RESOLUTION NO. 26-132

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SISKIYOU
PROCLAIMING A LOCAL EMERGENCY
AND
REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY
(ILLEGAL PESTICIDES AND ILLICIT CANNABIS OPERATIONS)

WHEREAS, California Government Code section 8630 empowers the Board of Supervisors ("Board") to proclaim the existence of a local emergency when Siskiyou County is threatened or likely to be threatened by conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property that are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of this County; and,

WHEREAS, the illegal importation and distribution of foreign-manufactured pesticides circumvent federal and state regulatory oversight and constitute a transnational criminal threat; and,

WHEREAS, conditions of extreme peril to the health and safety of the public, first responders, property, and the environment have arisen in Siskiyou County due to the widespread presence of illegal pesticides related to illicit cannabis cultivation and processing operations; and

WHEREAS, illegal cannabis cultivators in Siskiyou County are increasingly using illegal, highly toxic pesticides unlawfully by igniting sawdust-like materials infused with a cocktail of unlabeled pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides in aluminum cans inside grow structures, creating thick, poisonous smoke; and,

WHEREAS, multiple certified laboratories have determined that once ignited, the unlabeled cocktail of pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides includes twelve known acetylcholinesterase inhibitors causing severe acute and chronic health complications, eight known carcinogenic pesticides, seven known unregistered agricultural chemicals in the U.S., six known groundwater pollutants, and three known toxic air contaminants listed by California; and,

WHEREAS, since 2023, approximately 180+ investigations conducted by the County's Code Enforcement and Environmental Health divisions, and associated enforcement actions, have identified extensive improper handling of highly toxic Chinese-labeled pesticides, as well as other foreign-labeled pesticides (see Exhibit A attached). These products are often imported outside of legal regulatory channels and lack English-language safety information required under federal and state law; and,

WHEREAS, these pesticides have been routinely discovered at illegal cannabis cultivation sites and include federally banned substances such as carbofuran and methamidophos, along with dangerously high concentrations of imidacloprid,

SISKIYOU COUNTY
RESOLUTION
No. 26-132

isoprocarb, pyridaben, chlorfenapyr, dichlorvos, methomyl, dinoseb, chlorothalonil, cypermethrin, and hexachlorobenzene (HCB); and,

WHEREAS, these unregulated, unlabeled, carcinogenic, teratogenic, genotoxic, and cytotoxic agents, including known Persistent Organic Pollutants that are not authorized for use by any federal or state agencies, pose an immediate and severe threat to human health, including but not limited to acute poisoning, long-term genetic abnormalities, disruption of cellular metabolism, respiratory and reproductive harm, and neurological damage, and pose a long-term environmental threat of contamination to soil, groundwater, waterways, and wildlife ecosystems; and,

WHEREAS, first responders, including deputies from the Sheriff's Office, task force, game wardens, county officials, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, and environmental response teams, are increasingly encountering these substances in gaseous or vapor form during the course of their duties, often without sufficient warning, appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), or access to decontamination equipment and protocols; and,

WHEREAS, several documented incidents across the state and within the county show users disregarding guidelines set forth by California pesticide control statutes and hazardous materials regulations, Cal/OSHA and California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) regulations, and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), which have exposed cultivators and laborers and incidentally exposed first responders, resulting in serious medical consequences and occupational hazards for those exposed to these chemicals during grow operations, law enforcement, and emergency operations; and,

WHEREAS, many illicit cannabis operations are hostile to responders, items appearing to be intentionally rigged to create a hazard, structurally unsound, or designed with clear intent to evade detection, creating volatile and life-threatening conditions for personnel entering such sites; and,

WHEREAS, in recent weeks, responses from local and state fire departments have increased at contaminated sites, where pesticide-laced plastics, wood, structures, and fuel have been actively burning, creating volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and resulting in hazardous materials incidents that endanger both first responders and nearby residents. This recurring pattern of toxic exposures demands immediate intervention to address the escalating local emergency; and,

WHEREAS, on August 24, 2026, the Federal Bureau of Investigation published a Public Safety Awareness Report (PSAR) identifying Chinese-labeled pesticide products linked to Siskiyou County illegal cannabis cultivation sites as a "Nationwide threat" due to health and environmental hazards

