US EPA Perspectives on Harmonization of International MRLs – OECD and APEC Collaborative Work Projects

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Harmonization of MRLs is Essential to 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
OPP International Goals

- **Goal #1: Strengthening Protection**
  - 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

- **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
US EPA OPP Regulatory Framework

- **Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)**
  - Pesticide Labels, Worker & Ecological Risks

- **Federal Food Drug and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA)**
  - Risk from residues of pesticides on food & Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) or tolerances

- **Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA)**
  - Amended both FIFRA and FFDCA

- **Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA)**
  - Fee-for-Service Act, which created time frames for completion of registration actions
Opportunities

- **MRLs**: Codex Alimentarius; Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

- **OECD**: Global Joint Reviews; Working Group on Pesticides; Registration and Risk Reduction Steering Groups; Expert Groups; Test Guideline Program; Task Force on Biocides; Biopesticides Steering Group

- **FAO/WHO**: Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR); Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management (JMPM)

- **NAFTA**: Technical Working Group on Pesticides, Regional Coordination Council (RCC)

- **APEC**: Import tolerance pilot project
MRLs: Harmonization

- Crop groups
  - Promote harmonization

- Regulatory harmonization
  - Median vs. maximum value
  - Statistical approach
  - GlobalMRL.com

- Global Zoning Projects
  - Comparison of residue levels
MRLs: Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC); Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

- Food safety standards

- U.S. priorities
  - Ensure timely adoption of MRLs
  - Sound science
  - Promotes consumer health and fair trade practices
Global Initiatives through OECD

- Working Group on Pesticides

- Global joint reviews
  - 27 completed since 2007
  - 7 currently underway
  - 17 scheduled for 2015-2019
Global Initiatives through APEC

- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

  - Pilot to determine the feasibility of acceptance of other National Authority/JMPR reviews of residue chemistry data to support establishment of import tolerances
    - Streamlined approach to establishing import tolerances
    - Will require US EPA risk assessment/safety finding
  - Currently three pilot projects in-house
Questions

- Questions?
- Thank you

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