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Vol. 138, No. 39 — September 25, 2004

Regulations Amending the Food and Drug Regulations (1384 — Chlorimuron-ethyl)

Statutory authority

Food and Drugs Act

Sponsoring department

Department of Health

REGULATORY IMPACT ANALYSIS STATEMENT

Description

Chlorimuron-ethyl is registered under the *Pest Control Products Act* as a herbicide for the control of annual broadleaf weeds in soybeans as a post-emergent treatment. By virtue of subsection B.15.002(1) of the *Food and Drug Regulations*, the Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) for residues of chlorimuron-ethyl in any food is 0.1 parts per million (p.p.m.).

The Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), of Health Canada, has recently approved an application to amend the registration status of chlorimuron-ethyl from temporary to full. Following the review of additional data received in connection with this application, it is now proposed to establish a specific MRL for



residues of chlorimuron-ethyl in soybeans.

In order to determine whether proposed MRLs are safe, the PMRA conducts a dietary risk assessment. An acceptable daily intake (ADI) and/or acute reference dose (ARfD) is calculated by applying a safety factor to a no observable adverse effect level or, in appropriate cases, by applying a risk factor which is calculated based on a linear low-dose extrapolation. The potential daily intake (PDI) is calculated from the amount of residue that remains on each food when the pest control product is used according to the proposed label and the intake of that food from both domestic and imported sources in the diet. PDIs are established for various Canadian subpopulations and age groups, including infants, toddlers, children, adolescents and adults. Provided the PDI does not exceed the ADI or ARfD for any subpopulation or age group, and the lifetime risk is acceptable, the expected residue levels are established as MRLs under the *Food and Drugs Act* to prevent the sale of food with higher residue levels. Since, in most cases, the PDI is well below the ADI and lifetime risks are very low when MRLs are originally established, additional MRLs for the pest control product may be added in the future.

After the review of all available data, the PMRA has determined that an MRL for chlorimuron-ethyl of 0.05 p.p.m. in soybeans would not pose an unacceptable health risk to the public. This new MRL harmonizes with that established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Alternatives

Under the *Food and Drugs Act*, the sale of food containing residues of pest control products at a level less than or equal to 0.1 p.p.m. is permitted unless a lower MRL has been established in Table II, Division 15, of the *Food and Drug Regulations*. In the case of chlorimuron-ethyl, the establishment of an MRL for soybeans is necessary to support the use of a pest control product which has been shown to be both safe and effective, while at the same time preventing the sale of food with unacceptable residues.

Benefits and costs

The use of chlorimuron-ethyl in soybeans will provide joint benefits to consumers and the agricultural industry as a result of improved management of pests. In addition, this proposed regulatory amendment will contribute to a safe, abundant and

affordable food supply by allowing the importation and sale of food commodities containing acceptable levels of pesticide residues.

Some costs may be incurred related to the implementation of analytical methods for the analysis of chlorimuron-ethyl in the food mentioned above. Resources required are not expected to result in significant costs to the Government.

Consultation

Registration decisions, including dietary risk assessments, made by the PMRA are based on internationally recognized risk management principles, which are largely harmonized among member countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Individual safety evaluations conducted by the PMRA include a review of the assessments conducted at the international level as part of the Joint Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations/World Health Organization Food Standards Programme in support of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, as well as MRLs adopted by other national health/regulatory agencies.

Compliance and enforcement

Compliance will be monitored through ongoing domestic and/or import inspection programs conducted by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency when the proposed MRL for chlorimuron-ethyl is adopted.

Contact

Mr. Cameron Laing, Alternative Strategies and Regulatory Affairs Division, Pest Management Regulatory Agency, Health Canada, 2720 Riverside Drive, Address Locator 6607D1, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9, (613) 736-3665 (telephone), (613) 736-3659 (facsimile), cameron_laing@hc-sc.gc.ca (electronic mail).

PROPOSED REGULATORY TEXT

Notice is hereby given that the Governor in Council, pursuant to subsection 30(1) ([see footnote a](#)) of the *Food and Drugs Act*, proposes to make the annexed *Regulations Amending the Food and Drug Regulations (1384 — Chlorimuron-ethyl)*.

Interested persons may make representations with respect to the proposed Regulations within 75 days after the date of publication

of this notice. All such representations must cite the *Canada Gazette*, Part I, and the date of publication of this notice, and be addressed to Cameron Laing, Alternative Strategies and Regulatory Affairs Division, Pest Management Regulatory Agency, Department of Health, Address Locator 6607D1, 2720 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9 (tel.: (613) 736-3665; fax: (613) 736-3659; e-mail: cameron_laing@hc-sc.gc.ca).

Persons making representations should identify any of those representations the disclosure of which should be refused under the *Access to Information Act*, in particular under sections 19 and 20 of that Act, and should indicate the reasons why and the period during which the representations should not be disclosed. They should also identify any representations for which there is consent to disclosure for the purposes of that Act.

Ottawa, September 22, 2004

EILEEN BOYD
Assistant Clerk of the Privy Council

**REGULATIONS AMENDING THE FOOD AND DRUG
 REGULATIONS (1384 — CHLORIMURON-ETHYL)**

AMENDMENT

1. Table II to Division 15 of Part B of the *Food and Drug Regulations* ([see footnote 1](#)) is amended by adding the following after item C.6:

	I	II	III	IV
Item No.	Common Chemical Name	Chemical Name of Substance	Maximum Residue Limit p.p.m.	Foods
C.6.1	Chlorimuron-ethyl	ethyl 2-[[[(4-chloro-6-methoxy-2-pyrimidinyl)amino]carbonyl]amino]sulfonyl]benzoate	0.05	Soybeans

COMING INTO FORCE

2. These Regulations come into force on the day on which they are registered.

[Footnote a](#)

S.C. 1999, c. 33, s. 347

[Footnote 1](#)

C.R.C., c. 870

NOTICE:

The format of the electronic version of this issue of the Canada Gazette was modified in order to be compatible with hypertext language (HTML). Its content is very similar except for the footnotes, the symbols and the tables.



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