



Banana Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment June 2025

Regulatory pressures on agrichemicals are increasing globally, with many being either restricted or withdrawn from use. For older agrichemicals these pressures are often the result of reconsiderations involving new or refined risk assessment methodologies with changed data requirements. A consequence of which can be that many agrichemicals are not meeting contemporary risk assessment standards as the necessary data is unavailable, or where data is available, the refined risk posed is considered unacceptable.

The use of agrichemicals can also be impacted through differences in standards between trading partners. The lack of an appropriate pesticide maximum residue limit (MRL) in an importing country can, for practical purposes, effectively prohibit use in the exporting country to ensure compliance, as an MRL breach would adversely affect market access.

The effects of the above are greater regulatory pressure placed on the use of individual agrichemicals or chemical groups. Consequently, the number of approved agrichemical options could be adversely impacted.

To assist strategic planning, with respect to future pest management options, the following tables have been developed to highlight the regulatory threats to agrichemicals currently approved for the management of the pests and diseases in **bananas** as well as assisting with any current initiatives aimed at identifying and addressing identified pest management deficiencies.

Banana Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

R1	Short-term risk: Critical concern over retaining access < 1 year
R2	Medium-term risk: Maintaining access of significant concern <2-5 years
R3	Long-term risk: Potential issues associated with use – Monitoring required < 5 years
R4	No current risk / concerns

Blue text = new APVMA approved uses

INSECTS AND OTHER PESTS

Active constituent	MoA group	Insects and other pests	Risks & Comments
Acephate	1B	Banana flower thrips	Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration after 2029. EU: Not approved. Canada: In review. USA: Upcoming review.
		Banana rust thrips	
		Banana scab moth	
Afidopyropen	9D	Banana aphid	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved. UK: No registrations. Canada: No current review. USA: Approved.
<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i>	11A	Banana scab moth	
Bifenthrin	3A	Banana flower thrips	Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration after 2029. EU: Not approved. Canada: No current review. Codex: MRL set at 0.1 mg/kg (2011).
		Banana rust thrips	
		Banana scab moth	
		Banana weevil borer	
		Strawberry (banana) spider mite	
Cadusafos	1B	Banana weevil borer	Australia: No current concerns. Codex: MRL set at 0.01 mg/kg (2011).
		Burrowing nematode	
		Root-knot nematodes	
		Spiral nematode	
Chlorpyrifos	1B	Banana rust thrips (PER14240)	31-May-2025 Expired 31 May 2024. APVMA proposed decisions published July 2024. All uses in fruit proposed to be deleted. Publication of the final regulatory decision is expected in December 2025 . Codex: No MRLs. EU: Not approved (withdrawn in 2018). UK: Not approved. USA: Registered (under review).
		Banana scab moth (PER14240)	
		Caterpillars (PER14240)	
		Mealybugs (PER14240)	
		Sugarcane bud moth (PER14240)	
Clofentezine	10A	Strawberry (banana) spider mite	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved.
		Two-spotted (red spider) mite	

Banana Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

			UK: Approved. Canada: No current review.
Clothianidin	4A	Banana rust thrips	Australia: APVMA: Currently under review . Proposed regulatory decisions expected between Dec. 2025 to Oct. 2026. EU: Not approved. Canada: In review. USA: Upcoming review. Codex: MRL set at 0.02 mg/kg (2012).
		Banana weevil borer	
Diazinon	1B	Banana rust thrips, Banana weevil borer	Australia: Australia: APVMA made a Final Decision on 10 September 2024 . Agricultural uses were not supported during the review. Approved use on all fruit ceases on 10 September 2025 . Codex: All MRLs deleted. EU: Not approved. Canada: No current review. USA: Upcoming review.
Etoxazole	10B	Strawberry (banana) spider mite	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Approved, candidate for substitution. UK: Approved. Canada: No current review.
Fenamiphos	1B	Nematodes	Australia: Completed. Codex: MRL set at 0.05 mg/kg (2004).
Fenbutatin oxide	12B	Strawberry (banana) spider mite	Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration after 2029. EU: Not approved. Canada: In review. USA: Upcoming review. Codex: MRL set at 10 mg/kg (1997). To be reviewed by JMPR.
		Two-spotted (red spider) mite	
Fipronil	2B	Banana rust thrips	Australia: APVMA: Currently under review . Proposed regulatory decision expected by April 2026. EU: Not approved. USA: Upcoming review. Codex: MRL set at 0.005 mg/kg (2003). Re-evaluation under way.
		Banana weevil borer	
Imidacloprid	4A	Banana rust thrips	Australia: APVMA: Currently under review . Proposed regulatory decisions expected between Dec. 2025 to Oct. 2026. EU: Not approved. Canada: No current review. USA: Upcoming review. Codex: MRL set at 0.05 mg/kg (2004).
		Banana weevil borer	
		Grey back cane beetle (larvae)	

