



Cutting Edge

RESEARCH NEWS FROM CITRUS RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL

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Dear Citrus Growers

CGA/CRI would like to communicate the state of affairs relating to a number of active substances and food safety matters impacting on citrus producers in southern Africa.

Registration of Dichlorprop-p (Corasil-P)

Growers will be keenly aware that Act 36 registration for Dichlorprop-p (Corasil-P) has been awaited. Registration delays have been extremely disappointing given the enormous financial impact (both short and long-term) on the SA citrus industry. CGA/CRI took the matter to high levels within DAFF to try fast-track the registration process.

As a result of apparent information gaps Department of Health (DOH) were prevented from completing their toxicological evaluation on Dichlorprop-P. Additional data was submitted to DOH by the registration applicant in September. During a Peer Review Meeting held on Friday (23rd October 2009) DOH evaluated the new data and CGA/CRI understand all outstanding concerns were addressed. The Registrar has indicated Corasil-P for use on citrus has therefore been approved.

The following recommended usage restrictions apply:

All markets except where other restrictions apply: 150d PHI as registered.

CODEX: 150d PHI as registered.

Canada: 150d PHI as registered.

USA: 150d PHI as registered.

Japan: 150d PHI as registered.

Update on DDAC case in Japan

Since August 2009 DAFF (supported by CGA-CRI) and the Japanese authorities (MHLW) have been engaged in a number of rounds of information sharing regarding the use of sanitizers in SA citrus packhouses. With the objective of avoiding trade disruption this engagement has focused on the purpose and manner in which sanitizers are used

and the appropriate categorisation of such use under Japanese law.

Further requests for clarity by the Japanese Importers Association were received in late-October to which DAFF are responding. These questions arose from a meeting between MHLW, the Japanese Importers Association and the SA Embassy in Tokyo last week. That meeting was intended to conclude this matter but only resulted in these additional questions being posed to DAFF. A decision about the status of fruit held in stock in Japan (approximately 450 000 cartons) and guidance about the future use of sanitizers for fruit exported to this market will probably only be made once the Japanese receive the response from DAFF (which is receiving urgent attention).

GLOBALGAP Update

The GLOBALGAP control points applicable to citrus operations in SA are being reviewed in preparation for the revised Standard to be adopted in 2011. Growers wishing to keep updated on the proposed changes can follow these on the GLOBALGAP website (<http://forum.globalgap.org>). Comments on the proposed changes can be made directly on the website, through CGA, or through the SHAFFE Sector Committee representative (Lindi Benic: lindi@dfpt.co.za) or myself (Paul Hardman ph@cga.co.za or 031 765 2514).

Compiled by
Paul Hardman
CGA

and

Vaughan Hattingh
CRI

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