

This newsletter is designed to provide Australian horticulture industries with timely, practical updates on regulatory changes affecting agricultural chemicals, pesticide use, international MRL developments, and related compliance matters. Its purpose is to help grower bodies, industry groups and supply-chain stakeholders understand emerging regulatory risks and opportunities, support informed decision-making, and ensure early awareness of changes that may influence chemical access, market requirements, or crop protection strategies across the horticulture sector.

NATIONAL REGULATORY UPDATE

Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA)

Details of the APVMAs amended *MRL Standard* can be found in the [Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals \(MRL Standard for Residues of Chemical Products\) Amendment Instrument \(No. 3\) 2025](#).

Changes to the MRL Standard can be found in the latest [APVMA gazettes](#):

Avocado

- Aminoethoxyvinylglycine *0.05 mg/kg (new)
- Difenoconazole T0.2 mg/kg (reduced)

Blueberries

- Boscalid 10 mg/kg (reduced)
- Pyraclostrobin 4 mg/kg (reduced)

Cacao beans

- Spinetoram 0.05 mg/kg (increased)

Carob

- Methoxyfenozide 5 mg/kg (new)

Ginger (root)

- Spinetoram 0.02 mg/kg (confirmed)

Leafy vegetables

- Famoxadone 40 mg/kg (new)

Macadamia

- Fluvalinate *0.01 mg/kg (new)

Mango

- Difenoconazole T0.1 mg/kg (new)

Pecan

- Acetamiprid T*0.01 mg/kg (new)
- Cyfluthrin T0.05 mg/kg (new)

- Isocycloseram T0.01 mg/kg (new)
- Pyriproxyfen T0.01 mg/kg (new)
- Trichlorfon T0.1 mg/kg (new)

APVMA News

Updated minor use guidelines published

The APVMA have published [updated guidelines for determining minor use](#). These new guidelines came into effect on 5 August 2025.

Implementation of the new guidelines will be accompanied by a 12-month phase-in period, as outlined in the [transition map](#). A [detailed response](#) addressing the consultation feedback has now been published.

Affected industries moving from 'minor' status to 'major' status include • **Blueberries** • **Cucumber** • **Zucchini** • **Lentils** • **Celery** • **Watermelon**. Additional information will now be required to access minor use permits for these crops (e.g. [Limited use within a major crop, animal or non-crop situation](#)).

[Suspension of specific dimethoate products](#) - 11 November 2025

Following review of public responses and information, including from Berries Australia and others within the berry industry, the APVMA has issued a final decision to suspend the registration and label approval of dimethoate products for use on **blueberries, raspberries and blackberries**. A summary of submissions and the APVMA's response is available on the [APVMA website](#).

The move follows new FSANZ consumption data showing that Australians are eating significantly more of these berries than previously assessed, prompting a reassessment of dietary exposure. While the APVMA considers the detected residues unlikely to pose a serious health risk, it determined that the current uses of dimethoate on these crops no longer provide an adequate safety margin. All other chemicals used on these berries, and all other approved uses of dimethoate remain unaffected, and berries are considered safe to eat.

A notice of suspension has been published in the [APVMA Gazette](#), still allowing continued use of dimethoate, however with in an increased 14-day withholding period. Follow the new label instructions.

The APVMA is hosting EPAC2026 on the 19th and 20th of February 2026 in Melbourne following EvokeAg at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. EPAC2026 will discuss 'Advancing Sustainability in Agriculture: Enabling Precision Application of Crop Protection Products by Inclusion in Regulatory Approaches (Processes)' and is sponsored by the OECD Co-operative Research Programme. This will be a key event for anyone involved in needing to understand the regulation of agricultural chemicals when applied via precision application equipment such as unmanned aerial vehicles (e.g. drones) and precision sprayers or spot sprayers, which use technologies like cameras, sensors, and AI to target weeds.

The [APVMA releases its Strategic Plan 2025-2030](#) which involves 5 key objectives:

1. Being a trusted, transparent and fair regulator.
2. Supporting a contemporary regulatory system
3. Building regulatory foresight capability to support innovation within the AgVet chemical sector.
4. Striving for operational excellence and
5. Attracting, developing and retaining talented people

Successful implementation will produce an efficient, fit-for-purpose regulator, able to deal with new technologies as they arise.

