



Re-evaluation Note

REV2003-01

Re-evaluation of Propetamphos

The purpose of this document is to notify registrants, pesticide regulatory officials and the Canadian public of the results of the re-evaluation of propetamphos.

Propetamphos is an organophosphate pesticide under re-evaluation in Canada, as announced by the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) in June 1999 in Re-evaluation Document REV99-01, *Re-evaluation of Organophosphate Pesticides*. The PMRA's re-evaluation program examines older active ingredients and their end-use products using modern scientific standards to determine their continuing acceptability in relation to human health and the environment.

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In Canada, the only end-use product containing propetamphos registered under the *Pest Control Products Act* and subject to the re-evaluation is Catalyst Insecticide, Registration Number 25149. It is a restricted class product for use by licensed pest control operators only (not for sale to the general public). The product is labelled for crack and crevice treatment and spot treatment inside buildings (residential buildings and industrial sites) and transportation equipment (trucks, rail cars, etc.) for control of a variety of insects including ants (including carpenter ants), cockroaches, fleas and spiders. The product has very limited use in Canada. The registrant is Wellmark International.

In the United States, products containing propetamphos have been registered for use indoors in similar sites for the control of similar insect pests as in Canada. In the United States, propetamphos is also registered for termite control. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed a reassessment of propetamphos and the results of this review are presented in an Interim Reregistration Eligibility Decision document published by the EPA in October 2000. The EPA concluded that certain mitigation measures are necessary to address concerns regarding exposure to workers applying the chemical and to persons re-entering treated areas.

The PMRA's re-evaluation of propetamphos supports the conclusions of the EPA's health assessment and also the risk mitigation measures recommended for the United States. These include:

- limiting use to crack and crevice applications only (no spot treatment);
- removing residential use sites from labels, i.e., uses in structures occupied by children and the elderly, such as homes, schools, daycare centres, hospitals, nursing homes (with exception of food service areas as noted below);
- allowing use in food service areas of residential structures only when food is covered or removed prior to treatment;
- limiting use to the more dilute spray concentration of 0.5% (rather than the currently labelled 0.5% to 1.0% spray concentration); and
- removing from the label reference to pests controlled through spot treatment.

Wellmark International has agreed to amend the label of Catalyst Insecticide to reflect these mitigation measures.

This action will help reduce human exposure to propetamphos and represents the PMRA's interim decision for this organophosphate pesticide. The re-evaluation of propetamphos will be finalized upon completion of a cumulative risk assessment for the organophosphate pesticides, which share a common mechanism of toxicity.