



Chemical Requirements for Barley and Malt Exports – Korean Positive List System for Pesticides

Key Points

- The Australian barley industry and exporters of barley and malt need to be aware of the changing status of chemical pesticide MRLs for agricultural products occurring in South Korea.
- The current MRL review is expected to continue to the end of December 2021 and during that time regular changes will occur, meaning that exporters need up to date information on pesticide MRLs.
- Where South Korea has no MRL in place for a given pesticide and no import tolerance has been established a default MRL of 0.01 ppm will apply.
- The National Working Party on Grain Protection (NWPGP) is working with registrants and the National Residue Survey (NRS) to develop appropriate import tolerance applications for key chemicals of concern to Australia.

Background

South Korea has its own system for setting pesticide MRLs. Agrichemical requirements have been under review for several years now and South Korea is currently implementing its Positive List System (PLS) to better manage the safety of pesticides in food. The changes began in 2014:

- Stage 1 was implemented on 1 January 2017.
- Stage 2, involving barley, was implemented on 31 December 2018.
- The final revisions to provisional MRLs will conclude on 31 December 2021.
-

South Korea is revoking provisional MRLs that do not have a domestic registration. It has replaced the prior default system and now only applies a default MRL of 0.01 ppm where a specific MRL has not been set or there is no import tolerance (IT) in place.

These MRL changes are occurring on a regular basis and so exporters of barley and malt will need to be vigilant in managing their shipments and having access to up to date information. The South Korean Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS) is the regulatory body responsible for setting Korean pesticide MRLs. In Australia the NWPGP is working with registrants and the



National Residue Survey (NRS) to develop appropriate import tolerance applications for key chemicals of concern to Australia.

Sources of Information

The list of provisional and current MRLs is available on the MFDS website (see below). The site also provides a range of information on crop groups, IT application progress etc.

<http://www.foodsafetykorea.go.kr/residue/prd/mrls/list.do?menuKey=1&subMenuKey=161>