# Be Aware of Market Risks Involved with Desiccant Use This Season







Although the pulse industry in Canada has made significant progress in developing acceptable **maximum residue levels (MRLs)** globally for pulse crop products used in Canada, growers are still advised to be aware of possible marketing restrictions that may arise from using certain desiccants/harvest management tools this season.

Specific guidelines for products are available on the next page of this document, but growers are also urged to review all the information in this document before proceeding with plans for their pulse crop products this season.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PULSE GROWERS



# What are dessicants/harvest management tools?

For pulse crop production in Western Canada, these products include diquat (Reglone), glyphosate (Roundup), saflufenacil (HEAT), glufosinate (MPOWER Good HARVEST), flumioxazin (Valtera), and carfentrazone (Aim, CleanStart).

#### What are the risks of using these products as preharvest desiccants?

Unlike most crop protection products used in Canada, desiccants/harvest management tools are applied very late in the crop year. As a result, growers must ensure that the product residue remains below MRLs set by regulatory agencies, in order to avoid problems with selling their crops.

# What developments have there been on these issues since last year?

While the Canadian pulse industry has been working hard to make international pulse marketing safer and easier for Canadian Growers, each of the six desiccants/harvest management products registered for selected pulse crops in Western Canada (listed in the chart on the following page) still has the potential to cause issues in certain crops and markets. Growers are always advised to be aware of international regulations in order to make the best marketing decisions.

#### What can you do to mitigate risk?

Ensure product residues remain at trace levels or levels well below accepted maximums by following these simple steps:

#### 1. Do not exceed the product's labelled rate

Regulations for individual pesticides are set to allow growers to use the product without fear of breaching domestic MRLs. However, these guidelines assume that the labelled rate is not exceeded. If you exceed that rate, you risk breaching the MRL and this can have serious consequences in terms of both domestic pesticide laws, and international acceptance of the crop.

# 2. Time the application according to the label

Labels are very specific in terms of crop staging. If you apply a desiccant before or after the recommended crop stage, you run the risk that levels will exceed legal limits.

# 3. Consult with your exporter/processor about which desiccants are acceptable in international markets

Exporters/processors have a good sense of which markets may be sensitive to specific products. They will likely ask you what was used in your crop and possibly for more information.

4. Consult the chart on the following page indicating market considerations and statuses for specific products

# Markets Where MRLs are Sufficient to Allow for Use of Main Desiccants on Pulse Crops

Glufosinate as a harvest Glyphosate Saflufenacil Diquat as a desiccant Carfentrazone management tool (e.g. MPOWER Good management tool (e.g. HEAT) management tool (e.g. Roundup) (e.g. Cleanstart, Aim) (e.g. Valtera) (e.g. Regione) HARVEST) No marketing issues No marketing issues No marketing issues There is no MRL set Lentils are the only No marketing issues associated with pulse crop for which the associated with associated with diquat associated with that would allow for glyphosate residues residues for peas, lentils, saflufenacil residues product is registered preharvest use on beans. flumioxazin residues for chickpeas, or peas (not for peas, lentils, or chickpeas, and beans for peas and beans. in Western Canada. dry beans (not registered chickpeas in the EU. The MRL is in place as MRI s that will allow registered on lentils) There are no marketing for harvest aid use Although there is an issues associated with for these. Follow label In cases where crop for preharvest use for on other pulses). The MRL is set. Follow label MRL set for the use of is destined for the EU, directions to minimize peas and beans were glufosinate residues for European Union (EU) published in early July lentils, as the MRL is glyphosate on beans in residues and maintain growers and exporters directions to minimize the EU, the MRL level levels below the MRL. 2014 and will be in in place. Follow label should confer prior to residues and maintain is set at a low level of 2 force prior to this year's directions to minimize using the product in levels below the MRL parts per million (PPM) harvest (lentils will not residues and maintain order to avoid marketing for this crop in this have an MRL in place for levels below the MRL. problems in the EU. (This market. Consult with the 2014 crop, and the applies to the preharvest your exporter/processor product is not registered use pattern only.) about dry, edible beans on chickpeas). 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