Chemical Review

The APVMA announced updates for 3 chemical reviews, anti-coagulant rodenticides, diquat and paraquat. The APVMAs estimated timing and prioritisation of ongoing and upcoming reviews for pesticides of relevance are as per below:

Chemical	Proposed Regulatory Decision date / status	Final Regulatory Decision
Fenitrothion	9 April 2024	Published 19 August 2025
Diquat	30 July 2024	Mid 2026
Paraquat	30 July 2024	Mid 2026

Chemical	Proposed Regulatory Decision date / status	Final Regulatory Decision
Fipronil (Ag)	April 2026	December 2026
Neonicotinoids	Under assessment	Awaiting proposed regulatory decision
Anticoagulant rodenticides	December 2025	To be provided

Predicted start dates for new reviews are:

Chemical	Start date
Group 4 – Phenoxy – carboxylate herbicides	Q3 2025
Chlorpyrifos methyl	Q3 2025
Methomyl	Q1 2026
Phorate	Q3 2026
Dithiocarbamates: Mancozeb Metiram Propineb Thiram Zineb Ziram	Q1 2027
Chlorothalonil	2028
Flupropanate	2028
Dimethoate	2029
Propargite	2029

Significant Registrations & Label Extensions

Syngenta Australia Pty Ltd.

KEYBRI Ultra Fungicide
250 g/L mandipropamid 30 g/L oxathiapiprolin
For the preventative control of downy mildew in **wine grapes**.

Syngenta Australia Pty Ltd.

VANIVA 450SC TYMIRIUM technology Nematicide
450 g/L cyclobutrifluram
For the control of root-knot nematodes in **Fruiting Vegetables and Cucurbits**

Imtrade Australia Pty Ltd

Imtrade Motto RMR Miticide

110 g/L etoxazole 110 g/l piperonyl butoxide

Variation to extend uses in **pome fruit, stone fruit (except cherries), citrus and capsicum**.

Adama New Zealand Ltd

Clama 50SC Insecticide

50 g/L emamectin present as emamectin benzoate

Variation to add uses for Heliothis (*Helicoverpa* spp.), cluster caterpillar (*Spodoptera litura*), loopers (*Chrysodeixis* spp.), cabbage centre grub (*Hellula* spp.) in **brassica vegetables**, cluster caterpillar (*Spodoptera litura*) in **lettuce**, add new use patterns in **root and tuber vegetables (except potatoes), leafy vegetables and brassica leafy vegetables (except**
lettuce), cucurbits, legume vegetables, and strawberries.

Syngenta Australia Pty Ltd.

MIRAVIS PRIME Adepidyn Technology FUNGICIDE

250 g/l fludioxonil 150 g/l pydiflumetofen

Variation to add use on grey mould in **cherries**
Ishihara Sangyo Kaisha, Ltd

TEPPAN 50SL Insecticide

50 g/L cyclaniliprole

Variation to include the use on **avocado** crops for fruit spotting bug (*Amblypelta nitida*) and banana spotting bug (*A. lutescens lutescens*).

The following table outlines APVMA permits granted for horticultural use from **20 August to 15 November 2025**.

Permit No.	Description	Expiry date
PER96678	Alpha-cypermethrin / Persimmons / Fruit Fly	30-Sep-30
PER95213	Fluazifop-p & Glyphosate / Turf - Total Existing Sward Eradication / Couch and Kikuyu	31-Oct-28
PER95527	Malathion and Chlorpyrifos / Various Situations (picked fruit) / Fruit Fly	31-Oct-30
PER95818	Propamocarb / Ginger / Pythium soft rot	31-Oct-28
PER95991	Thiram & Thiabendazole / Peanuts / Pre-emergence seedling rot and Seedling blight	30-Sep-28
PER96024	Score Foliar Fungicide (Difenoconazole) & Switch Fungicide (Cyprodinil & Fludioxonil) / Avocado / Anthracnose	30-Sep-28
PER96040	Vantacor Insecticide (chlorantraniliprole) / Ginger (all cultivars) / Heliothis, fall armyworm & other lepidoptera larvae	30-Apr-27
PER96213	Cyprodinil, Fludioxonil & Pyraclostrobin / Celery / Anthracnose	31-Oct-30
PER96307	Aspergillus flavus AF36 Prevail (Aspergillus flavus strain AF36) / Pistachio / Aflatoxins-producing fungi	31-Oct-28
PER96466	Various Active Constituents / Pecan Nut / Fruit Spotting Bugs	30-Sep-26
PER96705	FLUAZINAM / Potatoes / Powdery scab	31-Oct-27

INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY UPDATE

Codex

The Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR56) met 8–13 September 2025 in Santiago, Chile. Hort Innovation was represented BY DTS Regulatory Consulting as part of the Australian delegation to support the Australian Government. The Codex meeting report can be found [here](#). Key outcomes related to horticulture include:

- Proposal to move from the International Estimated Daily Intake (IEDI) to the Global Estimate of Chronic Dietary Exposure (GECDE). GECDE considered potentially unnecessarily conservative and was not accepted.
- 340 MRLs advanced; 352 revoked.
- Prochloraz had MRLs deleted for tropical and subtropical fruits – inedible peel, and mushrooms.
- Carbendazim has MRLs deleted for macadamias and garlic.
- Indoxacarb, Maleic Hydrazide, Captan for review in 2026
- The Dithiocarbamates re-evaluation is due to start 2027 with mancozeb and metiram before moving to propineb, thiram & ziram.
- Carbaryl considered an unsupported compound. 4 years remaining to find support for data generation.
- Work progressing to include okra in the peppers group. Studies underway to compare residues.

