



Re-evaluation Note

REV2000-05

Chlorpyrifos

This Re-evaluation Note is further to the Note published June 8 of this year regarding the regulatory status of chlorpyrifos.

Since that time, the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has completed, under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, a risk assessment of chlorpyrifos using reviews of data done by the PMRA and internationally available evaluations including those of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Canadian use scenarios and legislation have been taken into consideration in this review.

The EPA risk assessment was based on the science policies developed under of the *Food Quality Protection Act* (FQPA) of 1996, which “sets a more stringent standard for most pesticides and which offers special protection for children.” Although the U.S. and Canadian assessments have determined that the compound poses no imminent threat to public health, given the new approaches to risk management now adopted by the U.S. EPA and the PMRA, an additional 10-fold safety factor is being applied to the existing 100-fold safety factor for chlorpyrifos, with the resulting limitation in uses of chlorpyrifos.

The U.S. EPA and the U.S. registrants of chlorpyrifos have agreed to a number of label changes. These label changes were found to be appropriate to Canada as well through PMRA’s risk assessment. In support of North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) principles, the basic manufacturers, Dow Agrosiences Canada Inc., Makteshim-Agan and Cheminova Inc., have also agreed to implement the same changes in Canada.

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Pest Management Regulatory Agency. For further information, please contact:**

**Publications Coordinator
Pest Management Regulatory Agency
Health Canada
2250 Riverside Drive
A.L. 6606D1
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K9**

**Internet: pmra_publications@hc-sc.gc.ca
www.hc-sc.gc.ca/pmra-arla/
Information Service:
1-800-267-6315 or (613) 736-3799
Facsimile: (613) 736-3798**



The following measures are being implemented in Canada, as a result of an agreement between the PMRA and the basic manufacturers, and are similar to those being implemented in the U.S. In addition, the time frame for implementation is identical to that in the U.S.

Residential Uses

The registration of Domestic Class products will be discontinued and residential uses, both indoor and outdoor, will be removed from labels of Commercial Class products. In addition, other uses of Commercial Class products in areas such as schools and playgrounds will be discontinued. Containerized, low-concentration baits, will continue to be registered in Canada and the U.S.

All Commercial Class products will carry a label warning against use in and around residences and other areas where children may be exposed.

Public Health Uses

The mosquito use pattern has been maintained for public health reasons. The Agency has consulted with municipal and provincial/territorial governments and the registrants regarding the use of chlorpyrifos for mosquito control.

Agricultural Uses

The use on tomatoes will be discontinued and a Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) of zero will be established for tomatoes. This will eliminate commercial use of chlorpyrifos on tomatoes in Canada and prevent import of chlorpyrifos treated tomatoes.

MRLs for apples and grapes will be lowered to be consistent with the new lower tolerances (MRLs) proposed in the U.S. (Canada does not have chlorpyrifos registered for use on apples or grapes.) The MRL in Canada will allow for continued imports of treated apples and grapes from the U.S. and other countries that meet this new more stringent standard.

Restricted entry intervals (REIs) for agricultural workers entering treated areas will be added to labels. The PMRA will continue to assess, together with registrants and users, possible mitigation measures for the remaining uses on agricultural crops.

Most of these changes will be phased in over the next year. The use on tomatoes will be discontinued December 31, 2000. Retail sales of Domestic Class products will be ending December 31, 2001. Retail sales of Commercial Class products with claims for uses in and around residences and other areas where children may be exposed will be ending December 31, 2001. These timelines are identical to those accepted in the U.S.

Registration of certain product use patterns for controlling termites will continue up to 2005, as in the U.S., to allow alternatives to be registered. In Canada, termite uses are restricted to application by Pest Control Operators and are under municipal supervision. Unlike the U.S., where termites are a significant pest, the termite problem in Canada, although serious for the areas where it occurs, is still limited to specific small areas and total use of chlorpyrifos is very limited.

Certain other uses, such as nonstructural wood uses that are registered in the U.S., are not registered in Canada.

This completes the first stage of the re-evaluation of chlorpyrifos. There will be consultation with registrants, users, provinces and territories, and other stakeholders on any further risk mitigation measures as they are proposed for the remaining agricultural, public health and other commercial uses of chlorpyrifos.