

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Canada Cancels Certain Lambda-Cyhalothrin Uses In Effect
April 2023

Country: Canada

Post: Ottawa

Report Category: Dairy and Products, Fresh Deciduous Fruit, Grain and Feed, Livestock and Products, Oilseeds and Products

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Report Highlights:

Canada announced that the domestic use of lambda-cyhalothrin on any crops or commodities for feed will be canceled in April 2023. Additional crops will also see uses canceled due to concerns on risks to human health. Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for lambda-cyhalothrin will be revised for numerous food commodities and these new MRLs will take effect in April 2024. MRL revisions will see lambda-cyhalothrin MRLs reduced for nearly 50 animal, horticultural, and field crop commodities to the limit of quantification of enforcement of 0.01 parts per million (ppm). These MRLs apply both domestically and on any imports of these commodities into Canada.

Lambda-cyhalothrin is a synthetic pyrethroid insecticide used to control a wide range of pests on food/feed crops and livestock. Lambda-cyhalothrin is an enriched isomer of cyhalothrin. It is currently used on a wide range of pests (including aphids, adult Japanese beetles, grasshoppers, and butterfly larvae) in a variety of applications.

As outlined in “[Re-evaluation Decision RVD2021-04, Lambda-cyhalothrin and Its Associated End-use Products](#),” Health Canada’s Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) will cancel the domestic use of lambda-cyhalothrin on all feed uses, and other commodities, effective April 2023. Following the re-evaluation of lambda-cyhalothrin, domestic uses of the pesticide will be cancelled for the following commodities because the potential risks to human health have not been shown to be acceptable:

- lettuce
- mustard seed (condiment type)
- all feed uses
- all registered commodities from bulb vegetables crop group
- all registered commodities from oilseeds crop group, except for flax seed, mustard seed (oilseed type), and rapeseed (including canola). Soybeans are defined by PMRA as a [legume](#), and therefore the cancellation of use does not apply to it.

On June 1, 2022, Canada notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) that revisions to the maximum residue limits (MRLs) for the synthetic pyrethroid, lambda-cyhalothrin, on a number of food commodities had been established following the proposal for [MRL revisions](#) notified on May 20, 2021. Canada notes that the new MRLs will be in effect 36-months from the publication date for the [re-evaluation decision](#) for lambda-cyhalothrin (April 29, 2021). The in-effect date of April 29, 2024 is to provide sufficient time for commodities under the old MRLs to clear the channels of trade.

PMRA indicated human health concerns in their re-evaluation of lambda-cyhalothrin leading to the downward revision of a number of MRLs. These new MRLs will be set at the limit of quantification (LOQ) of enforcement, 0.01 parts per million (ppm). PMRA had previously set non-specified food commodity MRLs for lambda-cyhalothrin at 0.01 ppm. All non-specified food commodity MRLs will continue to be 0.01 ppm. Table 1 outlines the food commodities that will see MRLs drop to 0.01 ppm and a comparison to the current Canadian MRLs and current American MRLs as listed in [Title 40](#) of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Table 1: Comparison of lambda-cyhalothrin MRLs

	Current Canadian MRL (ppm)	New Canadian MRL¹ (ppm)	American MRL (ppm)²
Apricots	0.5	0.01	0.5
Avocados	0.2	0.01	0.2
Cardoon	0.3	0.01	Not established
Chinese onions	0.1	0.01	0.1
Chokecherries	0.5	0.01	Not established
Dry bulb onions	0.1	0.01	0.1
Eggs	0.01	0.01	0.01
Fat of goats	5	0.01	3
Fat of hogs	0.5	0.01	0.2
Fat of horses	5	0.01	3
Fat of poultry	0.01	0.01	0.03
Fat of sheep	5	0.01	3
Fresh Florence fennel leaves and stalks	0.3	0.01	Not established
Garlic	0.1	0.01	0.1
Grapes	0.2	0.01	Not established
Great headed garlic	0.1	0.01	0.1
Green onions	0.1	0.01	Not established
Head lettuce	2	0.01	2
Leaf lettuce	2	0.01	2
Leeks	0.15	0.01	Not established

Meat byproducts of goats	0.2	0.01	0.2
Meat byproducts of hogs	0.01	0.01	0.02
Meat byproducts of horses	0.2	0.01	0.2
Meat byproducts of poultry	0.01	0.01	0.01
Meat byproducts of sheep	0.2	0.01	0.2
Meat of goats	0.2	0.01	0.2
Meat of hogs	0.01	0.01	0.01
Meat of horses	0.2	0.01	0.2
Meat of poultry	0.01	0.01	0.01
Meat of sheep	0.2	0.01	0.2
Milk	0.5	0.01	0.4 ³
Milk fat	12	0.01	10
Olives	0.5	0.01	Not established
Oranges	0.2	0.01	Not established
Peanuts	0.05	0.01	0.05
Potato onions	0.1	0.01	0.1
Rhubarb	0.3	0.01	Not established
Satsuma mandarins	0.2	0.01	Not established
Shallots	0.1	0.01	0.1 (bulb only)
Sugarcane cane	0.05	0.01	0.05

Sunflower oil	0.3	0.01	0.3
Sunflower seeds	0.2	0.01	0.2
Swiss chard	0.3	0.01	Not established
Tea (dried leaves)	2	0.01	Not established
Tree onion tops	0.1	0.01	Not established
Undelinted cotton seeds	0.05	0.01	0.05
Welsh onion tops	0.1	0.01	Not established

¹New MRLs are scheduled to go into effect April 2024. Green denotes no MRL reduction and orange denotes a reduction from current MRL.

²The MRL of 0.01 ppm applies for lambda-cyhalothrin in or on all food commodities (otherwise not specified under a higher MRL) in food-handling establishments where food products are held, processed or prepared.

³Value based on the American tolerance for Milk, fat of 10 ppm which references 0.4 ppm for whole milk.

Source: PMRA

Attachments:

No Attachments.