Pest Management Regulatory Agency
Teleconference on Canada's Pesticide Re-Evaluation Process
Thursday, April 14, 2005

Minutes

1. Introduction from the Chair

John Worgan, PMRA

The Chair welcomed everyone and a roundtable of introductions was made. Over 42 stakeholders participated. Subsequently, the agenda was reviewed and approved.

The Chair reviewed the action items from the last conference call. PMRA was to verify if there was a link from the 2003/04 progress report to the publications on the PMRA web site. There is not but the PMRA is further investigating if this can be done in the future. There is one action item not completed: the mock up of PMRA's 401 list is still in process, and it should be distributed for stakeholder comment within next month. The minutes from the December 20, 2004 conference call were then approved.

2. Update on Re-evaluation Status

John Worgan, PMRA

The Chair provided an update on the re-evaluations within the PMRA. For more information on re-evaluations, you may go to the PMRA web site to view the 2003 Progress Report at: http://www.pmra-arla.gc.ca/english/pdf/plansandreports/pmra_progressreport2003-e.pdf and the 2004 - 05 workplan at: http://www.pmra-arla.gc.ca/english/pdf/rev/rev2004-06-e.pdf.

For each active on the 04/05 workplan, PMRA targets completion of a review and the publishing of one of the following documents: a Preliminary Risk Assessment, a Proposed Acceptability for Continuing Registration (PACR), a Re-evaluation Decision Document (RRD), or a Re-evaluation Note (REV).

In total, decisions have been made or proposed on 182 active ingredients. As of March 31, 2005 decisions or proposed decisions on 148 pesticide active ingredients have been published or companies have been notified. Of those:

- 72 were discontinued/phased out, i.e., the manufacturer chose not to support the continued use of the product;
- 8 have been phased-out (or proposed for phase-out) as a result of PMRA review;
- 64 have been accepted for continued use with modification to the way they are to be used (with updated worker or environmental protection);
- 4 actives were accepted for continued use without any label changes.

- In addition, preliminary risk assessments have been published for the heavy duty wood preservatives creosote and copper chromium arsenate (CCA).

For an additional 34 active ingredients, assessments have been completed and decisions proposed, but documents have not yet been translated/published or companies have not yet been notified. These 34 active ingredients have been found acceptable for continued use with modification to the way they are to be used. These documents will be published soon.

Overall, excluding voluntary discontinuations requested by the manufacturers, approximately 85 % of the PMRA decisions or proposed decisions are essentially harmonized with EPA re-registration decisions.

Stakeholder Comments and Questions

A suggestion was made to provide an update of the number of re-evaluations since the last conference call (i.e. December 20, 2004-March 31, 2005). The Chair agreed, and the tally since the last conference call, will be included as an appendix to the minutes.

Another comment was made that it would be useful to know the re-evaluation sub program (i.e. 1-4) for each active. The Chair also agreed to have this information for the next conference call.

Concerning the 64 actives that were accepted for continued use with label modifications, a question was posed as to how the PMRA draws attention to growers regarding these label changes. Does the PMRA advise routine users of products with label modifications? Answer: for some products where there are risk of concerns PMRA will ask registrants to develop a product stewardship program.

Another question concerned the 72 phased out actives; how many have left the growers without any other options? Answer: the decision to phase out these actives were voluntary decisions by manufacturers and not PMRA decisions. Many of these discontinuations reflect similar phase outs in other jurisdictions.