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that due to the imminent and ongoing threat posed by unmonitored and unregulated illegal pesticides in conjunction with illicit cannabis operations to the health and safety of the public, the environment, waterways, and first responders within the County of Siskiyou, the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors proclaims a "local emergency" and orders that said local emergency shall be deemed to continue to exist until its termination is proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors, pursuant to Government Code section 8260(c), shall continue to review the need for maintaining the local emergency at least once every 60 days until its termination is proclaimed by the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims and orders that during the existence of this local emergency, the powers, functions and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the emergency organizations of this county shall be those prescribed by state law, ordinances, and resolutions of this county approved by the Board of Supervisors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this proclamation shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) with a request that the Secretary of Cal OES confirm a Secretary's concurrence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this declaration shall be forwarded to the Governor of California with a request that he proclaim the County of Siskiyou to be in a state of emergency.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT:

1. A coordinated, multi-agency and departmental emergency response task force shall be established to identify, mitigate, and remediate contaminated sites and illegal operations.
2. Emergency resources shall be allocated to equip and train first responders with appropriate HAZMAT protective equipment and protocols to reduce the risk of exposure in accordance with National Fire Protection Association and Occupational Safety and Health Administration guidelines.
3. The County Office of Emergency Services shall collaborate with the Sheriff's Office, Siskiyou County Public & Environmental Health, fire departments, and state and federal partners, including, but not limited to, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and CalEPA.
4. The County shall seek mutual aid, technical assistance, and emergency funding from state and federal sources to support enforcement, clean-up, and public education efforts.

5. Siskiyou County Public & Environmental Health and the Siskiyou County Agriculture Commissioner together will develop an outreach and communication plan to raise awareness among residents, workers, and landowners about the hazards associated with illegal pesticide use and unpermitted cannabis operations.

6. All relevant county agencies, including but not limited to Siskiyou County Public & Environmental Health, Siskiyou County Agriculture Commissioner, Siskiyou County Sheriff, and Siskiyou County Office of Emergency Services, are authorized and ordered to take immediate and necessary actions to protect life, health, safety, community well-being, property, and the environment under this emergency proclamation.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors at a regular meeting of said Board, held on the 1st day of September, 2026 by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff and Harris

NOES: None

ABSENT: Supervisor Haupt

ABSTAIN: None

Jess Harris, Vice Chair

~~Ray Haupt, Chair~~ Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

LAURA BYNUM, COUNTY CLERK

By _____

Deputy

Concurrence by

_____

Jeremiah LaRue, Siskiyou County Sheriff

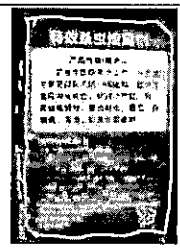
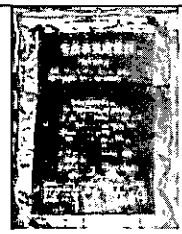
Concurrence by

