



SOP for Dithiocarbamate Testing on citrus fruit for Canada - Suspended

DAFF: Food Safety and Quality Assurance have decided to suspend the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for intensified residue testing that was introduced for citrus exported to Canada. Having noted that no Dithiocarbamate MRL exceedances have been reported in Canada on SA citrus during 2015 the decision was taken to suspend the SOP.

The Canadian MRL for Dithiocarbamates (e.g. Mancozeb) remains at the default level of 0.1 mg/kg. DAFF: FSQA has indicated that should there be any exceedances of this MRL then the SOP will be reinstated.

Marketers, packhouse managers and growers are urged to continue to take appropriate steps to ensure that the MRL is not exceeded given the heavy burden placed on the industry by the SOP.

Future status of the Mancozeb MRL: CGA is continuing to engage and monitor the review of Mancozeb in the US and Canada with the expectation of seeing the MRLs being revised upward. On current information the review of the active is still underway and is unlikely to be completed before the end of 2016 in Canada and well into 2017 in the US. What this means is that the MRLs currently in existence are likely to remain as they are for at least the current export season.

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