



FOOD SAFETY UPDATE

EU Malathion MRL Change

On the 25th February 2015 the European Commission published changes to the EU MRL for Malathion on citrus (Regulation 399/2015/EC). These changes came into effect 20 days later. The applicable EU MRL for Malathion on citrus is now 2.0 mg/kg.¹

Malathion is listed under Annex I of EU/1107/2009 and therefore has authorized usages within the European Union. However, these changes to the EU MRL mean that Southern African citrus producers are able to apply a shorter pre-harvest interval for citrus exported to the EU.

From the research done by Citrus Research International the Malathion residue contents in the citrus peel and whole fruit varied between 0.01 mg/kg to 1 mg/kg at 7 days after application as ground-based sprays (CRI Annual Research Report 2007-8 p 231-235). The Malathion applied in these residue trials was combined with HymLure. The dosage of Malathion was at 175 ml per 100 L of water.

The *Recommended Restrictions for Plant Protection Products on Southern African Export Citrus* will be amended to reflect the following details:

All markets except where other restrictions apply: Only dilute concentration, do not use higher concentrations. 7d PHI

CODEX (China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Indonesia): Only dilute concentration, do not use higher concentrations. 7d PHI

CODEX (Middle East): Only dilute concentration, do not use higher concentrations. 7d PHI

Canada: Only dilute concentration, do not use higher concentrations. 28d PHI

USA: Only dilute concentration, do not use higher concentrations. 7d PHI

Japan: Only dilute concentration, do not use higher concentrations. 7d PHI

Korea: Only dilute concentration, do not use higher concentrations. 28d PHI

Compiled by
Paul Hardman
Citrus Growers Association

¹ Regulation 399/2015/EC introduces changes to MRLs for a number of other active substances. Some of these MRL changes will come into effect on the 3rd October 2015. Nevertheless, the Malathion MRL changes are already in force.