Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2014-39

Metalaxyl

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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 the new use on cumin to the product label of Apron Maxx RTA Seed Treatment Fungicide, containing technical grade metalaxyl-M and S-isomer and fludioxonil, is acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the label of Apron Maxx RTA Seed Treatment Fungicide, Pest Control Products Act Registration Number 27577. Residues of fludioxonil in/on cumin from the new use will be covered by the established maximum residue limit (MRL) of 0.02 ppm for fludioxonil in/on cumin (EMRL2008-02).

The evaluation of this metalaxyl-M application indicated that the end-use product has merit and value and the human health and environmental risks associated with the new uses are acceptable.

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 an 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.

Residues of the resolved isomer metalaxyl-M are covered by MRLs established for metlaxyl, the unresolved isomeric mixture. Consultation on the proposed MRL for metalaxyl-m is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document). A summary of the field trial data used to support the proposed MRL can be found in Appendix I.

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.

The proposed MRL, to be added to the MRLs already established for metalaxyl, is as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limit for Metalaxyl

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)[1]	Food Commodity
Metalaxyl	*N*-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-*N*-(methoxyacetyl)-DL-alanine methyl ester, including metabolites that can be converted to the 2,6-dimethylaniline moiety, each expressed as metalaxyl equivalents.	0.05	Cumin

[1] ppm = parts per million

MRLs established in Canada may be found using the Maximum Residue Limit Database on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage. The database allows users to search for established MRLs, regulated under the *Pest Control Products Act* (PCPA), both for pesticides or for food commodities.

International Situation and Trade Implications

MRLs may vary from one country to another for a number of reasons, including differences in pesticide use patterns and the locations of the field crop trials used to generate residue chemistry data.

Table 2 compares the MRL proposed for metalaxyl in Canada with corresponding American tolerances and Codex MRLs[1]. American tolerances are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. A listing of established Codex MRLs is available on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food website, by pesticide or commodity.

Table 2 Comparison of Canadian MRLs, American Tolerances and Codex MRLs (where different)

Food Commodity	Canadian MRL (ppm)	American Tolerance (ppm)	Codex MRL (ppm)
Cumin	0.05	Not Established	5 (spices, seeds)

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRL for metalaxyl 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. Comments received will be addressed in a separate document linked to this PMRL. The established MRL will be legally in effect as of the date that it is entered into the Maximum Residue Limit Database.

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

Appendix I

Summary of Seed Treatment Residue Trial Data Used to Support the Proposed MRL

Seed treatment residue data from supervised residue trials conducted in Canada and the United States were reassessed within the framework of this petition to support the domestic use of Apron Maxx RTA Seed Treatment Fungicide on cumin. Canola, mustard, field corn (grain), sweet corn (ears), spinach, legume (progeny seeds) and leaf lettuce seeds were treated at the proposed rate and/or at exaggerated rates.

Maximum Residue Limit

The recommendation for the maximum residue limit (MRL) for metalaxyl was based upon the supervised residue trial data, and the guidance provided in PRO2005-04 (Guidance for Setting Pesticide Maximum Residue Limits Based on Field Trial Data).

Following the review of all available data, an MRL of 0.05 ppm is recommended to cover residues of metalaxyl including metabolites that can be converted to the 2,6-dimethylaniline moiety. Residues of metalaxyl in cumin at the proposed MRL will not pose an unacceptable risk to any segment of the population, including infants, children, adults and seniors.