Brazil

The National Congress of Brazil concluded the new regulatory framework for agricultural pesticides, with aims to enhance competitiveness in global markets, facilitate access to innovative technologies and strengthen food safety and environmental protection.

Canada

Health Canada's PMRA has a number of reviews underway:

- Abamectin - final re-evaluation decision was completed with all uses being maintained.
- Reviews for chlorothalonil, dicamba, novaluron and others scheduled to have been completed by November have been delayed.

European Union (EU)

- The European Union (EU) is discussing proposed **reductions** to the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for [triclopyr on citrus fruits, apricots, rice, and animal products](#) from **late 2026**. **Suppliers of citrus fruits, apricots, and rice to the EU market should review their current use of triclopyr.**
- MRLs for [copper compounds](#) are under review.
- Proposal to reduce the MRLs for [profenofos](#) on mangoes, tomatoes, certain spices (fruit spices, coriander, cumin, fennel, cardamom), and animal products to the limit of determination.
- Proposal to reduce MRLs for [dicofol](#) to the limit of determination, including melons, teas, hops, and poultry products;

United Kingdom

The [UK Pesticides National Action Plan 2025](#) (NAP) has been updated to set out a clear strategy to reduce the risks and environmental impacts of pesticide use while ensuring effective pest management for sustainable crop production. Key to this is encouraging the adoption of integrated pest management (IPM) practices such as crop rotation, pest-resistant varieties, hygiene, and encouraging natural predators, combined with precision pesticide application only when necessary. The plan introduces a new way to measure pesticide impact called the Pesticide Load Indicator (PLI), which looks at both amount used and pesticide properties, aiming to reduce environmental harm by at least 10% by 2030 compared to 2018 levels. It also supports innovation, including the development of biopesticides and new application technologies like drones.

USA

The EPA is currently reviewing atrazine and simazine to assess their risks to endangered and threatened species. Interim measures include the implementation updated spray drift buffer zones. Additional work is ongoing for a limited number of species and habitats where determinations have not yet been made, scheduled for completion by March 31, 2026. Following finalization, EPA plans to implement the necessary mitigation measures to ensure protection

of listed species while allowing continued pesticide use under safe conditions.

[EPA Registers New Pesticide Active Ingredient Cyclobutrifluram](#) including uses on **turf, ornamentals, and romaine lettuce** as a nematicide.

[EPA Announces Proposed Registration of Pesticide Fluoxapiprolin](#) or use on **Brassica head and stem vegetables, bulb vegetables, cucurbit vegetables, fruiting vegetables, grapes, leafy vegetables, leaf petiole vegetables and potatoes** or control of diseases like downy mildew, late blight or phytophthora blight.

[EPA Announces Action to Protect Endangered Species from Insecticide Methomyl](#). Label changes were required to reduce runoff and spray drift.

[EPA Announces Proposed Registration of New Biopesticide *Priestia megaterium*](#) strain SYM36613, a broad-spectrum fungicide proposed for use on **Brassica vegetables, bulb vegetables, root and tuber vegetables, cereal grains, corn, cotton, legumes, oil seeds, peanuts and soybeans** for the control of a wide range of seed and soilborne plant diseases .

EPA's September 5, 2025 Federal Register notice lists a range of pesticide petitions requesting new or amended tolerances for chemical residues on various food commodities. Here is a summary of key proposals:

- Gowan Company requested a national tolerance for lemon/lime subgroup at 0.6 ppm, with separate regional tolerances maintained for **grapefruit and orange** at 0.5 ppm.
- BASF Corporation requested tolerances for saflufenacil residues in various **corn and soybean** forage and hay at levels between 0.3 and 5 ppm.
- BASF also requested a tolerance for fungicide pyraclostrobin residues on **dried tea leaves** at 20 ppm.
- Bayer CropScience sought tolerance establishment for fungicide fluopyram on **tropical and subtropical fruit (inedible peel)** at 1 ppm.
- ABERCO, Inc. requested tolerances for fungicide propylene oxide residues on various **dried spices and seeds** at 300 ppm and related substances at 6,000 ppm.

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