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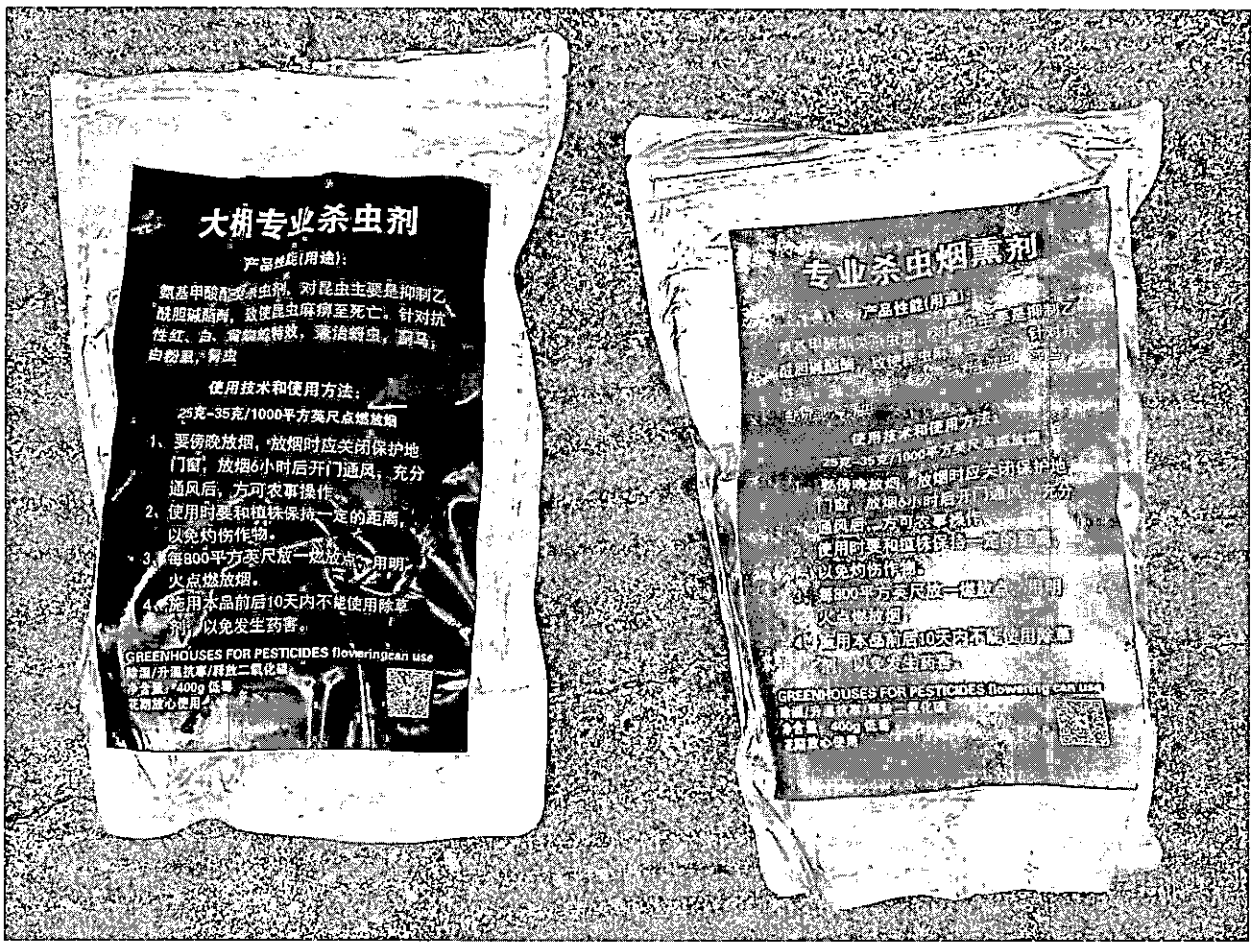
Bryan Schenone, Director of Emergency Services

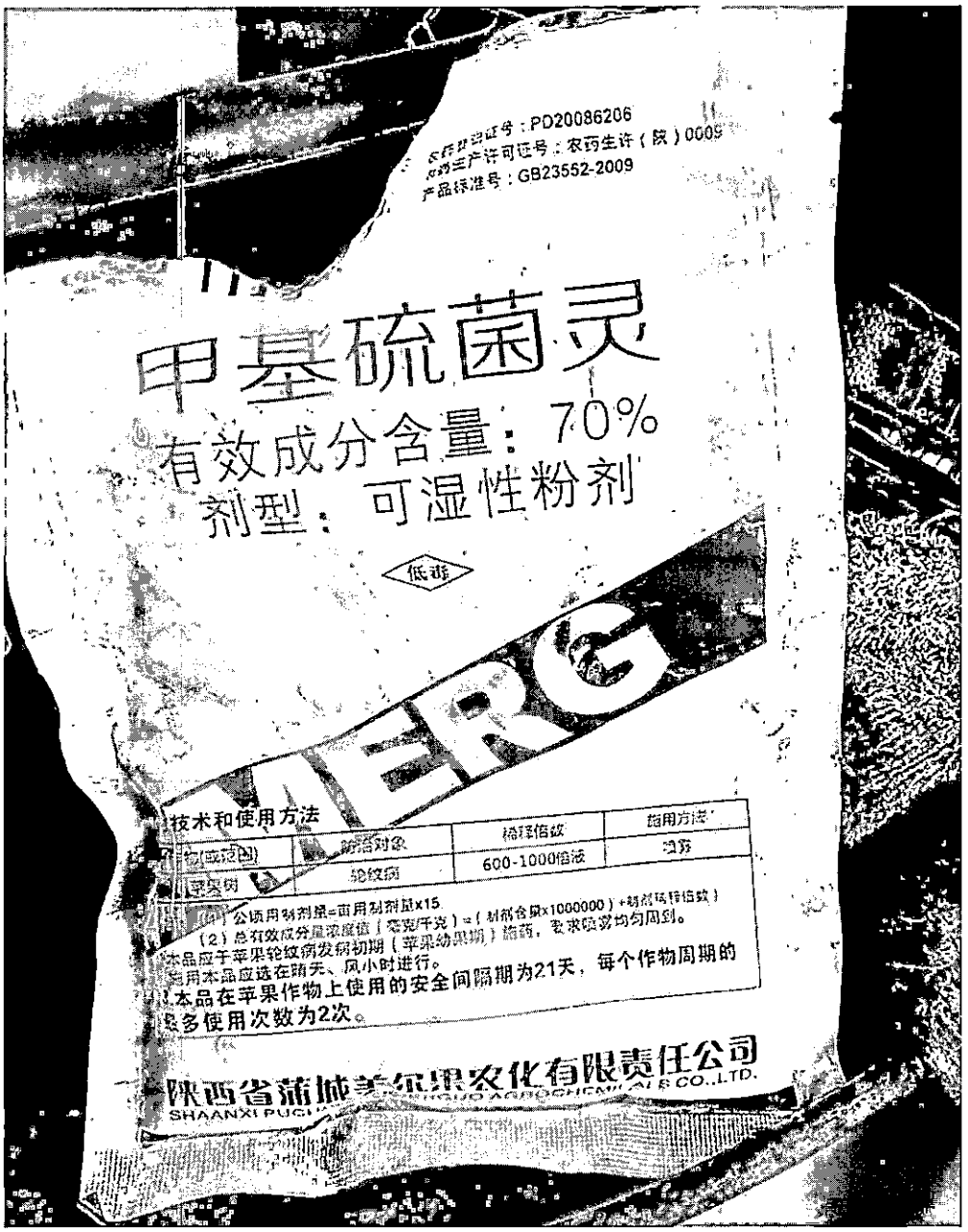
EXHIBIT A – EXAMPLES OF CHINESE-LABELED PESTICIDES

