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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit

PMRL2014-44

Clethodim

(publié aussi en français)

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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 uses on safflower to the product labels of Centurion Emulsifiable Concentrate Post-Emergence Herbicide and Select Emulsifiable Concentrate Post-Emergence Herbicide, containing technical grade clethodim, are acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the labels of Centurion Emulsifiable Concentrate Post-Emergence Herbicide and Select Emulsifiable Concentrate Post-Emergence Herbicide, Pest Control Products Act Registration Numbers 27598 and 22625 respectively.

The evaluation of these clethodim applications indicated that the end-use products have 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 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 MRLs for clethodim 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 MRLs can be found in Appendix I.

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

The proposed MRLs, to be added to the MRLs already established for clethodim, are as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limit for Clethodim

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm) ¹	Food Commodity
Clethodim	(<i>E,E</i>)-(±)-2-[1-[[3-chloro-2-propenyl)oxy]imino]propyl]-5-[2-(ethylthio)propyl]-3-hydroxy-2-cyclohexen-1-one, including metabolites containing the 2-cyclohex-1-enone moiety	0.20 ²	Sunflower Subgroup (Crop Subgroup 20B)

¹ ppm = parts per million

² Currently, there is an MRL of 0.20 ppm established in/on sunflower seeds.

MRLs are proposed for each commodity included in the listed crop groupings in accordance with the Residue Chemistry Crop Groups webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

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*, 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 MRLs proposed for clethodim in Canada with corresponding American tolerances and Codex MRLs¹. 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 the Canadian MRL, American Tolerances and Codex MRLs (where different)

Food Commodity	Canadian MRL (ppm)	American Tolerance (ppm)	Codex MRL (ppm)
Sunflower Subgroup (Crop Subgroup 20B)	0.20	5.0 (safflower, seed and sunflower, seed)	0.5 (sunflower seed)

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for clethodim 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 MRLs. Comments received will be addressed in a separate document linked to this PMRL. The established MRLs will be legally in effect as of the date that they are 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 Field Trial Data Used to Support the Proposed MRLs

Residue data from field trials conducted in Canada on sunflowers were reassessed in the framework of this petition to support the use of Centurion Emulsifiable Concentrate Post-Emergence Herbicide and Select Emulsifiable Concentrate Post-Emergence Herbicide on safflower. Clethodim was applied to sunflowers at the proposed rate and harvested according to label directions.

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Since sunflower is the representative crop for Crop Subgroup 20B and previously reviewed data was used to establish an MRL of 0.20 ppm in/on sunflower, the same data was extended to the other crops within the crop subgroup. Therefore, an MRL of 0.20 ppm is recommended for all remaining crops in the crop subgroup.

Residues of clethodim in/on calendula seeds, evening primrose seeds, jojoba seeds, niger seed seeds, safflower seeds, tallowwood seeds, and tea oil plant seeds at the proposed MRLs will not pose an unacceptable risk to any segment of the population, including infants, children, adults and seniors.