

MT17019 - Regulatory Support & Co-ordination
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WHATS NEW

Below is a summary of various regulatory issues and chemical reviews currently underway both locally and internationally.

NATIONAL REGULATORY ISSUES

APVMA & Chemical reviews

Extrapolation

The APVMA recently had a document open for consultation on the possible application of extrapolation within and between crop groups, i.e., where use in additional crops can be sought based on data from representative crops. The document outlines the situations in which extrapolation to other crops could be accepted and for which aspects of the risk assessment. The APVMA are seeking comments with a closing date of October 5th. The document can be found at: <https://apvma.gov.au/node/32036>

Current review progress

Methiocarb

The APVMA has recently published its proposed regulatory decisions for the molluscicide methiocarb. The general uses in Berry crops, Orchards, Nurseries and Vegetable crops are proposed to be removed from the label. They are to be replaced with individual crop uses in citrus, grapes, strawberries, ornamentals, artichokes, Brassica vegetables, Head lettuce and potato. The proposed regulatory decisions are open for comment for three months till November 30th. More information and the full review document can be found on <https://apvma.gov.au/node/32341>

Chlorpyrifos

Originally planned for completion in September 2017 it is expected that the APVMA's review of chlorpyrifos will be completed either late in 2018 or early 2019. It is understood the delay is in part due to a re-evaluation of the toxicological profile. The outcome of which will determine the extent to which the APVMA will take regulatory action.

Others

Other reviews in progress involving maldison, methidathion and procymidone it is anticipated that completion would be in early 2019.

Department of Agriculture & Water Resources

Chemical access

The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources has announced further rounds of grant applications. It is understood that meetings are planned for December 2018 to discuss prioritisation and project nominations. See the link for more details

<http://www.agriculture.gov.au/ag-farm-food/ag-vet-chemicals/improved-access-agvet-chemicals/agvet-assistance-grants>

Regulatory reform

The Agvet Chemicals Task Group, which consists of representatives from each state and territory and the Australian Government, released a discussion paper on Off-Label Use Harmonisation. The discussion paper was seeking feedback on framework options with regards to increasing flexibility around off-label chemical use for growers of minor crops. The discussion paper can be found at:

<http://www.agriculture.gov.au/ag-farm-food/ag-vet-chemicals/domestic-policy/off-label-use-harmonisation-proposal>

New developments

Tokuthion cancellation: In response to APVMA raised concerns over potential issues relating to dietary exposure Arysta LifeScience have voluntarily cancelled the use of Tokuthion Insecticide Spray on table grapes. Arysta have indicated that they are conducting a voluntary recall and that for further information contact **Arysta LifeScience:** Recalls Coordinator on 08 8112 0900.

New Products/Uses

A number of applications for registrations and label extensions have occurred in recent months. Syngenta have registered **Chairman** (fludioxonil + propiconazole) as a post-harvest treatment for Blue mould, Green mould and Sour rot in citrus.

INTERNATIONAL

Codex

Imazalil and **kresoxim-methyl** have undergone periodic review by the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) during September 2018. The outcome of these reviews will be considered by the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues in

early 2019 with regards to the retention of current international MRLs.

Canada

The Canadian Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), had proposed the phasing-out of **mancozeb, metiram maneb and zineb** due to “unacceptable risks to human health.” It was dietary proposed that all uses in fruit and vegetable crops were to be deleted, with the exception of treatments for potato crops. However, to allow further consultation the decision was withdrawn. A new proposed regulatory decision document is to be published with a 90 day consultation period to follow.

The PMRA has published its re-evaluation decision for **methomyl** and indicated that use in broccoli, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts and succulent shelled peas are to be retained. All other food uses are to be withdrawn. For more information see <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/consumer-product-safety/pesticides-pest-management/public/consultations/proposed-maximum-residue-limit/2018/methomyl/document.html>

Also, the target date for a final decision on **imidacloprid** as set for December 2018. The PMRA is proposing to phase-out all the agricultural and most other outdoor uses of imidacloprid over three to five years due environmental concerns, i.e., potentially harmful to aquatic insects.

Health Canada is also conducting separate pollinator risk assessment on the neonicotinoid class of pesticides, which includes **thiamethoxam** and **clothianidin**.

To further protect pollinators, Health Canada is proposing the following changes to the way clothianidin can be used:

- Phase-out of foliar application to orchard trees and strawberries
- Phase-out of foliar application to municipal, industrial and residential turf sites
- Reduction of pre-bloom application from 2 to 1 for cucurbit (cucumbers, squash etc.) vegetables
- Additional protective label instructions for cereal crop uses

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To further protect pollinators, Health Canada is proposing the following changes to the way thiamethoxam can be used:

- Phase-out of foliar and soil applications to ornamental crops that will result in pollinator exposure.
- Phase-out of soil application to berry crops, cucurbit crops and fruiting vegetables
- Phase-out of foliar application to orchard trees
- Foliar application to legumes, outdoor fruiting vegetables, and berry crops would no longer be permitted before or during bloom
- Final decisions are expected to be published in late 2018.

Europe

In April, the EU introduced a ban on outdoor use of three neonicotinoids – **clothianidin, imidacloprid** and **thiamethoxam** – which will come into effect in December 2019.

Propineb has not been re-approved for use with any grace period to expire by June 22nd 2019. The European Commission has recently not re-approved the registrations of diquat, pymetrozine and thiram.

Member states will need to withdraw authorisations for products containing **diquat** by 4 May 2019 at the latest. There will then be a grace period – length to be decided by the member state – to allow use-up of product, which itself must expire by 4 February 2020 at the latest. Member states will need to withdraw authorisations for products containing **thiram** by 30 January 2019 at the latest. For foliar applications, the subsequent grace period must expire by 30 April 2019, and for all other products, including those used as seed treatments, the grace period must end by 30 January 2020. Member states will need to withdraw authorisations for products containing **pymetrozine** by 30 April 2019 at the latest. The subsequent grace period must expire by 30 January 2020 at the latest.

USA

The situation regarding **chlorpyrifos** in the US is still unclear. In August 2018 a federal appeals court ordered the Environmental Protection Agency to remove chlorpyrifos from sale in the United States within 60 days.

In addition, individual states in the US are also moving to enact State legislation targeting its use.