

RHUBARB

Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

June 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Regulatory pressures on agrichemicals are increasing globally, with many being either restricted or withdrawn from use.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 **rhubarbs** in Australia as well as assisting with any current initiatives aimed at identifying and addressing pest management deficiencies.

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R1	Short-term risk: Critical concern over retaining access < 1 year
R2	Medium-term risk: Maintaining access of significant concern <2-5 years
R3	Long-term risk: Potential issues associated with use – Monitoring required < 5 years
R4	No current risk / concerns

Blue text = new APVMA approved uses

INSECTICIDES/MITICIDES/NEMATOCIDES - Insect and other Pests Control

Active Constituent	MoA Group	Pest	Risks and Comments
1,3-DICHLOROPROPENE I CHLOROPICRIN	8A + 8B	Soil borne diseases Wireworms	1,3-DICHLOROPROPENE Australia: no current concerns. Canada: No current review USA: Review upcoming CHLOROPICRIN Australia: APVMA: no current concerns. EU: Not approved Canada: No current review
ABAMECTIN	6	Broad mite	Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration and spray drift assessment EU: Approved Canada: In review
AFIDOPYROPEN	9D	Green peach aphid Cabbage aphid Currant lettuce aphid Cotton aphid / Melon aphid Corn aphid	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved UK: No registrations Canada: No current review USA: Approved

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Active Constituent	MoA Group	Pest	Risks and Comments
<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i>	11A	Armyworm Cotton bollworm Native budworm cabbage moth caterpillar cabbage white butterfly caterpillar green looper lightbrown apple moth caterpillar pear looper vine moth caterpillar soybean looper tobacco looper	Australia: No current concerns. USA: Review upcoming
CHLORANTRANILIPROLE	28	Helicoverpa	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Approved UK: Approved Canada: In review
CHLORPYRIFOS	1B	Black field cricket Cutworms Field crickets Mole crickets Spotted vegetable weevil Vegetable weevil Wingless grasshopper	Australia: The APVMA issued a Final Decision in September 2024. Stalk and stem crop uses were cancelled. Products with previously approved labels must not be possessed or used after September 30, 2025. All Codex MRLs deleted EU: Not approved Canada: In review USA: Review upcoming
CYROMAZINE	17	Permit PER81867 for the control of leaf miners	Australia: Reviewed in 2014. No current concerns. Permit PER81867 Expiry date: 30/09/2026 EU: Not approved Canada: No current review
DIAZINON	1B	Caterpillars Cutworms	Australia: APVMA made a Final Decision on 10 September 2024 . Agricultural uses were not supported during the review. Approved use on all vegetables ceases 10 September 2025. Codex: All MRLs deleted EU: Not approved Canada: No current review USA: Review upcoming

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Active Constituent	MoA Group	Pest	Risks and Comments
DIMETHOATE	1B	Aphids Bugs/Green vegetable bug Jassids Leafhoppers Leafminer flies (Liriomyza spp.) Mites Thrips	Australia: APVMA reconsideration. Prioritised to be commenced by 2029. EU: Not approved Canada: In review USA: Review upcoming
ETHYL FORMATE	8A	Sugarcane bud (Detritus) moth	Australia: APVMA: no current concerns. EU: Not approved
FLUBENDIAMIDE	28	Helicoverpa	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved UK: Withdrawn. Expiry date: 30/11/2024 Canada: No current review USA: No registrations
HELICOVERPA NPV	31	Helicoverpa	Australia: No current concerns
IMIDACLOPRID	4A	Permit PER14212 for the control of aphids	Australia: APVMA: Currently under review. Proposed regulatory decisions expected between Dec. 2025 to Oct. 2026. Permit PER14212 Expiry date: 31/10/2025 EU: Not approved Canada: Field uses cancelled or amended USA: Re-registration with risk mitigation measures. Review upcoming

