Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2015-07

Difenoconazole

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has received applications to register technical grade benzovindiflupyr and the end-use product Aprovia™ Top, a co-formulation with technical grade difenoconazole, for use in Canada on various commodities, including CSG 13-07F.

The evaluation of this difenoconazole 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 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 difenoconazole 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. MRL consultation for the other active ingredient, benzovindiflupyr, present in Aprovia™ Top is being conducted under a separate action.

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 Canada's Notification Authority and Enquiry Point.

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

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Difenoconazole

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)[1]	Food Commodity
Difenoconazole	1-[[2-[2-chloro-4-(4-chlorophenoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-yl]methyl]-1*H*-1,2,4-triazole	4.0	Amur River grapes, gooseberries, hardy kiwifruit, maypop and Schisandra berries.

[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*, both for pesticides or for food commodities.

International Situation and Trade Implications

Currently there are no corresponding American tolerances as listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide or Codex MRLs[1] for the MRLs proposed for difenoconazole in Canada

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for difenoconazole 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 Maximum Residue Limits

Residue data from field trials conducted in the United States on grapes were previously submitted and reviewed to support the domestic use of Inspire Fungicide (Reg. No. 30004) on grapes. Difenoconazole was applied to grapes at the label rate, and harvested according to label directions. In addition, a processing study in treated grape was previously submitted and reviewed to determine the potential for concentration of residues of difenoconazole into processed commodities.

Maximum Residue Limit(s)

The recommendation for MRLs for difenoconazole on Amur River grapes, gooseberries, hardy kiwifruit, maypop and Schisandra berries were extended from the MRL for difenoconazole on grapes, the representative commodity for CSG 13-07F. Table A1 summarizes the residue data used to calculate the MRL established for grapes.

Table A1 Summary of Field Trial and Processing Data Used to Support MRLs

Commodity	Application Method/ Total Application Rate (kg a.i.[1]/ha)	Preharvest Interval (days)	Minimum Residues (ppm)	Maximum Residues (ppm)[1]	Experimental Processing Factor
Grape	Foliar/0.52	7	0.08	1.8	3.5x (raisins) 0.24x (grape juice)

[1] a.i. = active ingredient;

Following the review of all available data, MRLs as proposed in Table 1 are recommended to cover residues of difenoconazole. Residues of difenoconazole in these crops at the proposed MRLs will not pose an unacceptable risk to any segment of the population, including infants, children, adults and seniors.