

EPA Regulatory Update: MRL Harmonization Activities

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Presented to:

California Specialty Crop Council
2019 MRL Harmonization Workshop
San Francisco, California
May 29-30, 2019



Outline

- **International Involvements**
 - International goals of OPP
 - Opportunities to affect international MRLs
- **Update on Current Activities**
 - APEC and APEC Import Tolerance Guidelines
 - CCPR51
 - Status of EPA's crop grouping activities
 - Other continuing work and future activities

OPP International Goals

- **Goal #1: Strengthen Protections**
 - Strengthen food safety, public health and environmental protection, domestically and globally
- **Goal # 2: Enhance Regulatory Decisions through Collaboration**
 - Improve science base and enhance regulatory efficiency by leveraging scientific and regulatory resources with the international community

OPP International Goals

- **Goal # 3: Conserve Resources**
 - Conserve resources of U.S. consumers, growers, and industry stakeholders through more efficient and coordinated regulatory processes
- **Goal # 4: Minimize Barriers**
 - Minimize international trade issues related to pesticide regulatory requirements & facilitate trade and fair competition

Harmonization of MRLs is Important in Achieving US EPA Office of Pesticide Programs Goals

International marketplace

Impact on U.S. health and environment

International acceptance of safer products

Opportunities to collaborate on international fora

Opportunities/Involvements

- **OECD**

- Working Group on Pesticides; Registration and Risk Reduction Steering Groups; Expert Groups (e.g. Residue Expert Working Group); Test Guideline Program; Task Force on Biocides; Biopesticides Steering Group

- **North America**

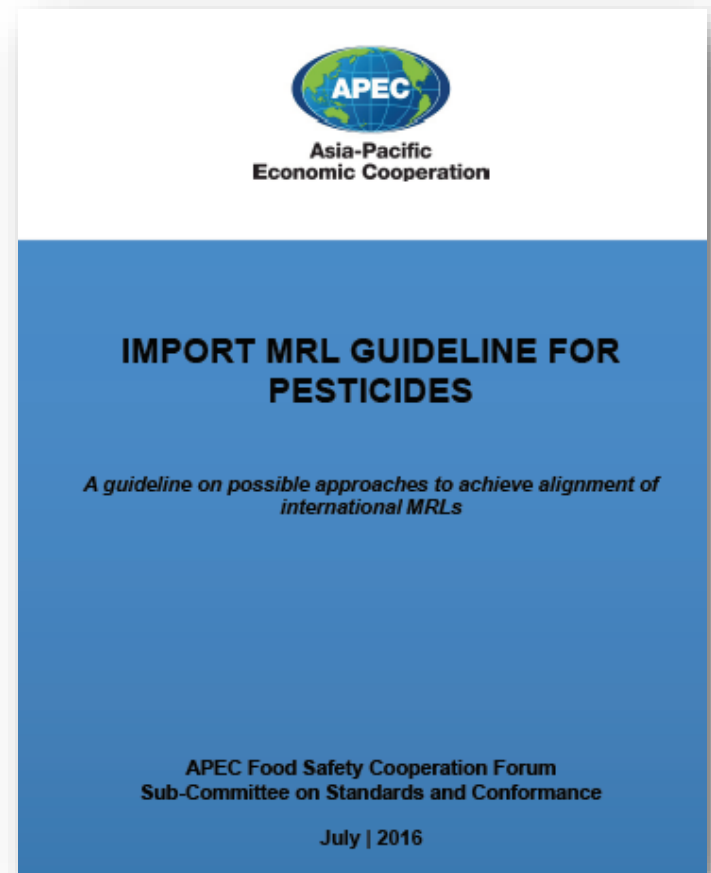
- NAFTA Technical Working Group on Pesticides (TWG); Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC)

Opportunities/Involvements

- **APEC**
 - APEC Food Safety Cooperation Forum
- **Codex Alimentarius**
 - Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)
 - Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR)
 - Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management (JMPM)
- **Other Opportunities**
 - Global Joint Reviews
 - Bilateral Partnerships

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

- Developed from a series of 2015 APEC workshops on Harmonization of Pesticide Maximum Residue Limits
- Held to assist in minimizing discrepancies in MRLs and to facilitate trade while continuing to protect human health
- Guidance document (2016) developed on approaches to achieve alignment of MRLs for pesticides within APEC
- Seeks to provide a framework within which science-based standards can be developed and applied uniformly and transparently across APEC economies



US EPA's (APEC-inspired) Import Tolerance Pilot

- Test a streamlined data review strategy for establishing MRLs on imported commodities
- Pilot to determine the feasibility of acceptance of other National Authority/JMPR reviews of residue chemistry data to support establishment of import tolerances
- Requires that US EPA make a safety finding

U.S. EPA Import Tolerance Pilot -- Status

- 14 chemical/crop combinations submitted
- 3 additional chemical/crop combinations were self-identified by the Agency
- 10 commodities: banana, barley, coffee, ginseng, hops, legumes, olive, oats, tea, and wheat
- Evaluations from Brazil, EFSA, Japan, JMPR
- Participation by major agrochemical companies

U.S. EPA Import Tolerance Pilot -- Status

- Eleven MRLs have been established:
 - Boscalid on edible-podded legumes (subgroup 6A)
 - Ametoctradin on hops
 - Chloromequat chloride on cereals (3 separate MRLs)
 - Tebuconazole on ginseng
 - Abamectin on tea (+ banana, but not under pilot)
 - Spinetoram on tea
 - Pyriproxyfen on tea
 - Methoxyfenozide on tea
- Four additional chemical/crop combinations are in progress
- One petition (2 crops) on hold

US Codex Alimentarius Activities

- Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues
 - US is represented by a US delegate from US EPA and an alternate US delegate from USDA
 - US has played an active role in setting the priorities and focus of the CCPR sessions
 - Meeting held each spring in China
 - 51st Session of CCPR (CCPR51) was held in Macau SAR on April 8-13, 2019

Updates from CCPR51

- Reached consensus on a number of crop groups and advanced 326 MRLs for final adoption
 - These MRLs are associated with 31 pesticides
 - 183 and 143 MRLs forwarded for adoption are for plant and animal commodities, respectively
 - Crop Group or Subgroup MRLs accounted for 43 of the 326 MRLs forwarded for adoption
 - Three of the seven new compounds reviewed by JMPR in 2018 were nominated by the United States

Updates from CCPR51

- CCPR recommended revocation for 150 previously adopted MRLs associated with 22 pesticides
 - Typically Codex MRLs being replaced based on:
 - review of additional data,
 - uses no longer supported, or
 - Codex MRLs deemed by JMPR to have potential dietary intake concerns with no alternative GAP
 - 12 draft Codex MRLs for five pesticides were withdrawn from further consideration

