

Sweet Potato Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

November 2025

Regulatory pressures on agrichemicals are increasing globally, with many being either restricted or withdrawn from use. For older agrichemicals, these pressures are often the result of reconsiderations involving new or refined risk assessment methodologies that require the generation of new data. A consequence of which can be that many of these agrichemicals are not meeting contemporary risk assessment standards as the necessary data is unavailable, or where data is available, the risk posed is considered unacceptable.

The use of agrichemicals can also be impacted through differences in standards between trading partners. The lack of an appropriate pesticide maximum residue limit (MRL) in an importing country can, for practical purposes, effectively prohibit use in the exporting country to ensure compliance, as MRL breach would adversely affect market access.

The effects of the above are greater regulatory pressure placed on the use of individual agrichemicals or chemical groups. Consequently, the number of approved agrichemical options could be adversely impacted.

To assist strategic planning, with respect to future pest management options, the following tables have been developed to highlight the regulatory threats to agrichemicals currently approved for the management of the pests and diseases in Sweet Potato in Australia, as well as assisting with any current initiatives aimed at identifying and addressing pest management deficiencies.

R0	Use no longer approved
R1	Short-term: Critical concern over retaining access < 1 year
R2	Medium-term: Maintaining access of significant concern <2-5 years
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Sweet Potato - Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

INSECTICIDES/MITICIDES/NEMATOCIDES - Insect and other pests

Blue text = new APVMA approved uses

Active Constituent	MoA Group	Pest	Risks and Comments
ABAMECTIN	6	Root-knot nematode Permit PER84249 for the control of Tomato Potato Psyllid	Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration and spray drift assessment. Codex MRL: *0.005 mg/Kg Canada: Re-evaluation finalised. Label amendments to mitigate risks to human health and environment (July, 2025)
AFIDOPYROPEN	9D	Green peach aphid Cabbage aphid Currant lettuce aphid Cotton aphid/Melon aphid	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved
<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i>	11A	Armyworm Cotton bollworm Native budworm Cabbage moth Cabbage white butterfly Loopers Lightbrown apple moth Vine moth	Australia: No current concerns. USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
BIFENTHRIN	3A	Wireworm Sweet potato weevil PER84249 for the control of tomato potato psyllid	Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration after 2029. Permit PER84249 Expiry date: 30/09/2026 Codex MRL: 0.05 mg/Kg EU: Not approved Canada: Cancelled

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Sweet Potato - Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

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CARBARYL	1A	Sweet potato weevil	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: *0.02 mg/Kg EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
CHLORPYRIFOS	1B	--	Australia: The chemical review was completed in September 2024. Most uses in horticultural crops were removed. After 30 September 2025, products with previously approved labels must not be supplied. The only remaining approved use is in Brassica crops as specified on current labels. EU: Not approved Canada: Cancelled USA: Agricultural uses cancelled. Very few registrations as Restricted Use Pesticide.
CYANTRANILIPROLE	28	Permit PER84805 for the control of Tomato Potato Psyllid	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER84805 Expiry date: 31/12/2027 Codex MRL: 0.05 mg/Kg
CYROMAZINE	17	Permit PER81867 for the control of Leafminer	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER81867 Expiry date: 30/09/2026 EU: Not approved
DIMETHOATE	1B	Leafhoppers Green vegetable bug Thrips Wingless grasshoppers	Australia: APVMA reconsideration. Prioritised to be commenced by 2029. EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
EMAMECTIN	6	Diamondback Moth (Cabbage Moth)(<i>Plutella xylostella</i>), Cabbage White Butterfly (<i>Pieris rapae</i>) Heliothis (<i>Helicoverpa</i> spp.) Cluster caterpillar (<i>Spodoptera litura</i>) Loopers (<i>Chrysodeixis</i> spp.) Cabbage Centre Grub (<i>Hellula Hydralis</i>)	Australia: APVMA Nominated for targeted spray drift reconsideration EU: Approved, candidate for substitution. UK: Withdrawn (2024).

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FIPRONIL	2B	Wireworm Mole Cricket Whitefringed Weevil	Australia: APVMA: Currently under review . Proposed Regulatory decision expected by April 2026. EU: Not approved USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
FLUAZAINDOLIZINE	N-UN	Root-knot nematodes	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Pending
FLUBENDIAMIDE	28	Diamondback moth Cabbage white butterfly Cluster caterpillar	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved UK: Withdrawn (2024).
FLUENSULFONE	5	Root-knot nematode	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.8 mg/Kg
FLUOPYRAM	N-3	Root-knot nematode	Australia: No current concerns.
FLUPYRADIFURONE	4D	Green peach aphid silverleaf whitefly	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.05 mg/Kg
IMIDACLOPRID	4A	Aphids Thrips Jassids Two spotted mite Wireworms Silverleaf whitefly	Australia:APVMA: Currently under review . Proposed regulatory decisions expected between December2025 to October2026. Codex MRL: 0.5 mg/Kg EU: Not approved Canada: Very few uses allowed in greenhouses and seed treatment. USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
LAMBDA-CYHALOTHRIN	3A	Permit PER84249 for the control of Tomato Potato Psyllid	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER84249 Expiry date: 30/09/2026 EU: Approved, candidate for substitution.

