
Pest Management Regulatory Agency

Information Note

13 October 2005

Own Use Import Program Task Force Announcement

Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) is launching a task force to address issues raised with the Own Use Import (OUI) Program experience and identify possible solutions.

The task force will be chaired by Health Canada, and proposed participants include Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, grower groups, pesticide manufacturers, provincial government representatives as well as non-governmental organizations.

The OUI Program allows individual Canadian farmers to import a foreign registered product, provided it is deemed to be chemically equivalent to a Canadian registered product and bears an equivalent label information to that of the Canadian registered product. The program, put in place in 1993, was intended to address price differentials between Canadian and foreign agricultural inputs by giving Canadian farmers access to lower priced foreign products.

The extensive use of the OUI Program in 2005 has resulted in a number of issues being raised by various stakeholders.

The review will focus on this year's experience with the program and will address topics related to health and environmental concerns as well as economic impacts. It will also identify areas of improvement where needed. The task force will help develop recommendations and strategies to address concerns and explore necessary adjustments.

Recommendations regarding the OUI Program are expected by March 2006.

For more information on the OUI Program, its task force and regular updates of its progress as well as information on the Pest Control Regulations, visit the PMRA's website at www.pmra-arla.gc.ca/.



Media and Public:

Trish MacQuarrie

Director, Alternative Strategies and Regulatory Affairs Division

Pest Management Regulatory Agency

Health Canada

(613) 736-3660

Karen McCullagh

Director, Compliance, Laboratory Services and Regional Operations Division

Pest Management Regulatory Agency

Health Canada

(613) 736-3486



Health
Canada

Santé
Canada

Information Service: 1 800 267-6315 or (613) 736-3799
Internet: www.pmra-arla.gc.ca

