Assistant, Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances, (MC-7101), Rm. E-625, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Telephone: 202–260–6900, Fax: 202–260–0949, E-mail: lloyd.creavery@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: **Electronic Availability**: Electronic copies of this document and the report are available from the EPA Home Page at the **Federal Register**--Environmental Documents entry for this document under ''Laws and Regulations'' (http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/).

The Panel will discuss specific questions posed by the Agency based on an EPA report. The report evaluates scientific data generated by companies in the 1996 growing season and submitted to EPA on plants expressing *Bt* delta endotoxins, i.e., *Bt* field corn, *Bt* cotton, and *Bt* potato. The report also analyzes information gathered on the 1996 bollworm infestation in Brazos Valley in Texas in 1996. Finally, the report compiles and analyzes testimony offered at the two public hearings held by EPA under FIFRA section 21 on March 21, 1997, in Washington, DC and on May 21, 1997, in College Station, TX. The EPA report may be found in the docket for this meeting. EPA anticipates crops other than corn, cotton, or potato may be modified to express various *Bt* toxins and believes its experience with corn, cotton, and potato expressing various *Bt* toxins may be useful in determining whether and what components of a management program would be appropriate for such crops.

The public will be given an opportunity to comment at the meeting. Members of the public are requested to contact the Agency in advance concerning their desire to comment at the meeting. Attendance by the public will be limited by available space. Persons interested in attending or making public comment should contact Creavery Lloyd, and forward a copy of any public comments, no later than February 2, 1998.

Dated: January 8, 1998.

Lynn R. Goldman,

Assistant Administrator for Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances.

[FR Doc. 98–926 Filed 1–13–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP–00520; FRL–5765–8]

1996 Food Quality Protection Act; Right-To-Know Draft Brochure

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: EPA is announcing the availability for public comment of a draft brochure containing information on pesticide residues in food. The draft brochure is available in two formats; the text is identical, but the illustrations differ. EPA is required by the Food Quality Protection Act to make this brochure available to the public through large grocery stores by August 3, 1998.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 2, 1998.

ADDRESSES: By mail, submit written comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person, deliver comments to: Rm. 119, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically to: opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov. Follow the instructions under Unit II. of this document. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail.

Information submitted as a comment concerning this document may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as CBI. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential will be included in the public docket by EPA without prior notice. The public docket is available for public inspection in Rm. 119 at the Virginia address given above, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

To receive copies of the draft brochure: By mail: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person: Rm. 119, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA, Telephone: (703) 305–5805; Fax: (703) 305–4646, e-mail: opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joshua Alexander, Communications Services Branch, Field and External Affairs Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, Telephone: (703) 308–0835, Fax: (703) 305–5558, e-

mail:
alexander.joshua@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Availability:

Internet

Electronic copies of this document and the draft brochure are available from the EPA Home Page at the **Federal Register**--Environmental Documents entry for this document under ''Laws and Regulations'' (http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/).

Fax-on-Demand

Using a faxphone call 202–401–0527 and select item 6020 for a copy of the draft brochure entitled ''Pesticides on Food: Consumer Information.''

I. Background

On August 3, 1996, President Clinton signed into law the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (FQPA). FQPA significantly amends the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), the laws governing pesticide regulation. FQPA sets a new health-based safety standard for all pesticide residues in food and requires that all established permissible pesticide residue limits (tolerances) be re-evaluated in accordance with the new standard.

The new law requires EPA to provide information on pesticide residues in or on food to large grocery stores for public display. At a minimum, the Agency must inform the public of the risks and benefits of pesticide use on food; a listing of all pesticides which do not meet the new standard; foods containing residues of these pesticides and foods that may reasonably substitute for these; and ways consumers can reduce their exposure to pesticides.

This effort builds on the Agency's commitment to ensure consumer safety and strengthen its right-to-know efforts to ensure that consumers are provided information which will allow them to make informed and environmentally-conscious decisions. The Agency is exploring additional mechanisms for informing the public about ways to reduce their exposure to pesticides and other chemicals in their diet, homes, workplaces, and schools.

This **Federal Register** Notice announces the availability of the draft brochure entitled ''Pesticides on Food: Consumer Information.'' The draft brochure is available in two formats; the text is identical, but the illustrations differ. EPA is soliciting comments on this draft brochure prior to publication and distribution to large grocery stores for public display.

In developing this draft brochure, EPA has been consulting on a wide range of issues with key constituencies, primarily through the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC). The PPDC is a permanently chartered Federal advisory committee that plays a key role in the implementation of FQPA. It provides advice and guidance to EPA on regulatory development and reform initiatives as well as public policy and regulatory issues associated with evaluating and reducing risks from pesticide use. In March 1997, the PPDC established a workgroup (29 members) consisting of EPA representatives, industry, the Food and Drug Administration, the United States Department of Agriculture, and environmental and public interest groups. In addition to these constituencies, to ensure that the brochure is understandable and useful, the Agency is conducting consumer research: 48 consumers have been interviewed to determine their knowledge and perceptions of pesticides. This draft brochure and future versions of it also will be evaluated by consumers in focus groups during January, February, and March 1998. Documents relating to the development of the draft brochure are being made available under docket control number OPP–00520.

In addition, EPA, is providing the public with an opportunity to comment on the Agency's interpretation of ''public display'' as it is used in section 408(o) of the FFDCA. EPA interprets ''public display'' to mean: to place the brochure in a manner that makes it available and visible to all shoppers, either in the produce department, entrance, or check-out; to make available copies for shoppers to pick up, and to replenish the supply when necessary. The FFDCA allows grocers to determine the manner of public display. However, EPA believes it is important to emphasize that grocers do have an obligation to display the brochure, and that it is neccessary and appropriate to define ''public display,'' to ensure that the intent of section 408(o) is effectuated.

II. Public Record and Electronic Submissions

The official record for this document, as well as the public version, has been established for this document under docket control number ''OPP–00520'' (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The official record is located at the Virginia address in ''ADDRESSES'' at the beginning of this document.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:

opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comment and data will also be accepted on disks in Wordperfect 5.1/6.1 or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket control number ''OPP–00520.'' Electronic comments on this document may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Agricultural commodities, Pesticides.

Dated: January 8, 1998.

Lynn R. Goldman,

Assistant Administrator for Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances.

[FR Doc. 98–925 Filed 1–13–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–F

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[PF–783; FRL–5759–6]

Ecolab Inc.; Pesticide Tolerance Petition Filing

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of filing.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the filing of a pesticide petition proposing the exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for residues of peroxyacetic acid in or on raw agricultural commodities, in processed commodities, and in or on meat and meat byproducts of cattle, sheep, hogs, goats, horses, and poultry, milk, and eggs when such residues result from the use of peroxyacetic acid as an antimicrobial agent on fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, cereal grains, herbs, and spices.

DATES: Comments, identified by the docket control number [PF–783] must be received on or before February 13, 1998.

ADDRESSES: By mail submit written comments to: Public Information and Records Integrity Branch, Information Resources and Services Division (7502C), Office of Pesticides Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person bring comments to: Rm. 1132,