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METALDEHYDE FIPRONIL	-- + 2B	European Earwigs, Portuguese Millipedes, Slaters Snails Slugs	METALDEHYDE Australia: No current concerns. Canada: In re-evaluation FIPRONIL Australia: APVMA: Currently under review . Proposed Regulatory decision expected by April 2026. EU: Not approved USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
METHOMYL	1A	Permit PER84249 for the control of Tomato Potato Psyllid	Australia: APVMA reconsideration. Prioritised to be commenced by 2026 . Permit PER84249 Expiry date: 30/09/2026 EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
OXAMYL	1A	Root-knot nematode	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved UK: Withdrawn (2024). Canada: In re-evaluation
PIPERONYL BUTOXIDE PYRIPROXYFEN	-- + 7C	Silverleaf whitefly	PIPERONYL BUTOXIDE Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.5 mg/Kg USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled) PYRIPROXYFEN Australia: No current concerns.
PIRIMICARB	1A	Aphids including Green peach aphid, Melon aphid and Cabbage aphid	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.05 mg/Kg EU: Approved, candidate for substitution. Canada: Cancelled

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Sweet Potato - Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

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PYRIPROXYFEN	7C	Silverleaf whitefly	Australia: No current concerns.
SPINETORAM	5	Tomato potato psyllid	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved UK: Withdrawn (2024). Canada: In re-evaluation
SPINETORAM	5	Permit PER94451 for the control of leaf miners	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER94451 Expiry date: 31/07/2027 EU: Not approved UK: Withdrawn (2024). Canada: In re-evaluation
SPINOSAD	5	Potato moth Permit PER94331 for the control of leaf miners	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER94331 Expiry date: 30/04/2026 Canada: In re-evaluation
SPIROTETRAMAT	23	Silverleaf whitefly PER84245 for the control of Tomato potato psyllid	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER84245 Expiry date: 31/12/2029 EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation
SPODOPTERA FRUGIPERDA NPV	--	Permit PER91477 and Permit PER90820 for the control of Fall Amyworm	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER91477 Expiry date: 31/03/2027 Permit PER90820 Expiry date: 31/03/2027
SULFOXAFLOX	4C	Green peach aphid Tomato-potato psyllid Rutherglen bug	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.03 mg/Kg

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Sweet Potato - Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

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ZINC PHOSPHIDE	24A	PER13151 for the control of House Mouse and Introduced Rats	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER13151 Expiry date: 31/03/2027 UK: Withdrawn (2024). Canada: In re-evaluation USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)

FUNGICIDES – Disease Control

Active Constituent	MoA Group	Pest	Risks and Comments
BOSCALID	7	Sclerotinia rot	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 2 mg/Kg Canada: In re-evaluation
COPPER	M1	Leaf spot	Australia: No current concerns.
IODINE	M	*Post Harvest sanitiser	Australia: No current concerns. Canada: Cancelled
PENTHIOPYRAD	7	Early blight Powdery mildew	Australia: No current concerns.

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PYDIFLUMETOFEN DIFENOCONAZOLE	7 + 3	Early blight Powdery mildew Cercospora leaf spot	<p>PYDIFLUMETOFEN Australia: No current concerns. EU: Pending Canada: In re-evaluation</p> <p>DIFENOCONAZOLE Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration after 2029. Codex MRL: 4 mg/Kg EU: Approved, candidate for substitution. Canada: In re-evaluation</p>
THIABENDAZOLE	1	PER12047 for the control of field rots caused by scurf & root rot	<p>Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER12047 Expiry date: 30/09/2026 Codex MRL: 9 mg/Kg</p>

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Sweet Potato - Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

HERBICIDES – Weed Control

Active Constituent	MoA Group	Risks and Comments
DIQUAT	22	Australia:APVMA: Currently under review . Publication of the final regulatory decision is expected in Mid 2026. EU: Not approved USA: No agricultural uses allowed. Aquatic herbicide.
FLUAZIFOP-P PRESENT AS THE BUTYL ESTER	1	Australia: APVMA Nominated for targeted spray drift reconsideration Permit PER82556 Expiry date: 30/11/2027 Canada: Cancelled
GLYPHOSATE	9	Australia: APVMA Nominated for targeted spray drift reconsideration USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
METOLACHLOR	15	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved Canada: Cancelled
PARAQUAT	22	Australia: APVMA: Currently under review . Publication of the final regulatory decision is expected in Mid 2026. Candidate chemical recommended to be listed to Rotterdam Convention. Codex MRL: 0.05 mg/Kg EU: Not approved Canada: Cancelled USA: Restricted use
SETHOXYDIM	1	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved Canada: Phase-Out
S-METOLACHLOR	15	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved

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Sweet Potato - Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

FUMIGANTS – Mixed Function

Active Constituent	Use	Risks and Comments
CHLOROPICRIN + 1,3-DICHLOROPROPENE	Control of soil borne diseases, plant parasitic Nematodes, Symphylans and Wireworms	CHLOROPICRIN Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved USA: Restricted use 1,3-DICHLOROPROPENE Australia: No current concerns. EU: Pending Canada: Cancelled
DAZOMET	Control of bacterial spot (Xanthomonas spp.) (suppression only). Soil insects and nematodes	Australia: No current concerns. USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
ETHANEDINITRILE	Soil borne pathogens, nematodes and weeds	Australia: No current concerns.
METHAM PRESENT AS SODIUM SALT	Germinating weeds and soil-borne fungus diseases	Australia: No current concerns.

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Sweet Potato - Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

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