



CONSUMER ASSURANCE UPDATE

Mancozeb EU MRL

EU Member States voted at the end of October 2020 to withdraw all authorizations of Mancozeb in the EU. This means Mancozeb registration holders will be phasing out uses of Mancozeb across the EU over the next six months.

Such a decision triggers a review of the relevant EU MRLs, which in this case is the tolerance for dithiocarbamates (CS2). The review of the CS2 MRL is likely to take at least 18 months from when it starts, especially because it is complicated by the fact that the CS2 MRL also applies for other dithiocarbamate active substances (e.g. maneb, ziram).

According to the relevant EU authorities there will be no changes to the dithiocarbamate MRL for the 2021 citrus export season, meaning Mancozeb can continue to be used over this summer.

CGA/CRI have been expecting these developments for some time and since mid-2020 have begun working on a project to generate the appropriate data in order to apply for an Import Tolerance (IT). A successful IT application will effectively mean an MRL will be maintained in the EU (but probably at a lower level than the existing tolerance) which will permit the continued use of Mancozeb in Citrus Blackspot spray programmes.

CGA/CRI is partnering with exporters (FPEF) and the main suppliers of Mancozeb in South Africa to generate the data. Growers will be notified of any relevant developments around the project and the EU dithiocarbamate MRL itself.

Imidacloprid EU MRL

In a somewhat unexpected development the EU have recently changed the date by when the EU Imidacloprid authorizations will be withdrawn in the EU (see regulation EC/1643/2020). The original date was in 2022 but has been revised forward to 1st December 2020. This change has been explained due to the main sponsor of the molecule advising the Commission that they will not be supporting the renewal of the active's authorizations.

Again the EU Imidacloprid MRL will be now be reviewed given this change, but is no likely to affect the 2021 citrus export season. CGA/CRI are engage with various stakeholders to evaluate options in terms of trying to retain uses of Imidacloprid going forward.

GROW Add-on to GLOBAL.G.A.P

CGA were approached by growers to look at the impact of the new add-ons to GLOBAL.G.A.P. These add-on's apply to Albert Heijn and Delhaize and reflect additional focus on plant protection product residues (FORM01: Risk Assessment for Residue Monitoring), hygiene (FORM02: Hygiene Round) and foreign bodies (FORM03a and FORM03b). For Albert Heijn and Delhaize suppliers the implementation date was 1st November 2020.

CGA engaged with Albert Heijn directly to learn more about the requirements. For citrus products the main focus will be the residue module and the product hygiene module, while it was also confirmed that the foreign bodies requirement does NOT apply to citrus at the moment (given repacking takes place in the EU). Growers with any questions on these GROW add-on can contact CGA for more information (ph@cga.co.za).

Pyraclostrobin (Cabrio) Registration Extension

CGA/CRI have been advised of the recent label extension of Cabrio (Pyraclostrobin) to now include all relevant citrus types. The Registrar of Act 36 of 1947 approved these amendments last week. This change addressed the situation where some citrus types (i.e. soft citrus) had previously been excluded from the label. The Citrus Industry appreciates this extension of the label.

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