

From: Strother, Toni
Sent: Tuesday, October 08, 2002 10:50 AM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: FW: Pheromones / Organic

Another support letter for BHT.

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Hodge [mailto:MikeH@cdcag.net]
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2002 7:07 PM
To: Strother, Toni
Subject: FW: Pheromones / Organic

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Mike Hodge
> Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2002 4:05 PM
> To: 'NOSB.Crops@usda.gov'; 'usda.gov'
> Cc: 'usda.gov'
> Subject: Pheromones / Organic

> Mr. Owusu Bandele
> Crops Committee Chairman
> N.O.S.B. USDA -NOP
> NOSB.Crops@usda.gov
> Mike Hodge
> Entomologist
> Cascade Ag Services
> Wenatchee, WA
> MikeH@cdcag.net

> September 26, 2002

> Dear Mr. Bandele,

> I am writing to you on behalf of organic fruit growers of Washington
> State in support of the acceptance by the N.O.S.B. of synthetic inert
> ingredients within mating disruption pheromone products used in
> integrated pest management programs. <<Western Orchard IPM.url>>
> These programs have reduced the inputs of pesticides and improved the
> biodiversity in literally thousands of acres of fruit trees, grown
> both organically and conventionally, here in Washington.
> Prior to the advent of reliable mating disruption products, organic
> apple production here languished and nearly disappeared due to crops
> unharvestable from pests such as codling moth, leafrollers, peach twig
> borers, ultimately resulting in produce that was unaffordable to the
> average consumer. At the present, Washington growers are producing an
> abundance of organic fruits and the trend is an increase in acreage,
> benefiting the consumer, the grower, and the environment.
> <<http--organic.tfrec.wsu.edu-OrganicIFP-OrganicFruitProduction-current_tr
> ends.PDF.url>> However, without a base of pheromone mating disruption in
> organic orchards, growers will NOT survive economically since toxic
> botanical pesticides such as ryania and rotenone have been eliminated by
> the organic certifying authorities.
> Thus, I urge you and the N.O.S.B. to accept the inert ingredients
> (stabilizers) currently used to provide growers with reliable mating
> disruption products.

> Gratefully,

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>
> cc; Mr. Bob Pooler, Ms. Toni Strother
> USDA-NOP
> Glen Thayer, Jack Jenkins
> PCB

Mike Hodge