



Pesticide Program Highlights

Keeping you informed

April 2008

Grower Requested Own Use (GROU) Program

Approved Products

The GROU program is a mechanism whereby growers, with an approved Import Certificate, are authorized to import the US version of a Canadian registered product. **The following 11 GROU products** have been approved for this season and additional products are currently under review.

Approved GROU Products
• 2,4-D Amine 500 Liquid Herbicide (2,4-D)
• Sevin Brand XLR Plus Carbaryl Insecticide (Carbaryl)
• Bravo Zn (Chlorothalonil)
• GF-120 NF Naturalyte Fruit Fly Bait (Spinosad)
• Aatrex Liquid 480 (Atrazine)
• Gavel 75 DF Fungicide (Mancozeb and Zoxamide)
• Touchdown iQ Liquid Herbicide (Glyphosate)** **An application for Touchdown Total has been received as a replacement
• Reflex Liquid Herbicide (Fomesafen)
• Roundup Weathermax with Transorb 2 technology Liquid Herbicide (Glyphosate)
• Banvel II Herbicide (Dicamba)
• Basagran Liquid Herbicide (Bentazon)

Growers may now submit GROU Import Certificate applications for these products. More information is available at www.pmr-arla.gc.ca

The GROU Nomination Committee

The GROU Nomination Committee, consisting of representatives of key grower associations, was formed to nominate candidate products for consideration under the Program to the benefit of Canadian producers. By accurately representing the national interest of Canadian producers, the Committee:

- Prioritizes and submits GROU product candidates; and
- Monitors and maintains the GROU container management program fee collection process.

The Health Canada Pest Management Regulatory Agency is currently reviewing a number of additional product submissions for GROU eligibility.

North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) Labelling

NAFTA labels on agricultural pesticides allow the cross-border movement of these products between Canada and the US, to the benefit of growers. Regulatory cooperation, as well as collaboration among grower groups, pesticide manufacturers and governments, have made NAFTA labels possible. Many stakeholders view this initiative as a major accomplishment and the preferred path forward in terms of accessibility and price discipline.

To date, Health Canada and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have approved four NAFTA labels. The latest, Simplicity Herbicide, was approved on 31 January 2008, as a result of a joint review process with the US EPA. Simplicity Herbicide contains pyroxsulam, a new active ingredient for the control of wild oats and certain broadleaves weeds in spring wheat and durum wheat in Western Canada.

NAFTA Labelled Products	Approved
Simplicity Herbicide (Pyroxsulam)	January 2008
Reflex Liquid Herbicide (Fomesafen)	October 2007
Gavel 75 DF Fungicide (Mancozeb, Zoxamide)	May 2007
Avadex Microactiv Herbicide (Triallate)	January 2007

Generic Registrations

Over the past months, Health Canada has been implementing an improved system for registering generic pesticides. The primary goal of this new policy is to encourage innovation by providing fair protection of the proprietary interests in data, while ensuring a predictable and timely process for the introduction of competing generic pesticides to the Canadian market. Under this new policy, the determination of data value and compensation is done during negotiation or binding arbitration between involved parties. A number of major generic manufacturers have indicated their support for the new policy and that they expect it will result in a greater number of applications for the registration of generic pesticide.

International Regulatory Co-operation

International regulatory co-operation, including global joint reviews, provides Canadian growers access to new technologies at the same time as global competitors. This cooperation is particularly important due to Canada's relatively small market size. Joint reviews increase the efficiency of the registration process, facilitate simultaneous registration in participating countries, and increase access to new pest management tools.

Currently, Health Canada is collaborating with other Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) regulatory agencies on four joint reviews of agricultural pesticide active ingredients which are proposed for registration in Fiscal Year (FY) 2007–08 with a substantial number of minor uses.

As of November 2007, NAFTA joint reviews and work-sharing projects have resulted in 74 new product registrations including both active ingredients and end-use products. Over 40% of new agricultural chemical pesticide active ingredients are now registered in Canada through joint reviews and work-shares with other countries.

Technology Gap

The technology gap is described as the difference in access to pesticide active ingredients and approved uses relative to other countries.

Joint review and work-sharing programs help reduce this gap by introducing new active ingredients and associated minor uses to Canada at the same time as in other countries. In FY 2006–07, Health Canada registered 663 minor crop uses and has registered 382 minor crop uses during the first half of FY 2007–2008.

Project 914, a pilot project first introduced in 2006, also helps to address the technology gap in minor use active ingredients by allowing Health Canada to utilize US EPA reviews to inform Canadian registration needs before a submission is even made. Collectively, Project 914 has yielded 479 minor uses for a wide range of commodity sectors across Canada.

The first three reduced-risk active ingredients registered through Project 914 are:

Carfentrazone	a selective post-emergence herbicide for the control of broadleaf weeds in fallow systems and weed burndown prior to planting
Spiromesifen	for the control of mites and whiteflies on greenhouse and outdoor vegetables, ornamentals and fruit crops
<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	for use on greenhouse and outdoor fruits and vegetables, and greenhouse ornamentals