

FOOD SAFETY UPDATE

GLOBALG.A.P Water Risk Assessments

CGA have confirmed that the following principles apply regarding how the compliance criteria around water quality in Version 4 of the GLOBALGAP Fruit & Vegetable Standard (Control Points CB.6.3.2) should be interpreted. The key principle is that where the risk of contamination is low a risk assessment may be done OR a water sample is drawn and tested to demonstrate the water source is low risk. There are a number of implications from this:

- 1) Risk assessments must be done per production unit code (PUC) given the variance in water sources, water routes to the farm (e.g. canal versus piped) and irrigation systems. It may be that water does not come into contact with the fruit at all (e.g. drip irrigation systems) but this needs to be documented.
- 2) It is permissible to draw on alternative water sample results where these are available and to include them in the risk assessment. For example, if the regional water board regularly conducts water quality tests then these results could be used in the risk assessment, which eliminates the need for each PUC to undertake their own test. It would be best to demonstrate that the frequency of testing is in line with the potential implications of a contamination incident occurring (CB.6.3.3.)
- 3) If a microbial risk has been identified it would be appropriate to draw and test samples for the PUC to demonstrate that this risk is now being managed (CB.6.3.4).

Growers are encouraged to make more use of the results from water boards that might already be testing their water.

Interpretation of Taiwanese MRL lists

A recent incident in Taiwan has shown the need for careful explanation of the Taiwanese MRL list for imported citrus products. Based on the official translation (accessed from the Taiwanese Food and Drug Administration website) it is important to know that "*Citrus Fruits*" relates to oranges only, whereas "*Citrus*" refers to the entire citrus group including oranges, grapefruit, easy peelers and lemons. Exporters sending citrus to this market are encouraged to contact CGA for a copy of the downloaded list of MRLs applicable to the different citrus types.

Separately, it appears that mixed consignments (e.g. lemons and oranges in the same container) are also not acceptable in Taiwan. CGA has not been able to confirm this and no evidence is available in English on the appropriate websites. Producers and exporters are requested to exercise caution and discuss this requirement with your receiver in Taiwan when shipping fruit to this market.

BAC MRLs in the EU

Following the setting of a provisional tolerance for DDAC, when used as a sanitizer, in the EU of 0.5 mg/kg the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health has now also adopted a guideline document that effectively makes provision for a tolerance for BAC, also at 0.5 mg/kg. A copy of the guideline is available on the CGA website or by email (contact ph@cga.co.za). Again this guideline is for sanitation uses only.

Changes to the EU Chlorantraniliprole (Rynaxypyr/Coragen) MRL

Changes to the CODEX and EU Chlorantraniliprole (Rynaxypyr) MRL for citrus 0.5 mg/kg and 0.7 mg/kg respectively will be reflected in the next version of the Recommended Usage Restrictions. Effectively the usage restrictions will be as follows:

All markets except where other restrictions apply: 7d PHI as registered

CODEX (China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Indonesia): 7d PHI as registered

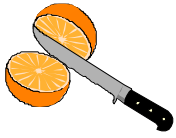
CODEX (Middle East): 7d PHI as registered.

Canada: Not later than 90% petal fall

USA: 7d PHI as registered.

Japan: Not later than 90% petal fall

Korea: Not later than 90% petal fall



Climate Change Update

At CGA Roadshows earlier in the year a number of growers indicated they would participate in the benchmarking process that would be rolled out in 2012. The Climate Change project team have been hard at work improving the Carbon Calculator – effectively making it that much easier to complete the exercise and will be visiting these regions in this second half of the year helping growers to capture their data. Please look out for the dates when they'll be in your region (or see <http://www.climatefruitandwine.co.za/>). In the meantime you might want to look at a presentation they put together on the project.

http://prezi.com/jbeueojup8yp/4min-intro-to-ccc-p2/?auth_key=c9594613858640541c0b4e3923d3b7ee3a90f126

Once opened, follow these instructions:

Step 1- Click on the writing in green (A brief introduction to phase 2) to activate the Prezi

Step 2- Click on the grey arrows below to navigate through the presentation

Step 3- Click on more (on your bottom right hand side) to view in full screen

Press escape on your keyboard to return to the normal view

Any queries on the above can be directed to CGA (ph@cga.co.za).

Compiled by
Paul Hardman
CGA