

Removal of Lindane from the Priority Candidate Review List

NOTICE

When the National Registration Scheme was introduced in March 1995, the APVMA assumed responsibility for over 5,000 chemical product registrations granted under earlier arrangements in Australia's States and Territories. The APVMA considered that some of the chemicals required reconsideration (review) to ensure that they met contemporary standards of safety and performance, taking into account any new information and scientific data generated since their registration.

On the 2 May 1995 the APVMA announced in the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette No. NRA 5 the 'Existing Chemical Review Program Nominations & Priority Candidate Review List'. The chemicals on the Priority Candidate Review List (PCRL) were a list of chemicals to be reviewed by the APVMA Chemical Review Program. Lindane was included in the list.

In May 2009 amendments were made to Annex A (Elimination) of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) to list nine additional chemicals as POPs, one of which was lindane. The Australian Government is in the process of ratifying this decision, expected to occur 12 – 18 months after the decision to list lindane as a POP. Listing requires national measures to be taken to eliminate the production and use of lindane.

Following discussions with the APVMA and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry about the future of lindane, the sole registrant advised that the importation of lindane active constituent had ceased in 2009 and that it wished to withdraw the registration of the sole remaining lindane product which had a use as an insecticide and acaricide in the pineapple industry. The processes to cancel the sole remaining lindane product registration and remove the label from PubCRIS were completed on 7th June 2010.

The APVMA advises that there are longer any registered products which contain lindane and therefore this compound has been removed from the PCRL as a review is not necessary. An updated Priority Candidate Review List (PCRL) may be found on the APVMA's website at http://www.apvma.gov.au/products/review/a_z_reviews.php (click on the 'Nominated' tab).

For additional information about the chemical review program, see <http://www.apvma.gov.au/products/review/index.php>.

APVMA CONTACT

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