

Evaluation Report for Category B, Subcategory 3.12 Application

Application Number: 2011-1420
Application: Changes to product label – new site or host
Product: Confine
Registration Number: 29100
Active ingredients (a.i.): Mono- and di-potassium salt of phosphorous acid (MDP)
PMRA Document Number English PDF: 2059509

Purpose of Application

The purpose of the application was to amend the label of the conditionally registered end-use product Confine (Registration number 29100; 45.8% w/w mono and di-potassium salts of phosphorous acid). Confine is currently registered for use as a post-harvest treatment of russett - skinned potatoes intended for processing for the suppression of late blight and pink rot storage infection. With this amendment, restrictions for use on only russet-skinned potatoes would be relaxed to include other varieties of potatoes, such as white and table-ready potatoes.

Chemistry Assessment

A chemistry assessment was not required for this application.

Health Assessments

Confine is of low acute toxicity by the oral, dermal, and inhalation routes of exposure, non-irritating to the skin, minimally irritating to the eyes, and is not a dermal sensitizer.

Unacceptable risk due to exposure of the mixer, loader, and applicator, as well as those responsible for clean-up and maintenance activities is not anticipated due to the low toxicity of Confine. Worker exposure will be further reduced as the label requires the wearing of PPE (e.g. protective eyewear, long pants and long-sleeved shirt, waterproof gloves, shoes and socks) and adherence to hygiene.

Given the use and low toxicity of Confine, the risk to bystanders is anticipated to be negligible.

A maximum residue limit (MRL) has not been established for mono- and dipotassium salt of phosphorous acid.

Incident Reporting

Since 26 April 2007, the law requires registrants to report incidents, including adverse effects to health and the environment, to the PMRA within a set time frame. Information on the reporting of incidents can be found on the [PMRA website](#). The PMRA examines incident reports and, where there are reasonable grounds to suggest that the health and environmental risks of the pesticide are no longer acceptable, appropriate measures are taken, ranging from minor label changes to discontinuation of the product.

As of May 16, 2011, there was only a single minor incident (human) reported for mono- and di-potassium salt of phosphorous acid from occupational exposure. The PMRA concluded that the information from the incident report did not impact the risk assessment for the end-use product, Confine.

Environmental Assessment

As this product is to be used indoors post-harvest, the risk to non target organisms is considered to be negligible as exposure is not expected when used according to label statements.

Value Assessment

Three storage trials were provided in support of the use of Confine. Confine applied at the registered rate and twice the registered rate did not result in any adverse effects or substantial change in skin color on 13 smooth-skinned potato varieties destined for the fresh market or processing industries. Use history information from three provincial experts was consistent with these results. The addition of a precaution statement regarding the variable tolerance of potato varieties to Confine is considered an adequate risk mitigation measure. In light of these considerations, the use restriction on smooth-skinned and table-ready potatoes may be lifted.

Conclusion

The PMRA has completed an assessment of the available information for Confine, and has found the information to be sufficient to amend the label of Confine for use on potatoes without restrictions.

References

- 1879665 2009, Managing Silver Scurf and Black Dot in Potato Storage, DACO:10.2.3.3
- 1879666 2009, Fundamental and Novel Methods of Silver Scurf Control in Storage, DACO: 10.2.3.3
- 1932421 2010, Effects of phosphorus acid on skin colour and silver scurf when applied to potatoes prior to storage, DACO: 10.3.2(B)
- 1932424 2010, Effect of phosphorus acid (Confine) applied post-harvest on skin color of processing and table potatoes, DACO: 10.2.3.3, 10.3.2(B)
- 1969195 2010, Impact of Post-Harvest Confine Applications on Potato Disease in Storage and Fry Colour Characteristics., DACO: 10.2.3.4(C)
- 2035449 2011, Support letter, DACO: 0.8
- 2035450 2011, Support letter, DACO: 0.8
- 2036880 2011, Support letter, DACO: 0.8

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