

13 September 2024

(24-6327)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1. Notifying Member: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

If applicable, name of local government involved:

- 2. Agency responsible: US Environmental Protection Agency
- 3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Multiple commodities Mint, dried leaves, and Mint, fresh leaves and crop group expansions for Fruit, citrus, group 10-10; Fruit, pome, group 11-10; Fruit, stone, group 12-12; and Nut, tree, group 14-12.

4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:

- [X] All trading partners
- [] Specific regions or countries:
- 5. Title of the notified document: Saflufenacil; Pesticide Tolerances. Final Rule. Language(s): English. Number of pages: 4

https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2024-09-09/html/2024-20256.htm

- **6. Description of content:** This regulation establishes new tolerances for residues of saflufenacil in or on Mint, dried leaves and Mint, fresh leaves and crop group expansions for Fruit, citrus, group 10-10; Fruit, pome, group 11-10; Fruit, stone, group 12-12; and Nut, tree, group 14-12. The Interregional Project Number 4 (IR-4) requested these tolerances under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA).
- 7. Objective and rationale: [X] food safety, [] animal health, [] plant protection, [] protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [] protect territory from other damage from pests.
- 8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:
 - [] Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text):
 - [] World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):
 - [] International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):
 - [X] None

Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?

[]Yes []No

If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard: In making its tolerance decisions, EPA seeks to harmonize US tolerances with international standards whenever possible, consistent with US food safety standards and agricultural practices. EPA considers the international maximum

residue limits (MRLs) established by the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex), as required by FFDCA section 408(b)(4).

The Codex has not established an MRL for residues of saflufenacil in or on mint. The Codex has established MRLs for saflufenacil in or on Fruit, citrus, group 10-10 at 0.01 ppm; Fruit, pome, group 11-10 at 0.01 ppm; Fruit, stone, group 12-12 at 0.01 ppm; and Nut, tree, group 14-12 at 0.01 ppm. The US tolerance levels are not harmonized with these Codex commodity MRLs. Based on available residue data, use by US growers consistent with approved label instructions would result in residues that exceed the Codex MRL. Harmonizing with these Codex MRLs could put US growers at risk of violative residues despite the legal use of saflufenacil according to the label.

- 9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: <u>https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2023-07-05/html/2023-14192.htm</u> (available in English)
- **10. Proposed date of adoption (***dd/mm/yy***):** 9 September 2024

Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): 9 September 2024

- 11. Proposed date of entry into force: [] Six months from date of publication, and/or (*dd/mm/yy*): 9 September 2024
 - [] Trade facilitating measure
- 12. Final date for comments: [] Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (*dd/mm/yy*): Not applicable

Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [] National Notification Authority, [] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

Comments should be submitted to EPA's WTO SPS team at EPAWTOSPS@epa.gov.

13. Text(s) available from: [] National Notification Authority, [] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2024-09-09/html/2024-20256.htm