

Changes to the registration of thiamethoxam pesticides



All pesticides used in Canada must be registered under the *Pest Control Products Act*. Pesticides are re-evaluated to ensure that they continue to meet health and environmental requirements. Re-evaluation may result in the revocation of a product or product uses. Health Canada may also request changes to a product's label, including mitigation measures, use sites and application methods.

Thiamethoxam is a neonicotinoid insecticide used on various crops, and for seed treatment. The key elements of the two decisions regarding the active ingredient **thiamethoxam**, published respectively on April 11, 2019, and March 31, 2021, are summarized below.

Label changes for thiamethoxam pesticides

Cancelled uses

As of April 11, 2021

Stop the following uses:

- Foliar and ground application on outdoor ornamental crops
- Ground application on berries, cucurbits and fruiting vegetable crops
- Foliar application in orchards

End of use delayed to April 11, 2022,
for the control of certain insects.

As of March 31, 2023

Stop the following uses:

- Soil drench application on potatoes
- Foliar application on lowbush blueberries
- Seed treatment of field corn and seed corn for corn rootworm
- Seed treatment of soybean for bean leaf beetle, European chafer, soybean aphid and wireworm
- In-furrow application for leafy vegetables, for cabbage looper, beet armyworm, corn earworm and fall armyworm
- Soil drench and in-furrow application for *Brassica* vegetables, for dipteran leafminer, cabbage looper, diamondback moth, imported cabbageworm, thrips, beet armyworm, corn earworm, fall armyworm and yellowbanded armyworm

Users must follow the instructions on the updated labels.

Using a pesticide contrary with the label directions is a violation of the *Pest Control Products Act*.

Other risk reduction measures

As of April 11, 2021

- Application prohibited **before or during flowering** on the following crops:
 - ✓ Legumes
 - ✓ Fruiting vegetables grown outdoors
 - ✓ Berries — foliar application is still possible after flowering on woody berries provided that regeneration pruning is carried out after harvest
- Foliar application prohibited **during flowering** on sweet potatoes and potatoes
- Addition of warnings to minimize exposure of bees to dust produced during the planting of treated cereals and legumes

As of March 31, 2023

- Reduction of the maximum treatment rate for the following seeds:
 - ✓ Field corn
 - ✓ Seed corn
 - ✓ Soybean
- Reduction of the maximum rate for soil drench and in-furrow applications for the following crops:
 - ✓ Leafy vegetables
 - ✓ *Brassica* vegetables
- Limit to one application per season at the maximum application rate on fruiting vegetables for stink bug, tarnished plant bug and brown marmorated stink bug
- Limit of one single foliar application per season on the following crops:
 - ✓ Dry beans
 - ✓ Potatoes
 - ✓ Soybeans
 - ✓ Cranberries
 - ✓ Celeriac
 - ✓ Peppers, for pepper weevil
- Flood water must be held back for 30 days for cranberries that require flooding
- Updated buffer zones
- Recommendation of a vegetative filter strip

Read the label

All pesticides registered in Canada have a Health Canada-approved label with a registration number. It is important to read a pesticide label carefully, as it contains specific information on how to use it.

To find the most current label, use our online [label search tool](#), or search for “Health Canada pesticide labels” using your favourite search engine.

For more information

Special Review Decision [SRD2021-04](#), Special review decision: thiamethoxam risk to aquatic invertebrates.

Re-evaluation Decision [RVD2019-04](#), Thiamethoxam and its associated end-use products: pollinator re-evaluation.

The Health Canada-approved label is the official document for enforcement purposes. In the event of any discrepancy with the contents of this factsheet, the information on the label shall prevail.

Health Canada's Pesticide Compliance Program (PCP) is responsible for enforcing the *Pest Control Products Act*. Visit: canada.ca/pesticide-compliance