Banana Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

Imidacloprid + spirotetramat	4A + 23	Banana rust thrips	Imidacloprid: Australia: APVMA: Currently under review . Proposed regulatory decisions expected between Dec. 2025 to Oct. 2026. EU: Not approved. Canada: No current review. USA: Upcoming review. Codex: MRL set at 0.05 mg/kg (2004). Spirotetramat: Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved. UK: Approved. Canada: In review.
		Banana weevil borer	
Oxamyl	1A	Banana weevil borer	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved. UK: Withdrawn. Canada: In review.
		Burrowing nematode	
		Spiral nematode	
Paraffinic oil	-	Scale insects	
Propargite	12C	Two-spotted (red spider) mite	Australia: APVMA reconsideration . Prioritised to be commenced in 2029. EU: Not approved. Canada: No current review. USA: Upcoming review.
Prothiofos	1B	Banana weevil borer	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved.
Pyridaben	21A	Strawberry (banana) spider mite	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Approved. UK: Approved. Canada: No current review.
		Two-spotted (red spider) mite	
Pyriproxyfen	7C	Various species of ants.	EU: Approved. UK: Approved. Canada: No current review.
Spinetoram	5	Flower eating caterpillars	PER87198 expires 31/10/2025. Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved. UK: Withdrawn. Canada: In review.
		Leafroller (tortrix) caterpillars	
		Leafroller moths	
		Loopers	
		Redbanded thrips	
		Sorghum head caterpillar	
		Yellow peach moth	
		Banana flower thrips (PER87198)	

Banana Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

		Banana rust thrips (PER87198)	
		Banana scab moth (PER87198)	
		Sugarcane bud moth (PER87198)	
		Flower eating caterpillars (PER87198)	
Spinosad	5	Banana rust thrips	Australia: Reviewed in 2014. No current concerns.
		Sugarcane bud moth	EU: Approved.
		Fall armyworm (PER89870)	UK: Approved.
			Canada: In review.
Spirotetramat	23	Banana aphid (PER88359)	PER88359 expires 31/10/2025.
			Australia: No current concerns.
			EU: Not approved.
			UK: Approved.
			Canada: In review.
Sulfur	M2	Bunch mites (PER9409)	PER9409 expires 30/06/2029.
			Australia: No current concerns.
Terbufos	1B	Banana weevil borer	Australia: No current concerns.
		Burrowing nematode	EU: Not approved.
			Canada: No current review.
			USA: Upcoming review.
			Codex: MRL set at 0.05 mg/kg (2006).
Tetraniliprole	28	Banana weevil borer	Australia: No current concerns.
			Canada: No current review.
Trichlorfon	1B	Queensland and Mediterranean fruit fly (PER12450)	PER12450 expires 30/11/2025.
			Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration .
			EU: Not approved.
			Canada: No current review.
			USA: Upcoming review.

DISEASES

Active constituent	MoA Group	Disease	Risks & Comments
<i>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</i>	BM02	Leaf speckle (suppression)	
		Yellow sigatoka	
Chlorothalonil	M5	Leaf speckle	Australia: APVMA reconsideration . Prioritised to be commenced by 2028.
		Yellow sigatoka (leaf spot)	EU: Not approved.
			Canada: In review.

