

# OZONews

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## Table of Contents:

- 1- **Farmers Turning to Bio-Pesticides** (Malaysia)
  - 2- **Fine, Sanction in Trash Decree** (USA)
  - 3- **IVAX to Start Selling QVAR Asthma Product** (USA)
  - 4- **High Rise Fire Fighting System** (Australia)
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### **1- Farmers Turning to Bio-Pesticides (Malaysia)**

About 50% of the estimated 10,600 vegetable farmers in peninsular Malaysia have already begun using naturally occurring pest-control agents to protect their crops ... Called bio-pesticides, these agents are harvested from plants, insects and micro-organisms (such as viruses, fungi and bacteria), and are used to kill pests. Unlike chemical pesticides, they are safe for human and animal consumption and environmentally friendly, said Science, Technology and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Law Hieng Ding ... Law said the Government hoped that Malaysia would become a globally recognised hub for bio-pesticide research and production. "Malaysia's biodiversity puts it in a position to contribute to the discovery of new bio-pesticides, and we hope to phase out all chemical pest control agents by the year 2005," he said..he added that following Malaysia's signing of the UN's Persistent Organic Pollutants treaty with 87 other countries in Stockholm, Sweden last year, the Government has started phasing out the use of 12 dangerous pesticides known as the "dirty dozen". ...

**Article @:** <http://thestar.com.my/news/story.asp?file=/2002/4/23/nation/mgbio&sec=nation>

**Source:** The Star Online, Malaysia, 23 April 2002

### **2- Fine, Sanction in Trash Decree (USA)**

The trash hauler for the city of Boston, Waste Management of Massachusetts, must pay a \$775,000 fine and implement environmental projects worth \$2.6 million under a proposed consent decree filed by the federal government yesterday. Waste Management faces such a stiff sanction because for more than a year its employees carelessly disposed of coolant chemicals, including CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons) and HCFCs (hydro chlorofluorocarbons) which deplete the Earth's ozone layer, according to the proposed decree, filed in federal court ... Waste Management crushed appliances collected in Boston in trash compactors without first checking to see whether the chemical refrigerants had been removed, from July 1997 until August 1998, according to a civil complaint filed yesterday in US District Court ... Under federal law, the company can be fined up to \$27,500 a day for each violation. Under the proposed consent decree, filed with the complaint, Waste Management will train its employees in proper handling of appliances that may contain refrigerant ...

**Article @:** [http://www.boston.com/dailyglobe/2/114/metro/Fine\\_sanction\\_in\\_trash\\_decree+.shtml](http://www.boston.com/dailyglobe/2/114/metro/Fine_sanction_in_trash_decree+.shtml)

**Source:** The Boston Globe 24 April 2002.

### **3- IVAX to Start Selling QVAR Asthma Product (USA)**

... "QVAR, a novel formulation of beclomethasone dipropionate in a non-ozone depleting HFA (hydrofluoroalkane) propellant, will be marketed ... An advantage of the QVAR formulation is that beclomethasone is delivered in particles small enough to more easily reach the small airways of the lung. Beclomethasone is one of the most widely prescribed anti-inflammatory corticosteroids to treat respiratory conditions," ...

**Full text @:** <http://www.ivax.com/ComNewsv2.htm>

**Source:** IVAX Corporation, Press release, 23 April 2002

### **4- High Rise Fire Fighting System (Australia)**

... Metal Storm Limited has been working with Firepak Oil and Gas Industries (FO&GI) and Pyrogen Australia Pty. Ltd, both of whom have been seeking a rapid delivery system for their halon alternative, Pyrogen aerosol canisters, for fighting fires in high-rise buildings. Halon, a commonly used product in fire fighting, will be phased out by 2003 under the "Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer"... Currently, the primary method of fire protection in high-rise buildings relies on fixed sprinkler systems. [They] believe that helicopter-mounted launchers

using the 100% electronic, multi-barrel projectile system, can deliver Pyrogen aerosols at the very fast rate required to control or overwhelm fires until such time as fire fighters can access the site. This method of high-rise fire control could provide the crucial time needed for firefighters to do their job and for people to exit the building safely. By successfully combining these technologies, we believe we can develop a delivery system for environmentally-compliant products that can contribute to saving lives in a safe and timely manner ...

**Article @:** <http://www.metalstorm.com/>

**Source:** MetalStorm Press Release, 24 April 2002

**OzoNews is available on the OzonAction Programme web site @:**

<http://www.uneptie.org/ozonaction/compliance/ozonews/main.html>

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