Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2021-16

Picarbutrazox

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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 the technical grade picarbutrazox and the end-use product VAYANTIS Seed Treatment for use in Canada on soybeans and corn (field corn, sweet corn and popcorn).

The evaluation of these picarbutrazox applications indicated that the end-use product has 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 PRD2021-02, *Picarbutrazox and VAYANTIS Seed Treatment*, posted to the Pesticides section of the Canada.ca website on 3 June 2021.

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 picarbutrazox is being conducted via PRD2021-02. Information regarding the proposed MRLs can be found in Section 3.5.4. The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for picarbutrazox in accordance with the guidance found in PRD2021-02.

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 Canada's Notification Authority and Enquiry Point.

The proposed MRLs for picarbutrazox are as follows.

Table 1 Proposed maximum residue limits for picarbutrazox

Common name	Residue definition	MRL (ppm)[1]	Food commodity
Picarbutrazox	1,1-dimethylethyl *N*-[6-[[[(Z)-[(1-methyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)phenylmethylene] amino]oxy]methyl]-2- pyridinyl]carbamate	0.01	Dry soybeans, eggs; fat, meat and meat byproducts of cattle, goats, hogs, horses, poultry and sheep; field corn, milk, popcorn grain, sweet corn kernels plus cob with husks removed

[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

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. For livestock commodities, differences in MRLs can also be due to different livestock feed items and practices.

Table 2 compares the MRLs proposed for active in Canada with corresponding American Ttolerances. 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 picarbutrazox in or on any commodity on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Index 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)
Dry soybeans, field corn, popcorn grain, sweet corn kernels plus cob with husks removed	0.01	0.01	Not Established
Eggs; fat, meat and meat byproducts of cattle, goats, hogs, horses, poultry and sheep; milk		Not Established	

Next steps

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