Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2015-03

Rimsulfuron

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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 new uses on highbush blueberries to the product label of Prism SG Herbicide, containing technical grade rimsulfuron, is acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the label of Prism SG Herbicide, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 30057.

The evaluation of this rimsulfuron 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 specified 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 rimsulfuron 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 rimsulfuron, are as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limit for Rimsulfuron

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)[1]	Food Commodity
Rimsulfuron	*N*-[[(4,6-dimethoxy-2-pyrimidinyl)amino]carbonyl]-3-(ethylsulfonyl)-2-pyridinesulfonamide	0.01	Bushberry (Crop Subgroup 13-07B) except lowbush blueberries[2]

[1] ppm = parts per million
[2] Currently, there is an MRL of 0.05 ppm established in/on "blueberries". This will be replaced with an MRL of 0.05 ppm in/on "lowbush blueberries", as the established MRL was based on lowbush blueberry data only.

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 rimsulfuron in Canada with corresponding American tolerances. American tolerances are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. Currently, there are no Codex MRLs[1] listed for rimsulfuron in or on any commodity on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food webpage.

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

Food Commodity	Canadian MRL (ppm)	American Tolerance (ppm)	Codex MRL (ppm)
Bushberries (Crop Subgroup 13-07B) except lowbush blueberries[1]	0.01	0.01 (including lowbush blueberries)	Not Established

[1] Currently in Canada, there is an MRL of 0.05 ppm established in/on “blueberries”. This will be replaced with an MRL of 0.05 ppm in/on “lowbush blueberries”, as the established MRL was based on lowbush blueberry data only.

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for rimsulfuron 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 1

Summary of Field Trial Data Used to Support the Proposed Maximum Residue Limits

Previously reviewed residue data from field trials conducted in the United States in/on highbush blueberries were reassessed in the framework of this petition. Rimsulfuron was applied to highbush blueberries at exaggerated rates, and harvested according to label directions.

Maximum Residue Limit

The recommendation for the maximum residue limit (MRL) for rimsulfuron was based upon the field trial data on file for highbush blueberries, and the guidance provided in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) MRL Calculator Statistical White Paper (March 1, 2011). Table A1 summarizes the residue data used to determine the proposed MRL for Bushberries (Crop Group 13-07B) except lowbush blueberries.

Table A1 Summary of Field Trial Data Used to Support the MRL

Commodity	Application Method/ Total Application Rate (g a.i./ha)[1]	Preharvest Interval (days)	Minimum Residues (ppm)	Maximum Residues (ppm)
Highbush blueberries	Ground application to each side of the row / 67.6-73.9	19-23	<0.01	<0.01

[1] g a.i./ha = grams of active ingredient per hectare

Following the review of all available data, the MRL as proposed in Table 1 is recommended to cover residues of rimsulfuron. Residues of rimsulfuron in all crops within Crop Subgroup 13-07B, except lowbush blueberries at the proposed MRL will not pose an unacceptable risk to any segment of the population, including infants, children, adults and seniors.