



Health
Canada

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Pest
Management
Regulatory
Agency

Agence de
réglementation
de la lutte
antiparasitaire

June 25, 2001

Memorandum to Registrants, Applicants and Agents

Re: Proposal to Implement Bilingual Language Requirements for Pest Control Products (Pesticides) under the *Pest Control Products Act*

This memorandum is provided to bring to your attention the enclosed proposed regulatory amendment, which would require bilingual labelling on all pest control products (pesticides) except for those not manufactured, imported, sold or used in Canada. The requirements for bilingual labelling would be phased in over a five-year period, beginning January 1, 2003, as registrations are granted, amended or renewed. A supplemental label relating to an emergency use would not be required to be bilingual unless the bilingual requirement had already been triggered for the product because its registration had been granted, amended or renewed on or after that date.

Currently, Section 39 of the Pest Control Products Regulations allows the use of either the English or the French language or both on pest control product labels. However, Section 26 of the *Official Languages Act* in effect requires that information relative to health and safety be available in both official languages, wherever it is reasonable to do so. This regulatory amendment has been developed to resolve this discrepancy.

The regulatory amendment for bilingual labelling on all pest control products would ensure that all users of pesticides in Canada have access to complete pest control product label information in their preferred official language. It would also strengthen the protection of health and safety and the environment by providing greater certainty that pesticide users are able to understand and follow the information on the labels.

Delaying implementation of the bilingual labelling requirements until January 1, 2003 would allow industry time to prepare for implementation. If some lead time were not provided, registrations granted or amended immediately after the regulation came into effect would have to comply with the bilingual labelling requirement even though the application would have been submitted some time in the past.

The proposed regulatory amendment was published in the *Canada Gazette* Part I on June 23, 2001 and can be viewed at http://canada.gc.ca/gazette/hompar1-2_e.html.

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Comments should be sent to:

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Enclosure: Copy of the *Canada Gazette* Part I Publication of the Proposed Regulatory Amendment and the Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement.