

CONSUMER ASSURANCE UPDATE OCTOBER 2013

Pyrimethanil approved as Food Additive in Japan

In August 2013 CGA received information that the Japanese Ministry of Labour, Health and Welfare (MLHW) have approved Pyrimethanil as a Food Additive under Japanese Food Sanitation Law, and also revised the Japanese Pyrimethanil MRL to 10 mg/kg for relevant citrus types exported from South Africa to Japan. This change in legislation opens the door for use of Pyrimethanil on citrus exported to Japan. These changes have already come in force in Japan and are therefore effective immediately.

DDAC Update

South Africa has been pursuing a positive MRL for DDAC in the EU since 2010. It had been hoped that by 2013 at least some uses for DDAC would be possible for citrus exported to the EU but this did not materialize. The latest news is that the European Food Safety Authority has evaluated the data pack, but a proposal for an MRL has not been tabled. EU member states are required to forward comments to the Commission who will then table a proposal for a vote at the next standing committee of pesticides Residues (not before February 2014). Until the revised MRL is agreed to, it is foreseen that the existing measures introduced in July 2012 will continue to apply (i.e. a temporary MRL of 0.5 mg/kg based on packhouse sanitation uses).

Imidacloprid Update

CGA discussed with the SA registrar the neonicotinoid situation that has seen the EU and other countries place restrictions on the use of Imidacloprid and Clothianidin (these active substances have current citrus registrations under Act 36 of 1947 in SA). The indication from the Registrar was the foliar sprays were considered problematic, while the use of soil drenches has less impact on bees. Given the highly significant use of Imidacloprid for the control of greening in the Mpumalanga areas, CGA made an appeal to the Registrar to maintain key soil drench uses for citrus, and have also undertaken to advise the citrus industry that foliar applications of these actives are strongly discouraged. CGA foresees that all foliar applications of these neonicotinoids will be withdrawn going forward.

Chlorfenapyr Advisory

CGA became aware of two exceedances of Chlorfenapyr from commercial testing overseas during 2013. It is not clear if these resulted from

failure to adhere to Recommended Usage Restriction or if they are indicative of the need to extend pre-harvest intervals. Growers should take note of this concern and it must be emphasized that the Recommended Usage Restrictions must be followed carefully to ensure compliance to importing countries' residue requirements, and obviously all spray equipment must be calibrated correctly.

Climate Change

Workshops have been set up before the end of the year, some especially in citrus producing areas, to help citrus producers complete their carbon footprint exercise. The citrus industry responded positively to these workshops in the first half of the year – with 60 data points captured on the system. Please consider attending these special workshops and completing your carbon footprint. The dates for the workshops are as follows:

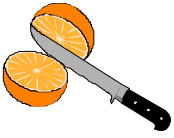
Date	Time	Hosting Town
8 Oct	9am – 12pm	Groblersdal
9 Oct	9am – 12pm	Tzaneen
10 Oct	9am – 12pm	Nelspruit
22 Oct	9am – 12pm	Eshowe

More details of the workshops are available on the CGA website, or contact Shelly Fuller (shelly@climatefruitandwine.co.za) or Paul Hardman (ph@cga.co.za).

SIZA Communication to Fruit and Wine Industry Members

WIETA and SIZA have reached an agreement with regards to the mutual recognition of ethical audits which will allow for a producer, packer or winery to have a single audit that will be recognised by all retailers and remove the potential for duplication of audits. Producers, packers and wineries can please take note of the following:

- In 2013 WIETA will aim to complete the Global Social Compliance Programme Equivalence Process (currently completed by SIZA), an international benchmarking process that will allow for mutual recognition of the SIZA and WIETA Standards and audits amongst international and local retailers.
- In the meantime, Producers, packers and/or wineries can choose to do a WIETA or SIZA-based audit but must note that until WIETA has undergone the GSCP Equivalence process SIZA cannot guarantee acceptance of the WIETA audit



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- by international and local retailers who currently recognise SIZA.
- For purposes of WIETA certification as required by wine industry customers:
 - Audits undertaken by SIZA members and certified by WIETA will need to be undertaken within a three year or less cycle, to be certified by WIETA;
 - WIETA will conduct site spot-checks to verify corrective actions of SIZA members who have completed a SIZA audit and are seeking WIETA certification;
 - The cost of this can be recovered from Vinpro which has agreed to extend its subsidy of R2 500 to SIZA members who hold Vinpro membership and who can produce a valid WIETA certificate to qualify for the subsidy.
 - WIETA will become a member of SIZA in order to monitor SIZA members who also require WIETA certification

For more information please contact: SIZA – Colleen Chennells – chennell@iafrica.com or WIETA - Linda Lipparoni – linda@wieta.org.za
For other news on SIZA please also visit the SIZA website (<http://www.fruitsa-ethical.org.za/#>).

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