Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2010-03

Isoxaflutole

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the addition of a new early postemergence use on field corn to the product label of Converge Flexx Herbicide, containing technical grade isoxaflutole, is acceptable. The specific use approved in Canada is detailed on the label of Converge Flexx Herbicide, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 29071.

The evaluation of this isoxaflutole application indicated that the end-use product has merit and value and that the human health and environmental risks associated with the new use are acceptable. Details regarding the registration can be found in the corresponding Evaluation Report that is available in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website, under Public Registry, Pesticide Product Information Database.[1]

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Consultation on the proposed revised MRL for isoxaflutole is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps).

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRL is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

[1] The relevant report can be accessed by selecting the Applications/Amendment/Historical tab and opening the Evaluation Report found under Application Number 2008-3146.

The proposed MRL for isoxaflutole in Canada in or on food, to replace the corresponding MRL already legally established, is as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limit for Isoxaflutole

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Isoxaflutole	(5-cyclopropyl-4-isoxazoly)[2-(methylsulfonyl)- 4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl] methanone, including the metabolite 1-(2-methylsulfonyl-4-trifluorometylphenyl)-2-cyano-3-cyclopropylpropane[2]	0.02	Field corn*

* The proposed MRL of 0.02 ppm for field corn is to replace the established MRL of 0.2 ppm on corn due to the removal of a metabolite from the existing residue definition.

A complete list of all MRLs established in Canada can be found on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

International Situation and Trade Implications

The proposed Canadian MRL is the same as the corresponding tolerance established on "corn, field, grain" in the United States (tolerances listed in 40 CFR Part 180 by pesticide). Currently, Codex[3] MRLs have not been established for isoxaflutole on any commodity (Codex MRLs searchable by pesticide or commodity).

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRL for isoxaflutole up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRL for isoxaflutole and posting a corresponding Established Maximum Residue Limit (EMRL) document in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

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[2] The metabolite 2-metylsulfonyl-4-trifluorometyl benzoic acid is proposed for removal from the currently established residue definition as it is no longer considered a residue of toxicological concern.

[3] Codex is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.