Field Reference Guide

Package	Product Registration Certificate number (upper right on package)	Photo	Active Ingredient and Information
1	PD20130759		Isoprocarb Chinese characters: 异丙 Chinese simplified: Yì bǐng wēi
2	PD20096840		Isoprocarb Chinese characters: 异丙 Chinese simplified: Yì bǐng wēi
3	Not listed		Pyridaben This package does not have a registered certificate number, the primary ingredient is considered 'toxic if inhaled,' and tested positive in high concentrations for several chemicals listed as 'fatal if inhaled'. ***Extreme caution should be exercised.***
4	PD20130759		Isoprocarb Chinese characters: 异丙 Chinese simplified: Yì bǐng wēi
6	Not listed		Unknown primary ingredient This package does not have a registered certificate number and, while the primary ingredient could not be determined, the sample tested positive in high concentrations for several chemicals listed as 'fatal if inhaled'. ***Extreme caution should be exercised.***
7	PD20180597		Beta-cypermethrin (translated) Chinese characters: 高效氯氰菊酯 Chinese simplified: Gāoxiào lǜqíngjúzhǐ


异丙威
有效成分及其含量:
异丙威20%
剂型：烟剂
YI BING WEI
Yan Ji
净含量:500
螨挡
异丙威
有效成分含量:15% 剂型:烟剂
异菌·百菌清
异丙威
有效成分及其含量:
剂型：烟剂


大棚专业杀虫剂
产品性能(用途):
氨基甲酸酯类杀虫剂，对昆虫主要是抑制乙
酰胆碱酯酶，致使昆虫麻痹至死亡。针对抗
性红、白、黄蜘蛛特效，蓟马，
白粉虱，蚜虫
使用技术和使用方法：
25克-35克/1000平方英尺点燃放烟
1、要傍晚放烟，放烟时应关闭保护地
门窗，放烟6小时后开门通风，充分
通风后，方可农事操作。
2、使用时要和植株保持一定的距离，
以免灼伤作物。
3、每800平方英尺放一处放点，用明
火点燃放烟。
4、施用本品前后10天内不能使用除草
剂，以免发生药害。
GREENHOUSES FOR PESTICIDES flowering can use
专业杀虫烟熏剂


产品标准号：GB23552-2009
甲基硫菌灵
有效成分含量：70%
剂型：可湿性粉剂
低毒
技术和使用方法
防治对象
稀释倍数
施用方法
轮纹病
600-1000倍液
喷雾
(2)总有效成分量浓度值（毫克/千克）=（制剂含量x1000000）÷稀释倍数）
本品应于苹果轮纹病发病初期（苹果幼果期）施药，要求喷雾均匀周到。
施用本品应选在晴天、风小时进行。
本品在苹果作物上使用的安全间隔期为21天，每个作物周期的
最多使用次数为2次。
陕西省蒲城美尔果农化有限责任公司
SHAANXI PUCHENG MEIERGUO AGROCHEMICALS CO.,LTD.




