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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit

PMRL2018-11

Abamectin

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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 various commodities to the product label of MINECTO™ PRO, containing the technical grades abamectin and cyantraniliprole, is acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the label of MINECTO™ PRO, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 33023.

The evaluation of this abamectin application indicated that the end-use product has 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 MRLs for abamectin is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document). A summary of the field trial data used to support the proposed MRLs can be found in Appendix I. The MRL consultation for the other active ingredient (cyantraniliprole) present in the MINECTO™ PRO is being conducted under a separate action.

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 Canada's Notification Authority and Enquiry Point.

The proposed MRLs, to be added to the MRLs already established for abamectin, are as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Abamectin

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm) ¹	Food Commodity
Abamectin	avermectin B1 (a mixture of avermectins \geq 80% avermectin B1a (5- <i>O</i> -demethyl avermectin A1a) and \leq 20% avermectin B1b (5- <i>O</i> -demethyl-25-de(1-methylpropyl)-25-(1-methylethyl) avermectin A1a) and its delta-8,9-isomer)	0.1	Leafy greens (Crop Sub Group 4-13A) ² ; leaf petioles vegetables (Crop Sub Group 22B) ³
		0.02	Fruiting vegetables (Crop Group 8-09) ⁴

¹ ppm = parts per million

² The MRL of 0.1 ppm is being extended from Crop Group 4 to all of Crop Subgroup 4-13A.

³ The MRL of 0.1 ppm is being extended from celery to all of Crop Subgroup 22B, except for cardoon, Chinese celery, and rhubarb which will retain the current MRL of 0.1 ppm.

⁴ The MRL of 0.02 ppm is being extended from Crop Group 8 to all of Crop Subgroup 8-09.

MRLs are proposed for each commodity included in the listed crop groupings in accordance with the Residue Chemistry Crop Groups webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of the Canada.ca website.

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 MRLs proposed for abamectin in Canada are the same as corresponding American tolerances, but differ from the Codex MRLs.¹ 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 Residues in Food and Feed website, by pesticide or commodity.

Table 2 Comparison of Canadian MRLs, American Tolerances and Codex MRLs (where different)

Food Commodity	Canadian MRL (ppm)	American Tolerance (ppm)	Codex MRL (ppm)
Leafy greens (Crop Subgroup 4-13A)	0.1	0.1 (Crop Group 4)	0.15 (head lettuce)
Leaf petioles vegetables (Crop Subgroup 22B)	0.1	0.1 (Crop Group 4)	0.03 (celery)
Fruiting vegetables (Crop Group 8-09)	0.02	0.07 (Crop Group 8-10)	0.5 (Chili pepper, dried) 0.09 (peppers, sweet - including pimento) 0.05 (eggplant, tomato) 0.005 (chili pepper)

¹ 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 abamectin 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.

Appendix I

Summary of Field Trial Data Used to Support the Proposed Maximum Residue Limits

Previously reviewed residue data from field trials conducted in/on head lettuce, leaf lettuce, and spinach were reassessed to extend to all crops within Crop Subgroup 4-13A, and for celery to extend to all crops within Crop Subgroup 22B. Previously reviewed residue data from field trials conducted in/on tomatoes, bell peppers and non-bell peppers were reassessed to extend to all crops within Crop Group 8-09.

Maximum Residue Limit(s)

The recommendation for maximum residue limits (MRLs) for abamectin 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 MRLs for the various commodities.

Table A1 Summary of Field Trial and Processing Data Used to Support MRLs

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)	Experimental Processing Factor
Head lettuce	Foliar/62-65	5-7	<0.004	<0.010	None
Leaf lettuce	Foliar/62-65	6-7	<0.007	<0.034	None
Spinach	Foliar/64-66	7	<0.004	0.052	None
Celery	Foliar/64-220	7	<0.006	<0.018	None
Tomatoes (standard size and cherry tomatoes)	Foliar/ 62-65	7	<0.006	<0.008	1.0 (paste) 0.63 (puree)
Bell peppers	Foliar/ 63-66	7	<0.006	<0.012	None
Non-bell peppers	Foliar/ 62-64	7	<0.006	<0.010	None

¹ g a.i./ha = grams of active ingredient per hectare

Following the review of all available data, MRLs as proposed in Table 1 are recommended to cover residues of abamectin. Residues of abamectin in these crop commodities at the proposed MRLs will not pose an unacceptable risk to any segment of the population, including infants, children, adults and seniors.