



Compliance Posture Statement

Overview

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Authority (APVMA) regulates agricultural and veterinary (agvet) chemical products to manage the risks of pests and diseases for the Australian community and to protect the health and safety of people, animals, the environment and to protect Australia's trade. Compliance with the agvet regulatory system is fundamental to the APVMA fulfilling its role, which it seeks to do by supporting voluntary compliance, balanced with risk-based proportionate action to deter non-compliant behaviour. This posture statement briefly describes how the APVMA manages compliance within the agvet regulatory system, which is intended to assist how industry and the public interact with the APVMA on compliance.

Purpose of APVMA Compliance

To prevent, identify and disrupt breaches of the agvet laws in order to protect the health and safety of people, animals, the environment, and Australia's trade.

- **Prevent** – prevent non-compliance through education, engagement, communication and proactive operations.
- **Identify** – detect breaches of the agvet laws and identify the entities and/or persons responsible
- **Disrupt** – address non-compliance by using the most appropriate legislated powers, tailored to the circumstances, to achieve the desired regulatory outcome.

Compliance Posture

To deliver on its compliance purpose the APVMA will:

1. Encourage and enable regulated entities and individuals to comply with the agvet laws through engagement and communication, aimed at establishing a shared understanding of their obligations under the law.
2. Consider applying any of the full suite of powers and enforcement options available to it on each breach, on a case-by-case basis. In applying these powers, the APVMA will:
 - a. be timely and reasonable, appropriate and proportionate to the harm caused or risk created by the breach
 - b. take the compliance history of the regulated entity into consideration, and
 - c. prioritise breaches that risk harm to human health, animals, the environment and/or has negative impact on Australia's trade.