GUAN FUN
总有效成分含量:12%
含量：3%
含量：9%
型：烟剂

Pesticides Identified in the Chinese Labeled Pesticide Fumigant Products

Based on lab analysis conducted thus far, these illicit products contain a mixture of at least 3 to 13 different pesticides listed below.

Pesticide	Pesticide Class *Italic Text = Suspected Byproduct, Metabolite, or Degradate*	Acetylcholinestrase Inhibitor	DCC Pesticide List *19 CCR 15719*	Prop 65 Listed	Toxic A Contami *3 CCR 68*
3-Phenoxybenzaldehyde	*Intermediate of beta-Cypermethrin*				
Chlorfenapyr	Pyrroles Insecticide		Yes; Category I Residual Pesticide		
Chlorothalonil (Tetrachloroisophthalonitrile)	Fungicide. Organic compound.			Yes	
Chlorthiophos	Organophosphate Insecticide. **Not registered for use in the United States.**	Yes			
Cypermethrin (beta and zeta)	Pyrethroid Insecticide	Yes	Yes; Category II Residual Pesticide		
Diafenthiuron	**Not registered for use in the United States.** IRAC group 12A. Mitochondrial respiration inhibitor.				
Dichlorvos	Organophosphate Insecticide	Yes	Yes; Category I Residual Pesticide	Yes	Yes
Dinoseb	Dinitrophenol herbicide. **Registration cancelled in 1991.** Highly toxic when ingesting, inhaling or at skin contact.				
Fenobucarb (BPMC)	Carbamate Insecticide. **Not registered for use in the United States.**	Yes			
Fenpropathrin	Pyrethroid Insecticide	Yes		Yes	
Fosthiazate	Organophosphate Nematicide	Yes			
Fuberidazole	Fungicide. **Not registered for use in the United States.**				
Hexachlorobenzene	Organochlorine pesticide. Considered a pollutant of concern. **Cancelled/banned for use in the United States**			Yes	
Iprodione	Systemic Fungicide; Highly toxic to freshwater, estuarine, and marine inverts; Primary degradate is 3,5-			Yes	
Isoprocarb (MIPC)	Carbamate Insecticide. **Not registered for use in the United States.**	Yes			
Lambda-cyhalothrin	Pyrethroid Insecticide	Yes			
Methomyl	Carbamate Insecticide. **Restricted Material (3 CCR 6400)**	Yes	Yes; Category II Residual Pesticide		
Methoxycarbonyl Isothiocyanate	*Common Soil Fumigant Byproduct that is Toxic and Corrosive to Skin; and a Respiratory Irritant.*				
Methyl Carbamate (Carbamic acid, methyl ester)*	*Metabolite or degradate of Methomyl*			Yes	
Methyl Isothiocyanate (MITC)	Organosulfur Compound. **Restricted Material (3 CCR 6400)**				Yes
Metrifonate (Trichlorfon)	Organophosphate Insecticide	Yes			
Naled	Organophosphate Insecticide	Yes	Yes; Category II Residual Pesticide	Yes	
Pentachlorobenzonitrile (PCBN)	*Byproduct of Thermal Decomp of Pentachloronitrobenzene*				
Pentachloronitrobenzene (PCNB)	Organochlorine		Yes; Category II Residual Pesticide		Yes
Procymidone	Dicarboximide Fungicide; **Not registered for use in the United States.**			Yes	
Profenofos	Organophosphate Insecticide	Yes			
Pyridaben	Pyridazinone/Organochlorine Insecticide		Yes; Category II Residual Pesticide		
Pyrimethanil	Anilinopyrimidines-Based Fungicide				
Tebuconazole	Triazole Fungicide		Yes; Category II Residual Pesticide		
Thiophanate-Methyl	Systemic Benzimidazole Fungicide; Rapidly degrades to carbendazim or methyl 2-benzimidazole carbamate			Yes	
Tridemorph	Oxazinane Fungicide; **Not registered for use in the United States.**				