

BACKGROUND

The Pest Management Regulatory Agency has agreed to review all pesticide products containing the following ingredients:

2,4-D

There are 140 registered pest-control products in Canada that contain 2,4 D. 2,4 D is used as a herbicide to kill weeds in crops such as wheat, corn and soybeans. It is also used in domestic use weed killers like WeedEx, and for weed control in golf courses. 2,4 D was banned in Norway in January 2000 due to concerns regarding links to cancer and its high mobility in soil, which could lead to groundwater contamination.

Acephate

Acephate is an insecticide used in five pest-control products in Canada. Acephate is used on fruit and vegetable crops, as well as tobacco. The European Union (EU) banned acephate in March 2003 due to reasons pertaining to both human health and the environment, and specifically based on concerns regarding consumer safety and possible impacts on non-target organisms.

Aminopyralid

Aminopyralid is an herbicide currently contained in 11 pest-control products registered in Canada and is used to control weeds in rangeland, pastures and right-of-ways. Norway prohibited all uses of aminopyralid in 2011 due to environmental impacts and, specifically, based on concerns about its high mobility in soil and the risk of contaminating groundwater.

Atrazine

Atrazine is an herbicide approved for use on corn that is currently contained in 14 pest-control products registered in Canada. Atrazine was banned in the EU in March 2004 due to concerns regarding groundwater contamination. Atrazine is one of the most frequently detected herbicides in Canadian surface water and groundwater. Exposure to atrazine has been linked to reduced fertility in humans.

Bromoxynil

Bromoxynil is an herbicide contained in 48 pest-control products registered in Canada. Bromoxynil is approved for use on crops such as wheat, oat, flax and corn as well as some vegetables. Bromoxynil was banned in Norway in January 2000 for reasons pertaining to the environment and human health, specifically that it may cause cancer and pose harm to human foetuses.

Carbaryl

Carbaryl is an insecticide used in 39 pest-control products registered in Canada. It is used in some flea and tick collars and several domestic bug killers including Ortho Bug-B-Gon, Ortho Grub-B-Gon and C-I-L Ant Killer Dust. Carbaryl products are also used on vegetables, fruit trees, berries, legumes and poultry. Carbaryl has been prohibited in EU member states since May 2007 due to carcinogenic properties and risks to birds, mammals, aquatic organisms and non-target insects and crustaceans.

Chloropicrin

Chloropicrin is a fungicide used in six pest-control products registered in Canada and is approved for use on tomatoes, potatoes, peppers, strawberries and raspberries as well as on wood poles and timber. Use of chloropicrin has been prohibited in EU member states since December 2011 due to risks posed to pesticide operators, risks to aquatic organisms, birds, bees and mammals, as well as a high potential for long-range transport.

Chlorthal-dimethyl

Chlorthal-dimethyl is an herbicide contained in three pest-control products registered in Canada. Chlorthal dimethyl is in products used on many vegetables including broccoli, garlic, onions and cabbage — as well as melons and tomatoes. Chlorthal-dimethyl has been prohibited in EU member states since September 2009 due to concerns regarding impacts on groundwater. Several U.S. states have reported groundwater contamination from use of chlorthal-dimethyl. It has also been detected in Canadian surface water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has also classified chlorthal-dimethyl as a possible human carcinogen.

Diazinon

Diazinon is an insecticide used in 15 pest-control products registered in Canada. Diazinon products are used on fruit trees, berries and vegetables — as well as in ear tags used on beef and dairy cattle. Use of diazinon has been prohibited in the EU since June 2007 because its toxic impurities present toxicological and ecotoxicological concerns.

Dichlobenil

Dichlobenil is an herbicide contained in nine pest-control products registered in Canada and is used on trees and berry bushes, and to control tree roots in sewers. The EU has prohibited use of dichlobenil since April 2011 due to concerns regarding groundwater contamination, long-range transport, risks to birds, and high risks to earthworm-eating birds and mammals.

