



Health
Canada Santé
Canada

*Your health and
safety.. our priority.*

*Votre santé et votre
sécurité... notre priorité.*

Proposed Maximum Residue Limit

PMRL2025-15

Metamitron

(publié aussi en français)

18 August 2025

This document is published by the Health Canada Pest Management Regulatory Agency.
For further information, please contact:

Publications
Pest Management Regulatory Agency
Health Canada
2 Constellation Drive
8th floor, A.L. 2608 A
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9

Internet: canada.ca/pesticides
pmra.publications-arla@hc-sc.gc.ca

Information Service:
1-800-267-6315
pmra.info-arla@hc-sc.gc.ca

Canada 

ISSN: 1925-0835 (print)
1925-0843 (online)

Catalogue number: H113-24/2025-15E (print version)
H113-24/2025-15E-PDF (PDF version)

© His Majesty the King in Right of Canada, as represented by the Minister of Health Canada, 2025

All rights reserved. No part of this information (publication or product) may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, or stored in a retrieval system, without prior written permission of Health Canada, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9.

Purpose of consultation

Maximum residue limits (MRLs)¹ are being proposed for the pesticide metamitron as part of the following applications for Canadian use, under submission numbers 2021-6621, 2021-6706 and 2022-0013.

Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) is proposing acceptability of the uses requested under the above-noted applications to register the technical grade metamitron and the end-use products Brevis 150 SC and Brevis 15 SG for new uses on apples and pears in Canada, as a plant growth regulator.

The evaluation of these metamitron applications indicated that the end-use products have 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 PRD2025-05, *Metamitron, Brevis 150 SC, and Brevis 15 SG*, posted to the Pesticides and pest management section of the Canada.ca website on 8 August 2025. Dietary risks from the consumption of foods listed in Table 1 were shown to be acceptable when metamitron is used according to the supported label directions. Therefore, foods containing residues resulting from these uses are safe to eat, and MRLs are being proposed as a result of this assessment.

Dietary health assessment

In assessing the risk of a pesticide, Health Canada combines information on pesticide toxicity with information on the degree and duration of dietary exposure to the pesticide residue from food. The risk assessment process involves four distinct steps:

- 1) Identifying the toxicology hazards posed by the pesticide;
- 2) Determining the “acceptable dietary level” for Canadians (including all vulnerable populations), which is protective of adverse health effects;
- 3) Estimating human dietary exposure to the pesticide from all applicable sources (domestic and imported commodities); and
- 4) Characterizing health risk by comparing the estimated human dietary exposure to the acceptable dietary level.

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, Health Canada must determine the quantity of residues that could 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 (Steps 3 and 4). If estimated human exposure is less than or equal to the acceptable level (developed in Step 2), Health Canada concludes that consuming residues resulting from use according to approved label directions is not a health concern. The proposed MRL is then subject to consultation to legally specify it as an MRL.

¹ A maximum residue limit (MRL) is the maximum amount of residue that may remain in or on food when a pesticide is used according to label directions.

An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity, as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except for certain instances where different MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and its processed product(s).

Consultation on the proposed MRLs for metamitron is being conducted via this document and PRD2025-05. Health Canada invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for metamitron in accordance with the process outlined in the How to get involved Section of this document, and with the process outlined in PRD2025-05.

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.

Proposed MRLs

The proposed MRLs for metamitron are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1 Proposed maximum residue limits for metamitron

| Common name | Residue definition | MRL (ppm) ¹ | Food commodity |
|-------------|---|------------------------|----------------|
| Metamitron | 4-amino-3-methyl-6-phenyl-1,2,4-triazin-5(4H)-one | 0.01 | Apples, pears |

¹ ppm = parts per million

MRLs established in Canada may be found using the Maximum Residue Limit Database on the Maximum residue limits, human health, and food safety 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

As per Table 2, the MRLs proposed for metamitron in Canada are the same as corresponding tolerances in the United States (U.S.) as listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. Currently, there are no Codex MRLs² listed for metamitron in or on any commodity on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Index webpage.

² The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

Table 2 Comparison of proposed Canadian MRLs, U.S. tolerances and Codex MRLs

| Food commodity | Proposed Canadian MRL (ppm) | Established U.S. tolerance (ppm) | Established Codex MRL (ppm) |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Apples, pears | 0.01 | 0.01 | Not established |

ppm = parts per million

How to get involved

Health Canada invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for metamitron up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document (by 1 November 2025). Please forward your comments to the PMRA Publications Section. Health Canada will consider all comments received and a science-based approach will be applied in making a final decision on the proposed MRLs. Comments received will be addressed in a response to comments document found in Pesticides and pest management consultations. The established MRLs will be legally in effect as of the date that they are entered into the Maximum Residue Limit Database.