

## **GOVERNMENT NOTICES**

### **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

#### *FOOD AND DRUGS ACT*

#### *Food and Drug Regulations - Amendments*

#### **Interim Marketing Authorization**

Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) have previously been established under the *Food and Drugs Act* for residues of pyrimethanil at 8 parts per million (ppm) in raisins and 5 ppm in grapes. By virtue of subsection B.15.002(1) of the *Food and Drug Regulations*, the MRL for other foods is 0.1 ppm.

The Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), of Health Canada, has recently approved an application for the registration of pyrimethanil as a fungicide for the control of apple scab, botrytis bunch rot, botrytis cinerea, early blight and pear scab on apples, pears, potatoes and strawberries. The PMRA has also been requested to establish MRLs for residues of pyrimethanil and its metabolites in apples, pears, potatoes and strawberries, in order to permit the sale of food containing these residues.

Before making a registration decision regarding a new pest control product, the PMRA conducts the appropriate assessment of the risks and value of the product specific to its proposed use. The registration of the pest control product will be amended if: the data requirements for assessing value and safety have been adequately addressed; the evaluation indicates that the product has merit and value; and the human health and environmental risks associated with its proposed use are acceptable.

After the review of all available data, the PMRA has determined that MRLs for pyrimethanil, including its metabolites, of 2.5 ppm in strawberries, 0.6 ppm in apples, 0.2 ppm in pears and 0.05 ppm in potatoes would not pose an unacceptable health risk to the public.

The use of pyrimethanil on apples, pears, potatoes and strawberries 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.

Therefore, it is the intention of the PMRA to recommend that the *Food and Drug Regulations* be amended to establish MRLs for

pyrimethanil, including its metabolites, of 2.5 ppm in strawberries, 0.6 ppm in apples, 0.2 ppm in pears and 0.05 ppm in potatoes.

As a means to improve the responsiveness of the regulatory system, an Interim Marketing Authorization (IMA) is being issued to permit the immediate sale of strawberries, apples, pears and potatoes with MRLs for pyrimethanil, including its metabolites, of 2.5 ppm, 0.6 ppm, 0.2 ppm and 0.05 ppm ppm respectively, while the regulatory process to amend the Regulations is undertaken.

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