

GTA MARKET NOTIFICATIONS



Notice 12 of 2019 - 29 November 2019

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

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

1. Background

Industry was advised in Update No.1 and Update No.2 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. Chlorpyrifos-methyl was subsequently added to the list.

Thailand had intended to bring the ban into effect by placing these chemicals on the Type 4 List of Hazardous Substances, which would prohibit the use, possession, manufacture and importation. As a consequence of categorising these chemicals as Type 4, the current MRLs were to be removed and a zero tolerance applied as of 1 December 2019.

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

2. Latest Advice from Thailand

Thailand's government on Wednesday 27 November 2019 has advised the following decisions:

Glyphosate:

- A reversal of the planned ban on glyphosate.
- Glyphosate will not be classified as a hazardous substance Type 4.
- Hence for imports of grain, the current MRLs will remain in place until otherwise notified.

Paraquat, Chlorpyrifos:

- The ban on these two chemicals will remain in place.
- The imposition of the ban has been delayed for 6 months, being delayed until 1 June 2020.

Chlorpyrifos-methyl:

- The advice is silent on this chemical.

The above decisions have reportedly been made due to “adverse effects on farmers, industry and international trade.”

3. Action from Here

As advised to industry previously, there remains several unanswered questions, including the nature of the enforcement of this change in Thailand for paraquat and chlorpyrifos and the status of chlorpyrifos-methyl.

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

4. Current MRLs

Industry is encouraged to consider the implications of the most recent advice on their ability to supply grain to Thailand in compliance with 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 Department of Agriculture (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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