Dichlorvos

Dichlorvos is an insecticide used in 10 pest-control products in Canada. Dichlorvos is used to control insects in industrial plants, warehouses, theatres and livestock houses and barns. The use of dichlorvos has been prohibited in EU member countries since June 2007 due to concerns regarding human genotoxicity (damaging to genetic information in cells) and carcinogenicity.

Difenoconazole

Difenoconazole is a fungicide contained in 18 pest-control products registered in Canada that are used on potatoes and other vegetables, pome fruit and cereal crops. Use of difenoconazole has been prohibited in Norway since May 1998 due to environmental reasons pertaining to persistence, bioaccumulation in fish, and toxic effects on aquatic organisms.

Diphenylamine

Diphenylamine is a plant growth regulator used on stored apples. It was banned in Europe in 2009 due to concerns regarding consumer exposure to toxic breakdown or reaction products.

Fluazifop-P-butyl

Fluazifop-P-butyl is an herbicide currently contained in two pest-control products registered in Canada for use on flax, lentils, peas, soybeans, tobacco, vegetables and fruit. Use of Fluazifop-P-butyl has been prohibited in Norway since January 1999 due to reasons pertaining to human health, specifically effects on reproduction and birth defects.

Fluazinam

Fluazinam is a fungicide contained in two pest-control products registered in Canada for use on potatoes, soybeans and various vegetables such as cabbage, carrots and broccoli, as well as apples. Use of Fluazinam has been prohibited in Norway since June 2010 due to potential risks to human foetuses and environmental concerns, specifically because of its persistence and toxicity to fish and earthworms.

Hexazinone

Hexazinone is an herbicide currently contained in eight pest-control products registered in Canada for use on woodlands and Christmas tree plantations. Use of hexazinone has been prohibited in Norway since 1998 due to concerns regarding impacts on the environment. The substance's persistence, high mobility in soil, and extreme toxicity to algae were identified as risks of use.

Imazapyr

Imazapyr is an herbicide contained in six pest-control products registered in Canada for use on grasses, canola, lentils and bush control in right-of-ways. Use of imazapyr has been prohibited in Norway since December 2001 for reasons pertaining to the environment, namely groundwater contamination caused by its persistence and high mobility in soil.

Linuron

Linuron is an herbicide currently contained in eight pest-control products registered in Canada. Linuron is used on fruit trees, grains and vegetables. Use of linuron has been prohibited in Norway since January 2007 due to concerns regarding impacts on human

health and the environment, including concerns regarding its ability to cause malformations and cancer, persistence in the environment, toxicity to aquatic organisms, and risks to aquatic wildlife.

Paraquat

Paraquat is an herbicide currently contained in three pest-control products registered in Canada for use on fruit trees, berries, vegetables, beans, shelterbelts and nursery crops. The approval of paraquat in the EU was overturned by a court challenge by Sweden, and supported by other European countries that had banned paraquat. The European court ruling cited concerns regarding operator exposure and effects on birds and hares.

Pentachlorophenol

Pentachlorophenol is a wood preservative contained in three pest-control products registered in Canada. Use of pentachlorophenol has been prohibited in Switzerland since August 2005 for environmental reasons, including extreme toxicity to aquatic organisms. It is also banned in Japan for human-health reasons.

Quintozene

Quintozene is a fungicide contained in five pest-control products in Canada. Quintozene is used on some vegetables and bulbs. Use of quintozene has been prohibited in EU member states since December 2000 due to concerns regarding the safety of operators, persistence of the substance in the environment and its possible impact on non-target organisms.

Simazine

Simazine is an herbicide contained in five pest-control products registered in Canada. Use of simazine has been prohibited in EU member states since March 2004 due to concerns regarding contamination of groundwater.

Trifluralin

Trifluralin is an herbicide and active ingredient contained in 17 pest-control products registered in Canada and is a top-selling herbicide in the Prairie provinces. Trifluralin can be used on field crops, vegetables and ornamental trees. Trifluralin was banned in the EU in June 2010 due to its high toxic risk to aquatic organisms and benthic organisms, and its potential for long-range transportation.