



Crop Protection

Election 2019

Our Ask: Collaborate with foreign governments to harmonize Maximum Residue Limits and improve efficiencies at the Pest Management Regulatory Agency.

BACKGROUND

- In order to increase market access and sustainability of the Canadian fresh fruit and vegetable industry, harmonization of pesticide regulation, products, and residues must occur.
- This requires collaboration both within Canadian governmental agencies, and between the Canadian, American, and other governments with which we trade.
- Industry recognizes that pesticides must be used within the guidelines of good agricultural practices, which consider the needs of environmental quality, human health, agricultural stability, and effective pest management.
- In addition, the assurance of an affordable supply of quality food for Canadian consumers as well as the continued viability of Canadian agriculture and domestic food processing industries must remain a priority in a competitive global trading environment.
- Maintain and improve the joint review process which simultaneously reviews submissions and registers new active ingredients. To achieve harmonization, industry proposes the Canadian Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) establish a joint schedule for pesticide re-evaluations of older chemistries which would be facilitated by the inclusion of a benefits assessment in pesticide re-evaluations allowing for risk/benefit balancing in decision making, similar to the EPA;
- Harmonize Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) between Canada, the US, and other trading partners;
- Fulfill PMRA Regulatory Directive DIR 98-02, *Residue Chemistry Guidelines* – which furthers regulatory harmonization by considering chemistry reviews by the EPA as acceptable to support MRLs here in Canada;
- Continue funding of AAFC's Minor Use Program, and harmonization between the Minor Use Program and the US IR-4 Program, leading to acceptance of US registrations in Canada for minor use crops, and
- Improve efficiencies in the PMRA and removal of impediments to the introduction of newer, safer, more effective crop protection products.

ACTION REQUIRED

In order to reduce trade barriers and maintain the health of consumers, CPMA proposes the following: