

NOTICE

DIMETHENAMID – P

[in the product: Frontier–P Herbicide]

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) has before it an application from BASF Australia Ltd. for registration of a new product containing the active constituent Dimethenamid–P. The product, Frontier-P Herbicide, is for the control of certain broadleaf and grass weeds in green beans, navy beans, sweet corn, corn, poppies, green peas, pumpkins and kabocha.

In accordance with sections 12 and 13 of the Agvet Code, the APVMA invites any person to submit a relevant written submission as to whether the application for registration should be granted. Submissions should state the grounds on which they are based. Such grounds should relate only to matters outlined below that the APVMA is required to take into account in deciding whether to grant the application. Comments must be received by the APVMA within 28 days of the date of this notice.

Particulars of Application

Product Name:	Frontier-P Herbicide
Applicant Company:	BASF Australia Ltd
Active Constituent:	Dimethenamid–P
Poisons Scheduling:	Schedule 6
Statement of claims:	For the control of certain broadleaf and grass weeds in green beans, navy beans, sweet corn, corn, poppies, green peas, pumpkins and kabocha.
Pack sizes:	5L & 10L
Withholding Period:	Green beans, Maize, Kabocha, Navy beans, Peas, Pumpkin, Sweet corn, Oilseed poppies Harvest: Not required when used as directed Grazing: Do not graze or cut for stockfeed for 4 weeks after application

Summary of the APVMA’s evaluation of Frontier-P Herbicide in accordance with Section 14(3)(e) and (f) of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code (the ‘Agvet Code’), scheduled to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994

The APVMA has evaluated the application and in its assessment in relation to human and environmental safety under section 14(3)(e) of the Agvet Code, it proposes to determine that:

- (i) The APVMA is satisfied that the proposed use of Frontier-P Herbicide would not be an undue hazard to the safety of people exposed to it during its handling and use.

The Department of Health and Ageing, Office of Chemical Safety (Occupational Health and Safety) [OCS (OHS)] has conducted a risk assessment on Frontier-P Herbicide and concluded that it can be used safely.

Based on the findings of the toxicological studies evaluated, Frontier-P Herbicide was considered to have low acute oral, dermal and inhalational toxicity. It is likely to be a moderate skin irritant, a severe eye irritant but not a skin sensitizer. The appropriate safety directions including personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements have been set and included on the proposed product label.

Frontier-P Herbicide is determined to be a hazardous substance according to the NOHSC Approved Criteria for Classifying Hazardous Substances.

The APVMA has considered the OCS (OHS) assessment and accepts its findings and recommendations.

- (ii) The APVMA is satisfied that the proposed use of Frontier-P Herbicide will not be an undue hazard to the safety of people using anything containing its residues. Residue data were assessed by the APVMA and Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) and associated Withholding Periods are recommended for Dimethenamid-P in Frontier-P Herbicide when used according to the proposed label.

Based on the data provided, the following residue definition is considered appropriate:
“Sum of dimethenamid-P and its (R)-isomer.”

The recommended WHPs for Frontier-P herbicide are stated on the proposed draft label. Dimethenamid-P MRLs are recommended for Common bean (*0.02mg/kg); Maize (*0.02mg/kg); Peas (*0.02 mg/kg); Poppy seed (*0.01mg/kg); Pulses (*0.02 mg/kg); Pumpkins(*0.02mg/kg); Sweet corn (on the cob) (*0.02 mg/kg); Edible offal (Mammalian) (*0.01mg/kg); Eggs (*0.01 mg/kg); Meat (mammalian) (*0.01mg/kg); Milks (*0.01mg/kg); Poultry, Edible offal of (*0.01mg/kg) Poultry meat (*0.01mg/kg). Dimethenamid-P MRLs have also been set at *0.02 mg/kg, for the following animal feed commodities: Bean fodder, Bean forage (green), Forage and fodder of maize and Sweet corn, Forage and fodder of pulses, Pea hay or Pea fodder (dry); Pea vines (green). [Note: * denotes that the MRL has been set at the limit of quantitation.]

The use of Frontier-P Herbicide would not be an undue hazard to people exposed to its residues in food.

Detectable residues of dimethenamid are not expected to occur in any agricultural commodities. The use of Frontier-P Herbicide is unlikely to unduly prejudice export trade.

- (iii) The APVMA is satisfied that the proposed use of the active constituent Dimethenamid-P in Frontier-P Herbicide is not likely to be harmful to human beings if used according to the product label directions.

The active constituent in the proposed product has been assessed by the National Drugs and Poisons Scheduling Committee and has been placed in Schedule 6 of the SUSDP. The appropriate Signal Heading is on the label. First Aid and Safety Directions (hazard statements and PPE requirements) for Frontier-P Herbicide have been recommended by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing, OCS, and have been included on the draft label.

The product will be formulated overseas and imported to Australia in ready to sell packages. Frontier-P Herbicide is determined to be a hazardous substance, based on NOHSC hazard classification of active and non-active constituents and product toxicology information provided.

The APVMA has considered the findings of its advisers on this criterion and accepts their recommendations.

- (iv) The APVMA is satisfied that the proposed use of new product Frontier-P Herbicide, containing the new active constituent dimethenamid-P, would not be likely to have an unintended effect that is harmful to animals, plants or things or to the environment.

The Department of the Environment and Heritage has assessed data in support of the proposed use and has concluded that the risks to the environment from the proposed use are acceptable.

The main breakdown pathways for dimethenamid-P are photolysis, which is relatively fast, and microbial degradation rated as being moderate under aerobic conditions (soil and water) and slightly longer under anaerobic conditions. Dimethenamid-P is very mobile in soils but field studies showed it to be much less mobile, although the metabolites were more mobile.

Dimethenamid-P is practically non-toxic to birds, soil microbes, honeybees and most beneficial insects except for predatory mites and parasitic wasps. It is moderately toxic to fish and aquatic invertebrates and very highly toxic to algae and aquatic plants with the most sensitive being duckweed. Earthworms were shown to be slightly sensitive. It is herbicidal to non-target plants, with ryegrass the most sensitive.

No acute or chronic hazard is expected for birds, earthworms, honeybees, soil microbes and arthropods. Spraydrift is not expected to pose an unacceptable hazard to fish, aquatic invertebrates, aquatic plants, algae or other aquatic organisms when used according to the recommended label directions, including a downwind buffer zone. Risks to algae and terrestrial and aquatic plants have also been identified from run-off events and recommendations have been made to manage these risks.

The APVMA has considered the findings of the Department of the Environment and Water Resources and accepts its recommendations on this criterion.

In relation to the assessment of its efficacy under section 14(3) (f), the APVMA proposed to determine that:

- (v) The APVMA is satisfied that the data from trials supporting the efficacy of the proposed use of Frontier-P Herbicide, adequately demonstrates that under local conditions this product will be effective for the stated uses.

Public Release Summary

A Public Release Summary (PRS) of the evaluation is available on the APVMA website, www.apvma.gov.au or by contacting Verity Scarlett on telephone (02) 6210 4748. Submissions on the APVMA's proposal to grant the application for registration should be in writing and addressed to:

Jay Kottege
Pesticides Program
Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority
PO Box E240
KINGSTON ACT 2604

Phone: (02) 6210 4759
Fax: (02) 6210 4776
email: jay.kottege@apvma.gov.au