

GTA MARKET NOTIFICATIONS



Notice 11 of 2019 - 08 November 2019

TOPIC: Update on Proposed Ban in Thailand of Three Agricultural Pesticides

***DISTRIBUTION:** GTA Members – primary contact list. Please circulate to all appropriate internal parties.*

1. Background

Industry was advised on 29 October 2019 of the decision of Thailand's government as agreed on Tuesday 22 October 2019 to ban the use of chlorpyrifos, glyphosate and paraquat in Thailand.

Thailand will bring the ban into effect by placing these chemicals on the Type 4 List of Hazardous Substances, which will prohibit the use, possession, manufacture and importation. As a consequence of categorising these chemicals as Type 4, the current MRLs will be removed and a zero tolerance applied – the timeframe for this remains uncertain.

This update provides industry with further advice recently received from Thailand.

2. Consequences of the initial Proposed ban

As advised to industry in the prior notification, as a result of the proposed ban there remains several unanswered questions including the impact on stocks currently in-transit or planned for shipment to Thailand, and the nature of the enforcement of this change in Thailand.

The Australian Government is actively discussing the implications with Thailand authorities and when advice is received industry will be notified.

3. Official Notification of the Ban

On 6 November 2019 Thailand released SPS559 officially advising of the proposed change in the chemicals on the Type 4 List of Hazardous Substances. It includes as previously notified:

- Glyphosate and its associated metabolites
- Paraquat and its associated metabolites
- Chlorpyrifos

The Type 4 List of Hazardous Substances now includes an additional fourth chemical not previously communicated by Thailand:

- Chlorpyrifos-methyl

There is no indication from Thailand on why this additional chemical has been included. The SPS notification advises that:

- a. The four chemicals have been added to the Type 4 List of Hazardous Substances for reasons of “consumer protection”.
- b. The proposed date of entry into force of the changes is 1 December 2019.
- c. The final date for comments on the changes is 15 days from notification (i.e., 21 November 2019).

4. Action from Here

The Australian Government will continue discussions with Thailand seeking clarification on the implications of the ban, including the timeframe and process for implementation of the zero tolerance.

A request will also be made to Thailand to confirm the inclusion of Chlorpyrifos-methyl.

Industry will be advised of the outcome of those discussions.

5. Current MRLs

Industry is reminded of the current MRLs (in mg/kg) that apply:

Commodity	Barley		Wheat	
	Australia	Thailand	Australia	Thailand
Chlorpyrifos	T0.1	0.01 (default)	T0.1	0.5 (Codex)
Chlorpyrifos-methyl	10	3 (Codex)	10	3 (Codex)
Glyphosate	10	30 (Codex)	5	30 (Codex)
Paraquat	0.05*	0.01 (default)	0.05*	0.01 (default)

T = Temporary MRL

* Limit of analytical quantitation

The National Working Party on Grain Protection (NWPGP) is the primary liaison point between industry and the DA (National Residue Survey) on chemical residue related issues. Contact NWPGP Chair, Gerard McMullen on gerardmcmullen@optusnet.com.au or through [GTA office](#).

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