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Tuesday, 17 July 2007
No. 33

OILSEEDS NEWS

NEW CHEMICAL GUIDELINE DOCUMENTS TO PROTECT CANOLA MARKETS



The Australian canola industry has developed a series of documents to help growers, storers and handlers minimise the risk of chemical residues on canola, following the detection of residues of the pesticide, fenitrothion, in canola for export to Japan that were above the Japanese maximum residue limit (MRL).

CANOLA COMPLIANCE: Growers and exporters are responsible to comply with export market maximum residue limits.

PHOTO: FELICITY PRITCHARD, ICF.

marketing requirements and advice to growers, to avoid putting the industry at risk from grain that does not comply with importing country requirements.

Australian Oilseeds Federation has released the documents, which provides information on

Fenitrothion is not registered in any situation for use in-field on the canola plant, as a post-harvest treatment of canola or as a structural treatment where canola will subsequently be stored following

application of the structural treatment. Low level MRLs for some chemicals are set in Australia to cater for the unintended presence of low levels that may be present on structures and subsequently transferred to canola.

The maximum residue limit (MRL) for fenitrothion in canola sold domestically is 0.1 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg). But Japan - a major customer of Australian canola - has no MRL, and defaults to a uniform limit of one-tenth of this at 0.01 mg/kg.

“Before treating any canola in Australia, growers and industry should be aware of the market acceptance of residues on canola and the MRLs that apply in each market,” the document warns.

“It is the responsibility of growers and exporters to ensure that exported canola complies with the Australian MRLs as well as the MRLs or import tolerances of the destination country.

Hard copies are currently being printed. To obtain an electronic or hard copy of the documents, contact Felicity Pritchard on 0427 600 228.

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