



Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada



The Pest Management Centre

The Pest Management Centre (PMC) was established by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) in 2003. It delivers two programs to help growers' access to new minor uses of pesticides, and to develop strategies and action plans to reduce the risk of pesticides to human health and the environment. The PMC operates from its headquarters in Ottawa and at nine AAFC research centres across Canada where field, greenhouse and growth chamber trials are conducted.

The PMC receives advice from advisory and technical committees composed of representative stakeholder members including the grower community, industry, government, research, and other groups.

The **Pesticide Risk Reduction Program** (PRRP), a joint initiative of AAFC and Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), works to reduce the risk to human health and the environment from pesticides used in the agriculture and agri-food industry. The PRRP creates a framework through which stakeholders develop and implement pesticide risk reduction strategies. Strategies focus on priority pesticide risk issues and work to provide reduced-risk tools and encourage adoption of alternative pest management approaches, practices and technologies.

The PRRP provides funding and regulatory support for the implementation of developed strategies. Success of the strategies is measured and the current pest management situation for individual crops is updated in the crop profile. The twenty-nine published crop profiles are documents that provide crop production and pest management information on a commodity basis. National in scope, they identify gaps in pest management and issues faced by Canadian growers.

The PMC is committed to improving the access of growers to low-risk, environmentally and economically sustainable pest control tools and practices, including biopesticides. To improve access to, and promote adoption of biopesticides by Canadian growers, the PRRP provides regulatory assistance to the biocontrol industry, supports research, data generation, and demonstration projects, strategically assists adoption and market development, and disseminates information on biocontrol options.

The PMC's **Minor Use Pesticides Program** (MUPP) was launched in June 2002 as a joint initiative between AAFC and Health Canada's PMRA. The Program, which has been renewed under the federal Agricultural Regulatory Action Plan of the Growing Forward policy initiative, aims to increase grower competitiveness by improving access to new and effective pesticides.

Canada

MUPP works with growers, pesticide companies, provinces, PMRA, and the United States Inter-Regional Research Project no 4 (IR-4 Project) to identify and prioritize grower-selected crop/pest needs, and match them with potential solutions. As the front-line guardians against pest issues, growers know from experience the types of persistent and emerging pest problems that can have serious effects on their operations. It is for that reason that growers select priorities at an annual priority-setting workshop.

Once the key pest management needs have been selected, the MUPP conducts research trials (i.e., field,

greenhouse, growth room, and laboratory) at nine AAFC research centres across Canada to collect data to support submissions to Health Canada's PMRA for the registration of new minor uses of pesticides.

Many of these new uses replace older chemistries and formulations which have been taken off the market. These efforts assist in moving new products through the regulatory system which will help Canada's producers to compete in global markets.

PMC's Purpose:

The PMC uses scientific knowledge and expertise to improve pest management practices for the benefit of all Canadians and the environment. We respond to grower needs by providing specific pest management solutions that foster competitiveness, sustainable crop production and environmental stewardship.

For current pest management information and the latest edition of the PMC newsletter visit us at our website: www.agr.gc.ca/prrmup

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