Banana Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

			USA: Upcoming review. Codex: MRL set at 15 mg/kg (2013).
Copper	M1	Anthracnose (black end)	
		Leaf speckle	
		Phytophthora stem rot	
		Trunk (stem) canker	
		Yellow sigatoka (leaf spot)	
Didecyl dimethyl ammonium chloride NH ₄ Cl	-	Panama disease	
		Sanitizer	
Difenoconazole	3	Black sigatoka	Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration . EU: Approved, candidate for substitution. UK: Approved. Canada: In review. Codex: MRL set at 0.1 mg/kg (2008).
		Yellow sigatoka (leaf spot)	
Epoxiconazole	3	Leaf speckle	EU: Not approved.
		Yellow sigatoka (leaf spot)	
Fluopyram	7	Cordana leaf spot	EU: Approved. UK: Approved. Canada: No current review. Codex: MRL set at 0.8 mg/kg (2013).
		Leaf speckle	
		Yellow sigatoka (leaf spot)	
Fluopyram + tebuconazole	7 + 3	Cordana leaf spot	Fluopyram: EU: Approved. UK: Approved. Canada: No current review. Codex: MRL set at 0.8 mg/kg (2013). Tebuconazole: Australia: APVMA: Removed from nomination list - maintain watching brief. EU: Approved, candidate for substitution. UK: Approved. Canada: In review. USA: Upcoming review. Codex: MRL set at 1.5 mg/kg (2016).
		Leaf speckle	
		Yellow sigatoka (leaf spot)	
Fluxapyroxad	7	Leaf speckle	EU: Approved. UK: Approved. Canada: No current review. Codex: MRL set at 3 mg/kg (2013).
		Yellow sigatoka (leaf spot)	
Inpyrfluxam	7	Yellow sigatoka	Canada: No current review.

Banana Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

Iodine (post-harvest)	M	Fungi	Australia: No current concerns. Canada: No current review.
Isotianil	PO3	Leaf speckle	EU: Not approved. Codex: MRL set at 0.01 mg/kg (2024).
Mancozeb	M3	Anthracnose (black end)	Australia: APVMA reconsideration . Prioritised to be commenced by 2027. EU: Not approved. UK: Withdrawn. Canada: No current review. USA: Upcoming review. Codex: To be reviewed.
		Black pit	
		Cordana leaf spot	
		Deightoniella fruit spot	
		Fruit speckle (PER81199)	
		Leaf speckle	
		Yellow sigatoka (lea spot)	
Metiram	M3	Black pit	Australia: APVMA reconsideration . Prioritised to be commenced by 2027. EU: Not approved. UK: Approved. Canada: No current review. Codex: To be reviewed.
		Cordana leaf spot	
		Fruit speckle	
		Leaf speckle	
		Yellow sigatoka (leaf spot)	
Paraffinic oil	-	Black sigatoka	
		Cercospora leaf spot	
		Cordana leaf spot	
		Leaf speckle	
		Yellow sigatoka (leaf spot)	
Prochloraz	3	Anthracnose (black end)	EU: Not approved. UK: Approved. Codex: Assorted tropical and sub-tropical fruits - inedible peel MRL set at 7 mg/kg (2005). Periodic re-evaluation scheduled.
Propiconazole	3	Black sigatoka	Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration and spray drift assessment. EU: Not approved. Canada: In review. USA: Upcoming review. Codex: MRL set at 0.1 mg/kg (2008).
		Cordana leaf spot	
		Leaf speckle	
		Yellow sigatoka (leaf spot)	
Pyraclostrobin	11	Black sigatoka	EU: Approved. UK: Approved. Canada: In review. Codex: MRL set at 0.02 mg/kg (2006).
		Leaf speckle	
		Yellow sigatoka (leaf spot)	
Pyrimethanil	9	Cordana leaf spot	EU: Approved. UK: Approved.
		Leaf speckle	

Banana Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

		Yellow sigatoka (leaf spot)	Canada: In review. Codex: MRL set at 0.1 mg/kg (2008).
Tebuconazole	3	Black sigatoka	Australia: APVMA: Removed from nomination list - maintain watching brief. EU: Approved, candidate for substitution. UK: Approved. Canada: In review. USA: Upcoming review. Codex: MRL set at 1.5 mg/kg (2016).
		Leaf speckle	
		Yellow sigatoka (leaf spot)	
Thiabendazole	1	Anthrachnose (black end)	EU: Approved. UK: Approved. Canada: No current review. Codex: MRL set at 5 mg/kg (1999).
		Black tip	
		Crown root	
		Ripe fruit spot	
		Squirter	
Trifloxystrobin	11	Black sigatoka	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Approved. UK: Approved. Canada: In review. Codex: MRL set at 0.05 mg/kg (2006).
		Cordana leaf spot	
		Yellow sigatoka (leaf spot)	
Zineb	M3	Leaf speckle	Australia: APVMA reconsideration . Prioritised to be commenced by 2027. EU: Not approved. Canada: No current review. Codex: To be reviewed.
		Yellow sigatoka (leaf spot)	

PLANT GROWTH REGULATORS

Active constituent	Claim	Risks & Comments
1-methylcyclopropene	Post-harvest treatment to improve quality	EU: Approved. UK: Approved. Canada: No current review.
Ethephon (PER14966)	Crop timing management (pseudostem injection)	PER14966 expires 31/05/2028. EU: Approved. UK: Approved. Canada: No current review.

