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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit

PMRL2020-33

Glufosinate-ammonium

(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 new uses on strawberries to the product labels of IGNITE 15 SN Herbicide and Crop Dessicant, and IGNITE SN Herbicide, containing technical grade glufosinate-ammonium, are acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the labels of IGNITE 15 SN Herbicide and Crop Dessicant, and IGNITE SN Herbicide, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Numbers 23180 and 28532, respectively.

The evaluation of these glufosinate-ammonium applications indicated that the end-use products have 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 MRL for glufosinate-ammonium is being conducted via this document (see Next steps). 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 Canada’s Notification Authority and Enquiry Point.

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

Table 1 Proposed maximum residue limit for glufosinate-ammonium

Common name	Residue definition	MRL (ppm)¹	Food commodity
Glufosinate-ammonium	2-amino-4-(hydroxymethylphosphinyl)butanoic acid monoammonium salt, including the metabolite propanoic acid, 3-(hydroxymethylphosphinyl)	0.3	Strawberries

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

The MRL proposed for glufosinate-ammonium in Canada is the same as the corresponding Codex MRL,¹ and there is no corresponding American tolerance. 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 Index webpage, by pesticide or commodity.

Next steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRL for glufosinate-ammonium 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 field trial data used to support the proposed maximum residue limit

Residue data for glufosinate-ammonium in strawberry were submitted to support the domestic use of IGNITE 15 SN Herbicide and Crop Dessicant, and IGNITE SN Herbicide on strawberries.

Maximum residue limit

The recommendation for a maximum residue limit (MRL) for glufosinate-ammonium was based upon the submitted field trial data, and the guidance provided in the OECD MRL Calculator. Table A1 summarizes the residue data used to calculate the proposed MRL for strawberries.

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)	Lowest average field trial residues (ppm)	Highest average field trial residues (ppm)
Strawberries	Directed spray between the rows/ 1007–1866	1	<0.02	<0.109

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 glufosinate-ammonium. Residues of glufosinate-ammonium in strawberries at the proposed MRL will not pose an unacceptable risk to any segment of the population, including infants, children, adults and seniors.