Process Change at the PMRA

There are process changes at the PMRA for future re-evaluations.

a) **Preliminary Risk Assessment (PRA)**
For some active ingredients where the risk and value assessments need to be refined, a Preliminary Risk Assessment (PRA) will be done to gather further information and data. These Preliminary Risk Assessments will be published for a 60 - day stakeholder comment period. Once the risk and value assessments are revised, a Proposed Acceptability for Continuing Registration (PACR) will be prepared. This is an added step to the re-evaluation process and is similar to the U.S. EPA's process. The PMRA encourages all stakeholder input on individual Preliminary Assessments.
Value Assessments

Shuhua Liu presented changes to the value assessments of chemicals under re-evaluation. In the future, the PMRA will no longer identify the key and non-key uses. The PMRA will take two steps to summarize uses of a specific active ingredient under re-evaluation. The first step is to list all uses currently registered in a tabular format. This "table of all uses" will be sent to registrants for them to identify which uses they would like to support. After the PMRA is informed of supported uses, the second step is to list the supported uses and this "table of supported uses" will be forwarded to all the risk assessors. This is to ensure that the risk assessments are done based on supported uses only. The PMRA will request registrants for pesticide use information. If there are risk concerns based on the PRA, the value assessors will then do an impact assessment such as searching for alternatives and comment on feasibility of different ways of risk mitigation that are proposed by risk assessors.

A question was asked about how minor uses are included in the uses tables. In response, the PMRA considers all the registered minor uses as supported uses by default.

A suggestion was made to list all unsupported uses in the Preliminary Risk Assessment document. This will be done.

b) **Request for Use Information**

When the PMRA requests use information, there will be a table where registrants will provide use information by:

- use site,
- provinces,
- **%** crop treated
- typical application rate
- estimated application
- typical number of applications per year
- typical intervals between applications
- maximum number of applications per year
- minimum interval between applications
- maximum allowable rate per year

A question whether this information would be available in the crop profile. Crop profiles are not finalized yet. If /when crop profiles are available and include suitable pesticide use information, the PMRA will obtain it from the crop profiles.

c) **Interim way of addressing Efficacy Concerns when proposing rate reduction**

If a rate reduction is suggested, in order to determine if the reduced rate is working, it is proposed that the PMRA will do the following:

1. consult the Registrant to see if they have efficacy concerns with lower rates,
2. contact user groups and extension experts for typical rate use,
3. verify the PMRA's efficacy reviews from when the product was registered, if such reviews are available.

A comment pointed out that a number of proposals with reductions in rate and number of applicators have resulted in significant efficacy concerns. In response, there will be opportunities to provide comments during the re-evaluation process and this is why the PMRA is proposing

such changes.

3. Update on Status of the documents "PMRA Re-evaluation Program April 2005 to June 2009" and the "401 list"
John Worgan, PMRA

a) **PMRA Re-evaluation Program 2005 to 2009**
The PMRA Re-evaluation Program (2005 to 2009) document is in the publication process and will list the remaining actives (>200) which are subject to the current re-evaluation programme but which have not yet been announced. The document does not represent a formal announcement for the re-evaluation of these actives. Formal announcements will be published at a later date and until such time, submissions for use expansion will be considered. After the formal announcement new submissions that increase the exposure potential will not be accepted with the exception of emergency registrations.

The PMRA is working on the workplan list for this current year (05/06) and hope to have it available soon.

b) 401 list
PMRA reported that there had been delays in preparing the mock up of the 401 list. The 401 List will be a different list than the PMRA Re-evaluation Program document April 2005 to June 2009.

The 401 List will provide a snapshot of <u>all</u> the PMRA's 401 active ingredients that are subject to re-evaluation possibly including initiation of re-evaluation date, proposed date of completion, date the PACR or RRD will be published and in the case of phase out, the last date of manufacture, last date of sale, last date of use. The PMRA is working on the mock up for the 401 List and states a draft should be available within the next month for stakeholder consultation.

<u>Stakeholder Comments and Questions</u>

Stakeholders expressed appreciation for the openness of the PMRA in providing status updates and thanked them for these quarterly conference calls.

4. Other Business

PMRA ACTION ITEMS:

- Draft minutes and circulate to participating stakeholders for comment.
- The next teleconference proposed for September 13, 2005 at 1:00 to 2:30 (EST)

<u>Appendices</u>

List of participants
Draft Pesticide use information request form
Updated list on the Re-evaluation status decisions from the last conference call