

Evaluation Report for Category B, Subcategory 3.12 Application

Application Number: 2022-2566
Application: Changes to Product Label – New Site or Host
Product: Cueva Commercial
Registration Number: 31825
Active ingredient (a.i.): Copper, present as copper octanoate
PMRA Document Number: 3502138

Purpose of Application

The purpose of this application was to add a claim for control of powdery mildew (*Podosphaera aphanis*) on greenhouse strawberry to the Cueva Commercial label and to amend instructions for pome fruit regarding application rates for apples that are susceptible to russeting.

A claim for suppression of the fungal disease Cercospora leaf spot (*Cercospora beticola*) on Swiss chard (Crop Group 4), which was accepted under the URMULE program (Application Number 2021-5574), was also added to the Cueva Commercial label under the current application.

Chemistry Assessment

A chemistry assessment was not required for this application.

Health Assessments

No changes were made to the formulation of Cueva Commercial; therefore, the toxicological profile of the end-use product is as previously characterized.

Since the application method, application rate, and use pattern of the greenhouse use on strawberry are identical to those of the currently registered uses, the occupational exposure from the use of Cueva Commercial on greenhouse strawberry is the same as characterized for the other registered uses. Precautionary, personal protective equipment, and directions for use statements on the product label aimed at mitigating user exposure are adequate to protect workers and bystanders from any potential risk due to occupational exposure.

There are no occupational or bystander exposure concerns anticipated from the use of Cueva Commercial on Swiss chard. The low toxicity of the end-use product and the adequate exposure mitigation measures present on the label, which include precautionary (e.g., wearing of personal protective equipment) and hygiene statements, are such that the risk due to occupational and bystander exposure is expected to be acceptable.

There is no dietary or drinking water exposure concern from the use of Cueva Commercial because it is of low oral toxicity, there is a pre-harvest interval (PHI) of 1 day, and the label has necessary mitigation measures to prevent drinking water contamination.

Maximum Residue Limit

As part of the assessment process prior to the registration of a pesticide, Health Canada must determine whether dietary risks are acceptable from the consumption of foods treated with the pesticide when used according to the supported label directions. If acceptable, this means food containing that amount of residue is safe to eat, and maximum residue limits (MRLs) may be proposed. MRLs are the maximum amount of pesticide residue legally permitted to remain in/on food sold in Canada and are specified under the *Pest Control Products Act* for the purposes of the adulteration provision of the *Food and Drugs Act*.

A maximum residue limit (MRL) of 50 ppm is specified for copper in or on all food commodities, which applies to the uses on greenhouse strawberry and Swiss chard.

Environmental Assessment

The uses on the Cueva Commercial label, including the use on Swiss chard to suppress *Cercospora* leaf spot (*Cercospora beticola*), are within the currently registered use pattern of copper, present as copper octanoate. Therefore, no additional risk is expected when Cueva Commercial is used in accordance with the label, which includes statements to mitigate risks to the environment.

Value Assessment

A rationale to justify extrapolating evidence of product performance from the currently registered use to control powdery mildew on field strawberry on the Cueva Commercial label was submitted in support of this application. The use pattern to control powdery mildew is identical for both field and greenhouse strawberry. Since the product is known to be effective against the pathogen when applied according to the registered use pattern and crop safety concerns have not been reported, application to greenhouse strawberry according to the same use pattern can be expected to provide similar efficacy. The claim is supported from a value perspective.

The selection of Cueva Commercial to manage *Cercospora* leaf spot on Swiss chard as an ‘A Priority’ at the national 2016 Minor Use Priority Setting Workshop established the value of this fungicide use to Canadian agriculture. Cueva Commercial is registered for use against the same disease on beet, a close relative of Swiss chard, which indicates that it will be similarly effective on Swiss chard. Field efficacy trials where Cueva Commercial was applied against *Cercospora* leaf spot on Swiss chard demonstrated that Cueva Commercial suppresses this disease in the field.

When *Cercospora* leaf spot on Swiss chard is severe, the affected crop becomes unmarketable. Cueva Commercial will provide Swiss chard growers, including those that practice organic production, with an effective tool to manage this disease.

Conclusion

The Pest Management Regulatory Agency has completed an assessment of the information provided, and has found the information acceptable to support the amendment of the Cueva Commercial label to include uses on greenhouse strawberry and Swiss chard.

References

PMRA

Document

Number

Reference

3374616	2022, Cueva Commercial greenhouse strawberry efficacy, crop safety and exposure waiver request, DACO: 10.1,10.2.3,10.2.3.1,10.2.3.3,10.3,10.3.2, 10.3.2(B),5.2
3363541	2022, Cueva Commercial Greenhouse Strawberry Bridging Rationale, DACO: 10.6
3277735	2021, Value Report- AAFC17-002E- Efficacy and Crop Tolerance of Cueva Fungicide (copper) for the suppression of Cercospora leaf spot (<i>Cercospora beticola</i>) in Swiss chard, DACO: 10.1
3277736	2021, Corresponding Value Report Data Summary Tables (Excel file), DACO: 10.2.3.1
3277737	2017, Field Trial Reports, DACO: 10.2.3.3
3277738	2021, References used in Value Summary, DACO: 10.6

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