



NEWS from
**U.S. Senator
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AP - DICK FARRAMORE

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DOLE AIDS FARMERS WITH SPROUTING GRAIN

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- In a letter to Environmental Protection Administrator Russell Train, Senator Bob Dole urged EPA to grant an emergency registration for Paraquat, a pesticide which could play a vital role in the feed grain harvest this year.

This action comes in the wake of warm, wet weather in Kansas which has caused unharvested feed grain to begin sprouting. Some farmers have already faced severe reductions in the value of their crop due to sprouting.

"It has been determined that an application of Paraquat can prevent or inhibit this sprouting," Dole explained. Paraquat causes the plant to dry up, which slows the sprouting process and permits the grain to be harvested. The pesticide has already been used for this purpose in soybeans and is available through dealers. The material loses its toxic quality in a period of about four days.

"This substance won't solve the whole problem," Dole said, "but it appears it would be a useful tool if farmers were able to employ it."