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Regulatory Agency

Santé Canada
Agence de réglementation
de la lutte antiparasitaire

Proposed Maximum Residue Limit

PMRL2007-06

1-Methylcyclopropene

(publié aussi en français)

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Publications
Pest Management Regulatory Agency
Health Canada
2720 Riverside Drive
A.L. 6605C
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K9

Internet: pmra_publications@hc-sc.gc.ca
www.pmra-arla.gc.ca
Information Service:
1-800-267-6315 or 613-736-3799
Facsimile: 613-736-3758

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Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), under the authority of the [Pest Control Products Act](#) (PCPA), has granted registration to the end-use product SmartFresh Technology for Tomatoes, containing 1-methylcyclopropene (1-MCP), for postharvest use on tomatoes as a plant growth regulator to maintain fruit firmness and delay colour development. The specific use that was approved in Canada is detailed on the SmartFresh Technology for Tomatoes label (PCPA Registration Number 28569).

The evaluation of this 1-MCP application indicated that the product has merit and value and that the human health and environmental risks associated with the new use are acceptable. Details on this registration can be found in the corresponding Evaluation Report that is available on the [PMRA website](#), under Public Registry, Product Information, Current Applications¹.

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain on or in the food when the pesticide is used according to the label directions and that such residues will not pose an unacceptable health risk. 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.

Currently, MRLs are legally established under the Food and Drug Regulations (FDR) after consultation through the *Canada Gazette*. Amendments to the *Food and Drugs Act* (FDA), via [Bill C-28](#), anticipated to come into force in 2007, will allow pesticide MRLs to be legally established under the PCPA without having to adopt MRLs by regulation under the FDA, resulting in a more efficient means of establishing, revising and revoking pesticide MRLs.

Consultation on the proposed MRL for 1-MCP is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps). This action is being taken in advance of Bill C-28 coming into force to allow the MRL to be legally established as soon as possible after the FDA is amended.

The proposed MRL for 1-MCP in Canada on or in food, to be added to the MRL already legally established on apples, is as follows:

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limit for 1-Methylcyclopropene

Common Name	Chemical Name of Substance	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
1-methylcyclopropene	1-methylcyclopropene	0.01	Tomatoes

¹ The relevant report can be accessed by selecting the Applications/New/Historical tab and opening the Evaluation Report found under Application Number 2005-1475.

A complete list of all MRLs established in Canada can be found in [Table II, Division 15](#) of the FDR. Once the amendments to the FDA via Bill C-28 are in force, the list of legally established Canadian MRLs will be available on the PMRA's [MRL webpage](#), which will be updated to include the MRL listed in this document.

International Situation and Trade Implications

The United States Environmental Protection Agency has established an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for residues of 1-MCP on or in fruits and vegetables when used as a postharvest plant growth regulator (see [40 CFR § 180.1220](#)). Currently, there are no Codex² MRLs for 1-methylcyclopropene ([Codex MRLs](#)).

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRL for 1-MCP within 75 days from the date of publication of this notice. Please forward your comments to Publications (see contact information on the cover page of this document). Health Canada will consider all comments received prior to making a final decision on the proposed MRL for 1-MCP and before posting an Established Maximum Residue Limit document on the PMRA's website once the amendments to the FDA are in force.

² Codex is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.