

CA Specialty Crop Council 2014 MRL Harmonization Workshop

June 18th & 19th San Francisco, CA

Brian Mori
Grower/Field Representative
California Olive Ranch



Brief Background

- California Olive Ranch is the largest grower, processor, and marketer of premium extra virgin grade olive oil in the United States
- CA leading producer in emerging domestic commercial olive oil industry (GA, TX, FL, AZ)
- Company prides itself on innovation through research and practical applications
- In addition to company ranches COR contracts with growers throughout the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys
- Utilizes Super High Density method of growing to facilitate mechanical harvest
- Ensures a consistent quality product every season
- Primary focus on retail and food service branded markets



U.S. OLIVE OIL INDUSTRY

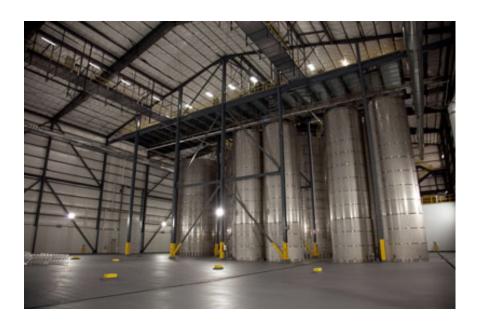
California	Texas	Georgia	Florida
 More than 30,000 planted acres 	 Approximately 2,500 planted acres 	 More than 250 planted acres 	 Approximately 300 planted acres
Acreage expected to expand 10% annuallyApproximately 40	 Acreage expected to double next 12 months 	 Acreage expected to double in the next 12 months 	30% Increase since 2012Additional acreage
mills	 4 mills with a new mill planned to be 	 Produced the first EVOO on the east 	expansion anticipated
 3.5m gallons of olive oil produced 	developed in 2014	coast in over 100 years in 2011	 Several research projects
		 New commercial mill and storage facility 	

Additional Olive Oil Plantings and Production

- •Arizona has more than 1,800 acres of olive trees for oil production and a milling facility
- •Oregon has at least 101,000 trees planted and milling facilities since 2008
- •Maui has several 1,000 trees planted and has 50-75 growers; first milling facility developed 2013
- •Alabama has 1000 trees planted











Recent MRL Issue:

- 2012 Grower Contract Renewal
 - Upgraded quality criteria
 - Included a new MRL standard for growers
 - Need to define MRL standard to present to retailers including emerging Asian markets (Korea, China, & Japan)

Issues

- MRL standards mostly geared towards CA table olive market
- Lack of research on residual levels for olive oil
- What was the right amount of info to publish to retailers?
- European standards not applicable to US production
- Import oil in mainstream news for failure of MRL standards, focus from retailers on issue



Recent MRL Issue: Continued

- Initial Mistakes
 - Attempted to publish an all encompassing MRL standard combining EU, Japanese, Korean, and US levels
 - Utilized the most stringent standard for each
 - Published it as the standard to our retailers
- Unintended Consequences
 - Some standards proved to be unachievable in conventional agriculture
 - Increased testing costs substantially
 - Burdens QA department and created artificial issues with retailers



Recent MRL Issue: Continued

Solutions

- Grower contract allows COR to modify MRL standard on a yearly basis
- 2014 COR revised and simplified MRL standards for growers for the upcoming season
- Began an effort to harmonize internally messaging to retailers and customers regarding MRL standards for COR product



2014 Fruit & Quality Standards and Specifications Revisions

California Olive Ranch Inc. Maximum Residual Level Pesticides (MRL) Positive List

Published April 2014, Effective 2014 Harvest

US Trade Name	Pesticide Name	COR Standard
Alion, Esplanade	Indaziflam	<0.01*
Edict, Vida	Pyraflufen-ethyl	<0.01*
Blackhawk, Entrust	Spinosad	<0.02
Surflan	Oryzalin	<0.05*
Supracide	Methidathion	<0.05
Firestorm, Gramoxone	Paraquat	<0.05
Goal, Galigan, Pindar	Oxyfluorfen	<0.05
Aim, Shark	Carfentrazone-ethyl	<0.1
Prowl, Pendulum	Pendimethalin	<0.1
Simazine 4L, Princep	Simazine	<0.2
Roundup, GlyStar, Accord	Glyphosate	<0.2
Esteem, Seize	Pyriproxyfen	<1
Diuron 4L, Determine	Diuron	<1
Beseige, Altacor	Chlorantraniliprole (DPX E-2Y45)	<4
Danitol, Tame	Fenpropathrin	<5
Carbaryl 4L, Sevin	Carbaryl	<10
Appland, Centaur	Buprofezin	<3.5

- Reduced the list from 91 to 17.
- More in line with California MRL's.
- To export to EU Carbaryl is zero tolerance, Japan is 25, but customers in Japan require <0.01, China does not have a requirement



Current Issues- USA

- Lack of a harmonized US quality standard for oil
 - Most MRL thresholds applicable to fresh market olives
 - Includes a MRL standard for US OLIVE OIL
- Indaziflam, Pyraflufen-ethyl, oryzalin- all approved pesticides for olives but no labs that can test on a fatty matrices to a low enough level
- Paraquat, Carfentrazone-ethyl- no lab in the USA that can test these on a fatty matrices
 - Working with labs to try and get the testing done in the USA but it takes time to develop the method
- Testing alternatives in harvest/washing of fruit before milling to determine if it aids in removal of pesticides to eliminate any risk of detection in final processed product
- Increasing concern by USA consumers on pesticide use in fields, desire to be able to say "pesticide free" or organic

Current Issues- Exporting

- Country specific testing that is irrelevant for what is able to use on olives in USA or specifically CA
 - China- regulates 5 pesticides specific to olive oil in their olive oil standard, all are not approved chemicals for use in olives in the USA
 - No uniformity in country MRL values, Codex, etc. Burdensome amount of irrelevant chemicals tested for default values
- Customer specific testing- primarily with Exporting (Japan/China) customers are requesting even lower MRL values than what is regulated by our EPA and Cali government
 - No labs to test low enough level for some pesticides
 - Diquat, Rogor- export customers require testing, however they are not available to use in USA and not compatible with fatty matrices thus give false positive results
- Need for domestic olive oil industry representation in trade talks relating to MRL