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Active Constituent	MoA Group	Pest	Risks and Comments
PERMETHRIN	3A	Green Peach Aphid Suppression only Green Looper Light Brown Apple Moth Native Budworm Permit PER13441 for the control of Green Peach Aphid, Green Looper, Light Brown Apple Moth and Budworms	Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration after 2029 Permit PER13441 Expiry date: 31/03/2027 EU: Not approved Canada: No current review
PHOSPHOROUS ACID	--	Permit PER86805 for the control of Green Peach Aphid, Green Looper, Light Brown Apple Moth and Budworms	Australia: No current concerns Permit PER86805 Expiry date: 31/10/2028
PYRIPROXYFEN	7C	Ants	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Approved UK: Approved Canada: No current review
SPINETORAM	5	Caterpillars Helicoverpa Leafminer flies (Liriomyza spp.) Permit PER94451 for the control of leaf miners	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER94451 Expiry date: 31/07/2027 EU: Not approved UK: Withdrawn. Expiry date: 30/09/2024 Canada: In review
SPINOSAD	5	Helicoverpa Permit PER89870 for the control of Fall Armyworm Permit PER94331 for the control of Dipteran leaf miners	Australia: Reviewed in 2014. No current concerns. Permit PER89870 Expiry date: 31/07/2025 Permit PER94331 Expiry date: 30/04/2026 EU: Approved UK: Approved

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SPIROTETRAMAT	23	Cotton aphid Green peach aphid Plague thrips Tomato thrips Western flower thrips Permit PER88640 for the control of Liriomyza leafminers	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER88640 Expiry date: 28/02/2026 EU: Not approved UK: Approved Canada: In review
TRICHLORFON	1B	Cabbage moth Cabbage white butterfly Green vegetable bug Rutherglen bug	Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration after 2029 EU: Not approved Canada: No current review USA: Review upcoming

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FUNGICIDES – Disease Control

Active Constituent	MoA Group	Pest	Risks and Comments
CHLOROTHALONIL	M5	Ascochyta leaf spot	Australia: APVMA reconsideration. Prioritised to be commenced by 2028. Codex MRL: 7 mg/Kg EU: Not approved Canada: In review USA: Review upcoming
COPPER	M1	Downy mildew Leaf spots Phytophthora crown rot Rust	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Approved, candidate for substitution. Canada: No current review
MANCOZEB	M3	Downy mildew Rust	Australia: APVMA reconsideration. Prioritised to be commenced by 2027. EU: Not approved UK: Withdrawn. Expiry date: 31/05/2024 Canada: Most of uses cancelled USA: Review upcoming
MANCOZEB METALAXYL	M3 + 4	Downy mildew	<p>MANCOZEB</p> <p>Australia: APVMA reconsideration. Prioritised to be commenced by 2027. EU: Not approved UK: Withdrawn. Expiry date: 31/05/2024 Canada: Most of uses cancelled USA: Review upcoming</p> <p>METALAXYL</p> <p>Australia: No current concerns. EU: Approved, candidate for substitution UK: Approved Canada: In review</p>

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PHOSPHOROUS ACID	--	Permit PER86805 for the control of Downy mildew	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER86805 Expiry date: 31/10/2028
SULPHUR	M2	Rust	Australia: No current concerns. UK: Approved Canada: In review
THIRAM	M3	Damping off	Australia: APVMA reconsideration. Prioritised to be commenced by 2027. EU: Not approved Canada: Cancelled all foliar uses

HERBICIDES – Weed Control

Active Constituent	MoA Group	Risks and Comments
DIQUAT	22	Australia: APVMA: Currently under review. APVMA proposed decisions July 2024 It is proposed to remove uses in stalk and stem vegetables. Only uses up to 283gai/ha to be kept. Publication of the final regulatory decision is expected in December 2025 EU: Not approved (withdrawn in 2018). UK: Not approved.
CLETHODIM	1	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER82459 Expiry date: 30/09/2026 EU: Approved UK: Approved Codex: No MRLs
FLUAZIFOP-P PRESENT AS	1	Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration and for targeted spray drift reconsideration EU: Approved Canada: No current review

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Active Constituent	MoA Group	Risks and Comments
THE BUTYL ESTER		
MCPA	4	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER13152 Expiry date: 30/09/2026 EU: Approved UK: Approved USA: Review upcoming
PARAQUAT	22	Australia: APVMA: Currently under review. APVMA proposed decisions July 2024 It is proposed to remove uses in stalk and stem vegetables. Only uses up to 231gai/ha to be kept. Publication of the final regulatory decision is expected in December 2025 . EU: Not approved (withdrawn in 2018). UK: Not approved.
S-METOLACHLOR	15	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved UK: Approved

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Funding statement: MT24008 –Regulatory Support & Response Co-ordination. This *multi-industry* project has been funded by Hort Innovation, using *industry research and development levies* and contributions from the Australian Government. Hort Innovation is the grower-owned, not-for-profit research and development corporation for Australian horticulture.

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