WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/AUS/602

17 September 2024

(24-6380) Page: 1/3

**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures** Original: English

## NOTIFICATION

| | |
|---|---|
| **1.** | **Notifying Member:** AUSTRALIA<br>**If applicable, name of local government involved:** |
| **2.** | **Agency responsible:** Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) |
| **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):** Foods in general |
| **4.** | **Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:**<br>**[X] All trading partners**<br>**[ ] Specific regions or countries:** |
| **5.** | **Title of the notified document:** Proposal M1022 – 2023 MRL Harmonisation Proposal: Call for submissions report. **Language(s):** English. **Number of pages:** 45<br>https://www.foodstandards.gov.au/food-standards-code/proposals/m1022-2023-mrl-harmonisation-proposal |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** This Proposal seeks to amend Schedule 20 of the *Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code* to align maximum residue limits (MRLs) with: (a) the Australian Pesticide and Veterinary Medicines Authority MRL Standard; (b) Codex Alimentarius Commission; and (c) other trading partner standards; relating to residues of agricultural and veterinary (agvet) chemicals in food.<br>This Proposal also includes corrections of typographical and formatting errors, necessary to improve the integrity of Schedule 20.<br>For further information, please contact the MRL Team at FSANZ (MRL.contact@foodstandards.gov.au).<br>**Agvet chemicals where increased or new MRLs are being considered for specified plant commodities:** acibenzolar-S-methyl, aclonifen, afidopyropen, azoxystrobin, benzovindiflupyr, bifenthrin, broflanilide, buprofezin, chlorantraniliprole, chlormequat, cyflufenamid, cyflumetofen, cyhalofop-butyl, cyhalothrin, dichlorprop-P, difenoconazole, diflubenzuron, dimethoate, emamectin, etoxazole, famoxadone, fenazaquin, fenpicoxamid, flazasulfuron, florasulam, fluazaindolizine, fludioxonil, flupyradifurone, flutianil, flutolanil, flutriafol, fluxapyroxad, folpet, fosetyl-aluminium, glyphosate, indaziflam, indoxacarb, inpyrfluxam, mandipropamid, mefentrifluconazole, mesosulfuron-methyl, metaflumizone, metalaxyl, metamitron, metconazole, milbemectin, norflurazon, omethoate, oxathiapiprolin, pinoxaden, prohexadione-calcium, prosulfocarb, pydiflumetofen, pyraflufen-ethyl, pyridate, pyrimethanil, rimsulfuron, simazine, spiromesifen, sulfoxaflor, teflubenzuron, tetraniliprole, triflumuron, trinexapac-ethyl, valifenalate and zoxamide.<br>**Agvet chemicals where increased or new MRLs are being considered for specified animal commodities:** afidopyropen, broflanilide, chlormequat, dimethoate, emamectin, fenazaquin, flazasulfuron, fluazaindolizine, fludioxonil, flutriafol, indoxacarb, inpyrfluxam, mefentrifluconazole, omethoate, spiromesifen, tetraniliprole, triflumuron. |

**Agvet chemicals where deletions or reductions in MRLs are being proposed for specified plant commodities:** azoxystrobin, boscalid, carbofuran, chlorfenapyr, diclofop-methyl, diflubenzuron, dimethoate, famoxadone, fenazaquin, fludioxonil, flumioxazin, fluxapyroxad, folpet, glyphosate, indoxacarb, mandipropamid, mefentrifluconazole, methidathion, piperonyl butoxide, pydiflumetofen, pyraclostrobin, pyrethrins, saflufenacil, tetraniliprole, triflumuron

**Agvet chemicals where deletions or reductions in MRLs are being proposed for specified animal commodities:** fludioxonil and trichlorfon.

**New chemicals proposed for inclusion in schedule 20 of the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code are:** 1,4-dimethylnaphthalene, flufenoxuron and fluindapyr.

**Agvet chemicals where consequential amendments were required to (a) add or remove exceptions for some commodities; (b) correct typographical errors; (c) convert a temporary MRL to a permanent MRL; (d) amend or update the commodity name; but there are no changes made to MRLs:** amitrole, bixafen, boscalid, broflanilide, buprofezin, butroxydim, carbaryl, carbendazim, chlormequat, cyantraniliprole, 2,4-D, deltamethrin, dichlorvos, diclofop-methyl, difenoconazole, dimethoate, diuron, dodine, EPTC, etoxazole, fenvalerate, fipronil, fluazifop-p-butyl, fludioxonil, fluensulfone, flumioxazin, fluopyram, flupyradifurone, flutriafol, fluxapyroxad, glufosinate and glufosinate-ammonium, glyphosate, mandipropamid, mefentrifluconazole, metaldehyde, metazachlor, metconazole, omethoate, oxathiapiprolin, pendimethalin, phosphine, piperonyl butoxide, propaquizafop, pydiflumetofen, pyraclostrobin, pyrethrins, pyrimethanil, saflufenacil, simazine, triallate, trichlorfon and trifluralin.

**An agvet chemical where the residue definition is being updated:** cyhalofop-butyl.

**Agvet chemicals where a new or amended All other foods except animal food commodities MRL is being proposed:** broflanilide, chlormequat, flutriafol and inpyrfluxam.

**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:**

**[X] Codex Alimentarius Commission *(e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text)*:**

- CAC/MRL 1 Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for Pesticides 2009
- CAC/MRL 2 Maximum Residue Limits for Veterinary Drugs in Food 2011
- CAC/MRL 3 Extraneous Maximum Residue Limits (EMRLs) 2001
- and subsequent variations to relevant standards as adopted or revoked by the Commission.

**[ ] World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) *(e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number)*:**

**[ ] International Plant Protection Convention *(e.g. ISPM number)*:**

**[ ] None**

**Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?**

**[ ] Yes [X] No**

**If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:** Certain proposed limits may differ from Codex limits.

The scientific methodology used by Australia to establish MRLs is consistent with international best practice. Countries set MRLs according to the good agricultural practice (GAP) or good veterinary practice (GVP) applicable to their region. Agricultural and veterinary chemical use patterns differ between different production regions and countries as pests, diseases and environmental factors vary. This means that Australian MRLs for agricultural and veterinary chemicals in food may differ from Codex standards.

**9.** **Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:**

- Proposal M1022 – 2023 MRL Harmonisation Proposal: Supporting document
- *Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code* https://www.legislation.gov.au/Series/F2015L00468

(available in English)

**10.** **Proposed date of adoption *(dd/mm/yy)*:** Late April 2025.

**Proposed date of publication *(dd/mm/yy)*:** Late April 2025.

**11.** **Proposed date of entry into force: [ ] Six months from date of publication, and/or *(dd/mm/yy)*:** Date of gazettal and registration as a legislative instrument, pending Government consideration (late April 2025).

**[X]** **Trade facilitating measure** The proposal includes amendments to the *Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code* to align maximum residue limits to Codex and other trading partners standards.

**12.** **Final date for comments: [X] Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or *(dd/mm/yy)*:** 16 November 2024

**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:**

Food Standards Australia New Zealand
PO Box 5423
KINGSTON ACT 2604
Australia
Fax: +(61 2) 6271 2278
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**13.** **Text(s) available from: [X] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:**

The Australian SPS Notification Authority
GPO Box 858
CANBERRA ACT 2601
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E-mail: sps.contact@aff.gov.au