

MemberUpdate

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TOPIC: National Residue Survey Grain Results 2018/19

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

1. Background

- The National Residue Survey (NRS) is an operational unit within the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment.
- The NRS monitors residues of pesticides and environmental contaminants in Australian agricultural commodities.
- For grains, the residue monitoring program is funded by statutory NRS levies on a range of cereals, pulses and oilseeds.

2. Survey Results 2018/19 Season

- The 2018/19 NRS results have been released.
- In 2018/19, a total of approximately 4,259 samples were collected for analysis.
- For the bulk export program, 99.6% of samples showed compliance with Australian maximum residue limits (MRLs).
- For the container export program, 98.3% of samples showed compliance with Australian MRLs.
- For the domestic trade program, 98.2% of samples showed compliance with Australian MRLs.
- These results are similar to recent years (although slightly down for the export trade) and show the grain industry is undertaking appropriate measures along the supply chain to ensure customer and importing country requirements for chemical residue limits are being met.

3. Industry Obligations

- Industry is reminded that continued compliance with market requirements is a corner-stone of our grain industry.
- Correct use of chemicals as per label directions and meeting statutory MRL limits on grain supplied to the domestic and export market is a regulatory requirement.
- Under the Australian grain industry Code of Practice, GTA Members operating in the following industry sectors are required to actively participate on a continuous basis in the NRS grain residue monitoring program, and to comply with any NRS directions applying to that program:
 - All grain organisations out-turning on the domestic market to an end-processor (who is not defined as a primary producer);
 - All bulk grain exporters;
 - All container exporters; and
 - Where relevant, operators of facilities who provide grain as part of the above services.
- To assist industry interpretation of their obligations to participate in the NRS program, GTA has previously released a Technical Guideline Document [TGD No. 20 National Residue Survey Participation](#).
- In addition, as required by legislation industry will not trade (i.e., supply) in grain on the domestic or export market that contains a chemical in violation of relevant legislation.

4. Further Information

National Residue Survey

- The English summary brochure for the 2018/19 season is available on the NRS website at <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/ag-farm-food/food/nrs/nrs-results-publications>
- It is also available in Arabic, Chinese, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean and Vietnamese for industry distribution.
- Specific data for each commodity in the program for the 2018/19 season can also be found on the NRS website.
- Further information can be found on the above NRS website or by contacting NRS at <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/ag-farm-food/food/nrs/contact>

Grain Trade Australia

- The Australian grain industry Code of Practice can be found here <http://www.graintrade.org.au/grain-industry-codes>
- Technical Guideline Document No.20 “National Residue Survey Participation” can be found here <http://www.graintrade.org.au/grain-industry-code-practice/gta-technical-guidelines>

Market Requirements

- Permitted chemicals for use post-harvest and applicable MRLs for grain outturned to the Australian domestic or export markets can be found here <http://www.graintrade.org.au/nwpgp>