

Cutting Edge

RESEARCH NEWS FROM CITRUS RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL

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FOOD SAFETY UPDATE

Morpholine in waxes on fruit destined for the EU

Members of the European Commission (EC) Food Safety Standing Committee met on 3 November 2010 to discuss the status of Morpholine as a Food Additive and its permissibility in fruit-coatings on products consumed in the EU.

The Commission said it would not extend the current period of grace, where treated citrus in the current export season could be sold on the EU market, beyond 19 November 2010. According to the Commission, affected citrus stocks should be out of the market by this date.

Furthermore, the view of the Commission remains that Morpholine use in waxes will not be permitted unless is becomes listed as a Food Additive under regulation EC/1333/2008. CGA/CRI are therefore engaging with wax manufacturers and stakeholders to evaluate the prospects of a successful application to have Morpholine listed as a Food Additive in the EU. If the chances of success are reasonable and the project goes ahead it will be at least another 12-24 months before a decision will be made to approve Morpholine. Meanwhile producers will have to rely on Morpholine-free waxes (and waxes free of any other substance not listed as a food additive under EU legislation).

Spirotetramat (Movento) MRL in Japan

The Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) have adopted 0.6 mg/kg MRL for Spirotetramat on citrus in Japan. CGA/CRI will therefore update the Recommended Usage Restrictions for export citrus as follows:

All markets except where other restrictions apply: 60d PHI as registered.

Japan: 60d PHI as registered.

Korea: Not later than 90% petal fall.

Carbon Calculator: Technical Training Workshop

Confronting Climate Change: A Fruit & Wine Initiative, is holding a Technical Training workshop to provide step-by-step guidance on how to use the

online Carbon Calculator tool, how to gather the data, and what to do with the results. It will provide the opportunity for producers to complete a carbon footprint audit for the year, with the assistance of the technical team (provided the appropriate data are taken along). Workshop details are as follows:

Date: Tuesday, 23rd November 2010

Time: 8H30 until 11H00

Venue: Wallenberg Centre @ STIAS, 10 Marais

Street, Stellenbosch

Cost: R250 pp

RSVP: By 16th November 2010

The registration forms are available from CGA or Shelly Fuller (shellyf@genesis-analytics.com).

GlobalGAP Version 4

CGA/CRI have called for input on the revision of the GlobalGAP standard over the last year. The revision process has now drawn to a close with the Interim Final Version 4 available on the GlobalGAP website. Comments can still be made on possible technical errors until 31 January 2011. Certification on Version 4 is optional as from 1 January 2011 but obligatory from 1 January 2012.

The main changes in Version 4 were discussed at the last GlobalGAP National Technical Workgroup in October 2010 and are available from CGA.

Obsolete Chemicals

Producers in the Western Cape and Free State are reminded of the opportunity to dispose of obsolete agricultural chemicals, as the last phase of the African Stock Pile Programme is rolled out in these provinces. Producers are encouraged to make use of this service provided by the Agricultural Chemical Distribution Association of South Africa (ACDASA).

For more information contact Mr Bill Smit on 0721973447 or go to the ACDASA website www.acdasa.co.za

Compiled by Paul Hardman CGA

Tel: 031 765 2514