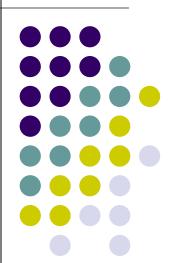
Codex 101 – How To Guide

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Codex Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs)

- Once there is a US registration for a specific chemical/commodity growers often find there is a need to also have maximum residue limits (MRLs) established in other countries to allow for exportation of the commodity.
- Outside of the OECD countries, many national authorities rely on Codex MRLs instead of creating their own regulatory scheme.
- Before a Codex MRL can be established a chemical/commodity must first be nominated by a Member Country to the CCPR Electronic Working Group on Priorities.

US Delegation to Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues



- The US Delegate to the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR) is from the US EPA Office of Pesticide Programs.
- Currently Lois Rossi serves as the US Delegate.
- The Alternate Delegate is from the US Department of Agriculture.
- The Committee on Pesticides is one of many food standard committees at Codex.





- In preparation for the CCPR meeting there will be several meetings held by the US Delegation prior to the CCPR.
- Typically the Delegate's meetings held in the Fall and Early Winter prior to the Spring CCPR mainly address the need for Codex MRLs and if there are any nominations to be made.
- Once the US Delegation is informed there is a need for a specific Codex MRL, the delegation will work with registrants and IR-4 to determine if there are data available to submit to the JMPR for review.





- If data are available, the US Delegation will then nominate a chemical/commodity to the Electronic Working Group on Priorities so that chemical can be scheduled for review by the JMPR.
- Final nominations are due the March prior to the CCPR Meeting.
- At the CCPR meeting the nominations will be discussed and the schedule finalized for the next year.

Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR)

- Once a chemical is scheduled for review, the registrant and/or IR-4 will submit the appropriate data to the Secretariats of the Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) in the December the year prior to the September JMPR.
- JMPR meets once a year in September for three weeks.
- Before a Codex MRL can be established, human health risk assessments must be conducted to ensure the food supply is safe.

Risk Assessment Process

- It is the responsibility of the JMPR to review the appropriate toxicology (WHO) and residue field trial data (FAO), conduct dietary risk assessments and to recommend specific MRLs to the CCPR.
- Once JMPR has conducted its review, provided there are no issues or concerns, the CCPR will consider the establishment of the MRL the following April after the September JMPR meeting.

Risk Management Process

- The CCPR meets once a year in the Spring in April or May.
- The CCPR will consider the MRLs recommended by JMPR.
 These MRLs come to the meeting at step 4.
- CCPR will determine if the MRLs can be advanced to step 8 or 5/8 or if they should remain at a different step pending further consideration by JMPR.
- Those advanced to step 8 or 5/8 will be sent to the CAC for adoption at the next meeting.



Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

- The Codex Alimentarius Commission, established by FAO and WHO in 1963 develops harmonized international food standards, guidelines and codes of practice to protect the health of the consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.
- The Commission also promotes coordination of all food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non-governmental organizations.
- The CAC meets once a year in July to consider the work of all of the Codex Committees.



Codex MRLs

- If the CAC agrees with the CCPR recommendations the Codex MRLs will be adopted.
- Due to the "Concern Form" process of the CCPR the Codex MRLs typically are not blocked at the CAC meeting.
- This is not always the case for the other Committees.

Codex Process

Grower or Company Identifies need for Codex MRL

U.S. Delegation works with registrants and IR-4 to determine if there are data available to support a nomination to Codex.



U.S. Delegation Submits Nomination

In order for a chemical/commodity to considered for review by the JMPR it must first be nominated by a Member Country to the CCPR Electronic Working Group on Priorities.



Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR)

JMPR reviews the appropriate toxicology and residue field trial data, conducts dietary risk assessments and to recommend specific MRLs to the CCPR – meets in September



The Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

CCPR is responsible for establishing MRLs for pesticide residues in specific food items or in groups of food; establishing maximum limits for pesticide residues in certain animal feeding stuffs moving in international trade where this is justified for reasons of protection of human health – meets in April



Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

CAC was created by FAO and WHO to develop food standards, guidelines and related texts such as codes of practice under the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme – meets in July.

Useful Websites

Codex website

http://www.codexalimentarius.net/web/index_en.jsp

Codex MRLs for a given chemical

http://www.codexalimentarius.net/pestres/data/pesticides/index.html

Tolerances for a specific commodity chemical

http://www.epa.gov/opp00001/regulating/part-180.html#tolerance-commodity

Check here if exporting commodity to determine MRLs in other parts of the world http://www.mrldatabase.com

Questions?



Thank you.