



UPDATE: WITHDRAWAL OF TETRADIFON (TEDION) MRL IN THE USA

After citrus growers were notified by CGA of the withdrawal of the US Tetradifon MRL on citrus (Cutting Edge No. 45 on the 18th May 2006) CGA engaged directly with the ETA in Washington (USA) to determine whether a period of grace will be granted before the new Limit of Detection level is enforced. Some growers applied Tetradifon without knowledge of the new level and the question CGA asked the ETA was whether or not SA growers would still be able to send fruit sprayed with Tetradifon after the legislation became effective on 6 April 2006 to the US market.

During telephone communication earlier today, ETA informed CGA that SA citrus growers could export citrus fruit sprayed with Tetradifon to the US so long as it can be shown that:

- 1) *The residue is present as the result of an application or use of the pesticide at a time and in a manner that was lawful...*

Firstly, this means growers must have applied Tetradifon as registered (according to the label). Secondly, applications must also have been BEFORE the 26th April 2006, which was the date the new MRL became effective in the US.

- 2) *The residue does not exceed the level that was authorized at the time of the application or use.*

Tetradifon residues must not exceed the 2.0 ppm level (the previous US Tetradifon MRL on citrus) which was applicable

before the 26th April 2006. Again if growers had applied Tetradifon as registered then the resultant residue is expected to be well below the 2.0 ppm level.

Growers will be required to demonstrate that these two requirements have been met "**to the satisfaction of the Food and Drug Administration**", and will need to be able to present appropriate spray records that verify the dates on which the Tetradifon was applied to the fruit. Fruit sprayed after the 26th April 2006 should not be sent to the US market, as this would be in contravention of the first requirement explained above.

Contact myself on 031 765 2514 should you have any queries.

Yours sincerely
By Email
Paul Hardman

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