



COMPLIANCE PERIODIC ADVICE: APRIL 2008

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) is the Australian government authority responsible for the assessment and registration of pesticides and veterinary medicines, and for their regulation up to and including the point of retail sale. This advice has been prepared to assist retailers of agvet chemicals to comply with the laws controlling the supply of certain agvet chemicals.

Relocation of APVMA Premises – October 2006

The APVMA has moved site to 18 Wormald Street, Symonston ACT 2609. Our new postal address is PO Box 6182 Kingston ACT 2604, our new switch number is: **(02) 6210 4700**. Refer to our website at: www.apvma.gov.au for a detailed list of contacts.

Use of Unregistered Granular Ammonium Sulfate (AMS) as a Spray Adjuvant

APVMA Compliance has become aware that the use of unregistered granular ammonium sulfate as a spray adjuvant for use with pesticides is increasing. The APVMA would like to take the opportunity to inform and remind manufacturers, distributors and retailers that supply of unregistered ammonium sulfate as a spray adjuvant for use with pesticides is an offence against the AgVet Code. The offence provision is as follows:

Section 78 (1) *A person must not supply, or cause or permit to be supplied, a chemical product that is not a registered chemical product, a registered listed chemical product or a reserved chemical product.*

Penalty: \$33,000

APVMA investigations into the use of unregistered granular ammonium sulfate as spray adjuvants are continuing. Particular emphasis will be placed on those unregistered granular ammonium sulfate products marketed as "Spray Grade".

The APVMA supports and encourages the use of registered spray adjuvants only.

Recalls and Compliance Notices

The APVMA has commenced publishing compulsory recall notices, compulsory stop supply notices, compulsory suspension notices, product cancellation notices and compulsory testing orders on the APVMA website. These notices can be found at: <http://www.apvma.gov.au/qa/recall.shtml>

Endosulfan

Registered chemical products that contain endosulfan are categorised as "Restricted Chemicals" under the Agvet Code. As such controls are in place to ensure these chemicals are only supplied to authorised persons who have undergone training to ensure responsible application of this class of chemical.

During 2006/2007 the APVMA inspected a number of retail outlets across Australia to ensure ongoing compliance with the requirements for endosulfan products. Compliance Inspectors visited 14 premises at various locations across Australia.

Retailers must continue to maintain their vigilance in complying with the various requirements for endosulfan products, particularly in the following areas:

- Endosulfan User Notices must be prominently displayed at the point of sale, and
- Keeping of Records showing objective evidence that customers supplied with endosulfan products are authorised to acquire and use the product.

Further information on compliance with the conditions applicable to endosulfan products can be found at: http://www.apvma.gov.au/chemrev/downloads/endosulfan_supply_record.pdf

Hormonal Growth Promotants (HGPs)

Supply of HGPs is monitored by the APVMA. Suppliers of HGPs must be registered with the APVMA and all importers, manufacturers and suppliers must keep appropriate records. APVMA Inspectors regularly audit HGP supply records. These audits are conducted by the APVMA as part of the National HGP Control and Monitoring System.

The National HGP Control and Monitoring System is also liable to audit by EU (European Union) auditors at anytime. Should EU auditors find systemic deficiencies in the procedures, Australian trade with the EU could be jeopardised. Adhering to the requirements of the National HGP Control and Monitoring System, including maintaining good records and accounting for every dose of HGP, will ensure that Australia's good trading reputation with the EU is maintained

While the accuracy and completeness of HGP records relating to acquisition and supply are generally of a high standard, APVMA Inspectors have noted that errors do occur, with doses remaining unaccounted for. The regulations state that the supply record must be completed at the time of supply and the Monthly Returns submitted to your State Coordinator within 14 days from the end of the month.

We wish to remind all suppliers that under no circumstances can HGP be delivered to a grower without the supplier receiving a fully completed purchaser declaration. It is the supplier's responsibility to obtain a declaration, not the purchaser's to provide it.

Notification Number holders (retailers) are solely responsible for ensuring their Notification Number remains current and must ensure their renewal form with the appropriate payment reaches the APVMA by the required date. Where retailer's payments for renewal of Notification Numbers are centralised to a Regional or Head office or similar, those retailers may have to put in place additional steps to ensure the payment process does not result in a late payment whereby the number may have already ceased to have effect.

The APVMA conducts regular audits to ensure compliance with the Agvet Code. Failure to comply may result in compliance action.

Regulatory Update on the Web

Visit www.apvma.gov.au, and find "Regulatory Update" on the homepage. Use the link to view helpful information and updates on regulation and information on how to subscribe to receive email updates.

More Information?

Visit www.apvma.gov.au and click on the "Quality and Compliance" hyperlink in the blue "Activities" box.