

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Update on NAFTA Label Work Group

Pesticide Program Dialouge Committee
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Outline of Presentation

- Background
- Where We Are
 - Short-term Strategy
 - Long-term Strategy
- Future Directions

Background—Charge to the Workgroup

- Find solutions to the long-standing issue of allowing movement of pesticides across the Canadian/U.S. border
 - Short-term strategy to allow U.S. growers access to certain priority pesticides registered in both Canada and the U.S. (but not jointly)
 - Long-term strategy to develop NAFTA labels (jointly registered products) that would allow free movement of pesticide across the border

Where We Are--U.S. Short-term Strategy

- U.S. registrants enter into agreements with selected CN retailers/distributors to re-label product
 - CN retailers/distributors register as U.S. establishments
 - U.S. registrants supply these CN retailers/distributors with necessary instructions, labels, stickers (approved by EPA)
- U.S. growers complete Notice of Arrival form, purchase re-labeled product, and import it into the U.S. for their own use

U.S. Short-term Strategy

- Program tested in December 2006
 - Remaining issues involved customs requirements
 - These issues are being addressed
- Grower's have a prioritized list of chemicals they would like to have access to in Canada
- Two chemicals from this list will be available in May under the pilot U.S. Own Use Import program
 - Quadris
 - Apron Maxx RTA

Where We Are--NAFTA Labels

- NAFTA Labels are the ultimate solution
 - U.S. and Canadian short-term programs are stop-gap measures
- Key piece of the puzzle of pesticide harmonization
 - Regulatory harmonization
 - North American market for pesticides
 - Equal access to pesticide uses
 - Free trade in agricultural outputs

NAFTA Label Format

- Format key to success
- Option chosen
 - Harmonized container label which meets all U.S. and Canadian requirements
 - 2 completely separate booklets containing the directions for use for each country

NAFTA Label Format

- Format
 - Minimizes what *must* be harmonized
 - Least possibility for confusion by user
 - Easiest for regulatory updating
 - Helps pave way to use of electronic labeling in the future (an industry incentive to NAFTA labeling!)

NAFTA Labels—Current Status

- 1 label approved
 - Fargo/Avadex (triallate)
- 7 labels drafted and expect approval in 2007 (two expected to be approved in May)
- 1 label recently volunteered (not yet drafted)
- 3 labels volunteered for new actives in the registration process (to be completed when products are registered)

NAFTA Labels—In Progress

- Development of Regulatory Processes
 - Initial submissions
 - Determination of equivalence (for existing products)
 - Label amendments
- Incentives for NAFTA Labeling
 - Promote use in all joint reviews
- Other issues
 - Regulatory changes may be easy in comparison to marketing changes
 - Affects on distributors; and existing marketing and stewardship programs may represent fundamental changes for registrants, distributors/retailers, and growers

Future Direction

- Develop routine, sustainable process
- Continue to address incentives for NAFTA labeling
- Internet site should be available shortly (May)

Goals:

- Remove need for import programs
- NAFTA labels routine