



Grower Advisory: **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.

What are desiccants/harvest management tools?

Desiccants/harvest management tools are used worldwide by growers who produce crops that require “drying down” to create uniformity of plant material at harvest. These products may also assist in preharvest weed control. In Canada, these products include diquat (Reglone), glyphosate (Roundup), saflufenacil (HEAT), and glufosinate (MPOWER Good HARVEST).

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?

The Canadian pulse industry has been working hard to make international pulse marketing safer and easier for Canadian growers and as a result there are fewer risks this season than in the past two years for desiccants/harvest management tools used in Canada. However, each of the four desiccants/harvest management products commonly used in 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.

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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 below indicating market considerations and statuses for specific products

July 2013 Update

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

Market	Glyphosate as a harvest management tool (e.g. Roundup)	Diquat as a desiccant (e.g. Reglone)	Saflufenacil as a harvest management tool (e.g. HEAT)	Glufosinate as a harvest management tool (e.g. MPOWER Good HARVEST)
European Union (EU)	No marketing issues associated with glyphosate residues for peas, lentils, chickpeas, and beans. The MRL is set. Follow label directions to minimize residues and maintain levels below the MRL. 	No marketing issues associated with diquat residues for peas, lentils, chickpeas, and beans. The MRL is in place for these. Follow label directions to minimize residues and maintain levels below the MRL. 	There is no MRL set that would allow for preharvest use on pulses. In cases where the crop is destined for the EU, growers and exporters should confer prior to using the product in order to avoid marketing problems in the EU. (This applies to the preharvest use pattern only.) 	Lentils are the only pulse crop for which the product is registered (as of this document's print date). There are no marketing issues associated with glufosinate residues for lentils, as the MRL is in place. Follow label directions to minimize residues and maintain levels below the MRL. 
Countries that rely on Codex MRLs (e.g. India, Pakistan, many others)	No marketing issues associated with glyphosate residues for peas, lentils, and beans. The MRL was established earlier this year. Follow label directions to minimize residues and maintain levels below the MRL. 	No marketing issues associated with diquat residues for peas, lentils, chickpeas, and beans. The MRL is in place for these. Follow label directions to minimize residues, maintain levels below the MRL. 	MRLs have been established for the use of saflufenacil as a desiccant on pulse crops. These will come into force in July of 2013. Follow label directions to minimize residues, maintain levels below the MRL. 	Lentils are the only pulse crop for which the product is registered (as of this document's print date). There is no Codex MRL set for the chemical on lentils. Consult with your exporter/processor before using product on lentils. 
Japan	No marketing issues associated with glyphosate residues for peas, lentils, chickpeas in Japan. Although there is an MRL set for the use of glyphosate on beans in Japan, the MRL level is set at a low level of 2 parts per million (ppm) for this crop in this market. Consult with your exporter/processor about beans destined for Japan. 	No marketing issues associated with diquat residues for peas, lentils, chickpeas, and beans. The MRL is in place for these. Follow label directions to minimize residues and maintain levels below the MRL. 	No marketing issues associated with saflufenacil residues in Japan. The MRL is set for all pulse crops for desiccation uses. Follow label directions to minimize residues and maintain levels below the MRL. 	Lentils are the only pulse crop for which the product is registered (as of this document's print date). There are no marketing issues associated with glufosinate residues for lentils, as the MRL is in place. Follow label directions to minimize residues and maintain levels below the MRL. 
United States (U.S.)	No marketing issues associated with glyphosate residues. The MRL is set and is adequate for preharvest uses. Follow label directions to remain within legal limits. 	Although Canada and the U.S. are working to harmonize MRLs in pulses, the diquat MRL has not been harmonized between the two countries. Consult with your exporter/processor before using product. 	No marketing issues associated with saflufenacil residues in the U.S. The MRL is set for all pulse crops for desiccation uses. Follow label directions to minimize residues, maintain levels below the MRL. 	Lentils are the only pulse crop on which the product is registered as of printing. There is no U.S. MRL set for the product on lentils. Consult with your exporter/processor before using product on lentils. 

