Managing the Impacts of Differing Pesticide Maximum Residue Limits on Trade in Agriculture Products: A CANADIAN PERSPECTIVE
• Issue: Managing trade risks associated with pesticide maximum residue limits (MRLs) is a challenge for both importers and exporters to ensure access to safe, high-quality, and affordable food

• Reducing these risks requires coordination and cooperation at all levels:
  ○ industry;
  ○ industry-government;
  ○ government-government.
Canadian Trade Snapshot
A Balancing Act

- Protecting Public health
- Practical access to plant protection tools
- Maintaining market access for agriculture products
Canadian Approach: working domestically and internationally to address challenges

- **Industry-led risk mitigation projects, to ensure compliance with international regulations:**
  - “Keep it clean” initiative – an industry led GAP project
- **Industry-Government collaboration to increase understanding of challenges and priorities:**
  - Value-Chain Round Tables
  - Industry-Government Working Group on Pesticide MRLs
  - Minor Use Program
- **Government-Government cooperation to facilitate international standards development, adoption, and alignment**
  - Codex / CCPR
  - Bilateral/Regional: Canada-US Regulatory Cooperation Council, NAFTA
  - Multilateral: OECD, APEC
Working together to better manage risks and facilitate trade in agriculture products

- Support risk-based analysis of pesticide residues, recognizing the role of the Codex scientific bodies and recognizing our obligations under the SPS Agreement
  - Facilitate access to agriculture products and ensure access to necessary plant protection tools, while continuing to protect health and safety
- Encourage transparency and predictability of MRLs and pesticide regulations
  - Support exporter compliance through clear regulatory processes, as well as notifications to the WTO of MRL and regulatory changes
- Increased cooperation
  - Support collaboration to minimize differences in regulatory approaches and facilitate market access, including at the OECD and other regional fora
Thank you / Merci