Updates from CCPR51

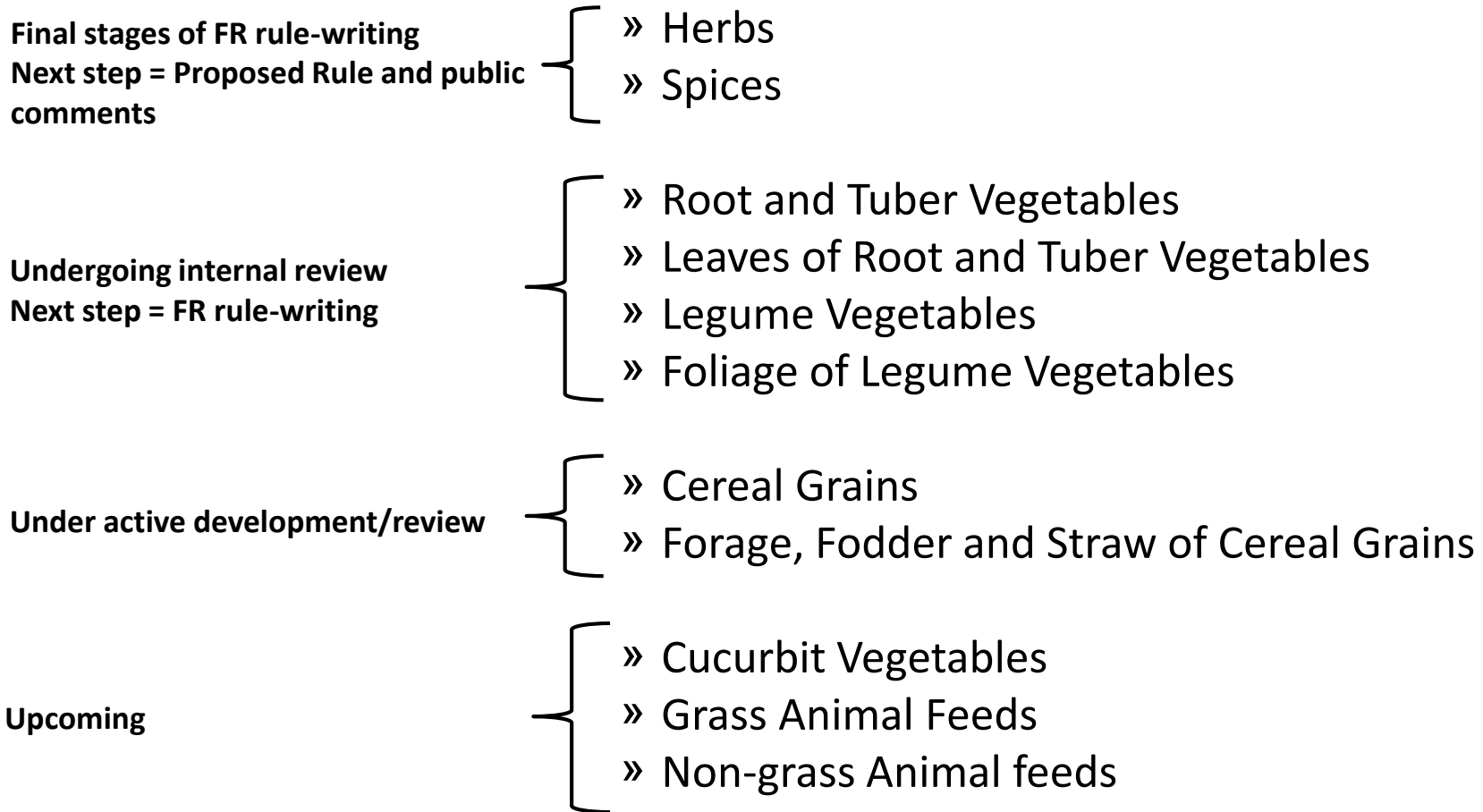
Relevant Electronic Working Groups

- **Compounds of low public health concern that could be exempted from the establishment of CXLs**
Chaired by Chile and co-chaired by India and USA
- **Revision of the Guidelines on the use of mass spectrometry for the identification, confirmation and quantitative determination of residues (CXG 56-2005)**
Chaired by Iran and co-chaired by Costa Rica
- **Opportunities and challenges related to the participation of JMPR in an international joint review of a new compound**
Chaired by Canada and co-chaired by Costa Rica and Kenya
- **Review of the international estimated short-term intake (IESTI) equations**
Chaired by Netherlands and co-chaired by Brazil and Uganda

Updates from CCPR51

- USDA/FAS has committed financial resources to support the work of JMPR
 - Potential for second extraordinary meeting of JMPR
 - U.S. will develop and submit a detailed proposal for discussion next year at CCPR52
 - It is anticipated that endorsed activities will be carried out in the year 2021

Updates on US Crop Groupings





Thank You!