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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit

PMRL2014-34

# Metconazole

*(publié aussi en français)*

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Publications  
Pest Management Regulatory Agency  
Health Canada  
2720 Riverside Drive  
A.L. 6604-E2  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9

Internet: [pmra.publications@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:pmra.publications@hc-sc.gc.ca)  
[healthcanada.gc.ca/pmra](http://healthcanada.gc.ca/pmra)  
Facsimile: 613-736-3758  
Information Service:  
1-800-267-6315 or 613-736-3799  
[pmra.infoserv@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:pmra.infoserv@hc-sc.gc.ca)

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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 metconazole as a seed treatment and the end-use products Nipsit Suite Canola Seed Protectant, Metlock Fungicide and Nipsit Suite Cereals of Seed Protectant for use in Canada on canola, carinata, rapeseed, corn and wheat.

The evaluation of these metconazole applications indicated that the end-use product has merit and value and the human health and environmental risks associated with their proposed uses are acceptable. Details regarding these applications can be found in Proposed Registration Decision PRD2014-14, *Metconazole*, posted to the Health Canada website on 23 May 2014.

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 metconazole is being conducted via PRD2014-14. Information regarding the proposed MRLs can be found in Sections 3.5 and 7.1. The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for metconazole in accordance with the guidance found in PRD2014-14. Existing MRLs for clothianidin and metalaxyl are adequate to cover all uses of Nipsit Suite Canola Seed Protectant and Nipsit Suite Cereals of Seed Protectant.

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 for metconazole are as follows.

**Table 1      Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Metconazole**

| Common Name | Residue Definition   | MRL (ppm) <sup>1</sup> | Food Commodity  |
|-------------|--|------------------------|---|
| Metconazole | 5-[(4-chlorophenyl)methyl]-2,2-dimethyl-1-(1 <i>H</i> -1,2,4-triazol-1-ylmethyl) cyclopentanol | 0.04                   | Field corn, popcorn grain, sweet corn kernels plus cob with husks removed |

<sup>1</sup> 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 crop field trials used to generate residue chemistry data.

Table 2 compares the MRLs proposed for metconazole in Canada with corresponding American tolerances<sup>1</sup>. American tolerances are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. Currently, there are no Codex MRLs<sup>1</sup> listed for metconazole in or on any commodity 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<br>(ppm) | American Tolerance<br>(ppm) | Codex MRL<br>(ppm) |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Field corn  | 0.04                  | 0.02<br>(Field corn grain)  | Not established    |
| Popcorn grain                                     | 0.04                  | 0.02                        | Not established    |
| Sweet corn kernels plus<br>cob with husks removed | 0.04                  | 0.01                        | Not established    |

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<sup>1</sup> The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

## **Next Steps**

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for metconazole 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.