Banana Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

WEEDS

Active constituent	MoA Group	Weed	Risks & Comments
2, 2 DPA	0	Various grasses.	
2, 4-D	4	Various broadleaf weeds.	EU: Approved. UK: Approved. USA: Upcoming review.
Carfentrazone-ethyl	14	Various broadleaf weeds.	EU: Approved. UK: Approved. Canada: In review.
Diquat	22	Various broadleaf weeds and grasses.	APVMA proposed decisions published July 2024. All uses in orchards including bananas proposed to be deleted. Publication of the final regulatory decision is expected in December 2025. Codex MRL set at 0.02 mg/kg (2014). EU: Not approved (withdrawn in 2018). UK: Not approved. USA: Registered (under review).
Diuron	4	Various broadleaf weeds and grasses.	Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration and for targeted spray drift reconsideration. EU: Not approved. Canada: In review. USA: Upcoming review.
Fluazifop-p	1	Various grasses.	Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration and for targeted spray drift reconsideration. Canada: No current review. Codex: MRL set at 0.01 mg/kg (2017).
Glufosinate-ammonium	10	Various broadleaf weeds and grasses.	Australia: APVMA: Nominated for targeted spray drift reconsideration (potential risk to vegetation, natural aquatic and bystander areas). Canada: In review. Codex: MRL set at 0.2 mg/kg (2014).
Glyphosate	9	Various broadleaf weeds and grasses.	Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration and for targeted spray drift reconsideration. EU: Approved. UK: Approved.

Banana Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

			Canada: No current review. USA: Upcoming review. Codex: MRL set at 0.05 mg/kg (2006).
Haloxypop-p	1	Various grasses.	Codex: MRL set at 0.02 mg/kg (2010).
Oryzalin	3	Various broadleaf weeds and grasses.	EU: Not approved. UK: Withdrawn.
Paraquat	22	Various broadleaf weeds and grasses.	APVMA proposed decisions July 2024. All uses in orchards proposed (including bananas) to be deleted except for annual weeds up to 15cm high and a maximum rate of 175 gac/ha . Publication of the final regulatory decision is expected in <u>December 2025</u> . Codex: Assorted tropical and sub-tropical fruits - inedible peel MRL set at 0.01 mg/kg (2006). Canada: Not approved. EU and UK: Not approved (2007). USA: Restricted use (under review).

Funding statement: MT24008 –Regulatory Support & Response Co-ordination. This *multi-industry* project has been funded by Hort Innovation, using *industry research and development levies and contributions from the Australian Government*. Hort Innovation is the grower-owned, not-for-profit research and development corporation for Australian horticulture.

Disclaimer

Horticulture Innovation Australia Limited (Hort Innovation) makes no representations and expressly disclaims all warranties (to the extent permitted by law) about the accuracy, completeness, or currency of information in MT24008 – Regulatory Support & Response Co-ordination. Reliance on any information provided by Hort Innovation is entirely at your own risk. Hort Innovation is not responsible for, and will not be liable for, any loss, damage, claim, expense, cost (including legal costs) or other liability arising in any way, including from any Hort Innovation or other person's negligence or otherwise from your use or non-use of MT24008 – Regulatory Support & Response Co-ordination, or from reliance on information contained in the material or that Hort Innovation provides to you by any other means.

Legal notice

Copyright © Horticulture Innovation Australia Limited 2025

Copyright subsists in Ag-Chemical Update. Horticulture Innovation Australia Limited (Hort Innovation) owns the copyright, other than as permitted under the Copyright ACT 1968 (Cth). The Ag-Chemical Update (in part or as a whole) cannot be reproduced, published, communicated or adapted without the prior written consent of Hort Innovation. Any request or enquiry to use the Ag-Chemical Update should be addressed to: Communications Manager

Hort Innovation

Level 7, 141 Walker Street

North Sydney NSW 2060

Australia

Email: communications@horticulture.com.au

Phone: 02 8295 2300

Banana Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment