



PO Box 10232

The Terrace

Wellington 6143

Phone 04 472 3795

www.processvegetables.co.nz

Environmental Protection Authority
Grant Thornton House
215 Lambton Quay
Wellington 6011
submissions@epa.govt.nz

Re: Processed Vegetables NZs support for new Fungicide APP204042

Background

Process Vegetables New Zealand (PVNZ) is an affiliated Product Group to Horticulture NZ and represents 350 commercial process vegetable growers on issues specifically crop related.

PVNZ and the grower members have a close relationship with New Zealand's key food processing companies: Watties, McCains, JP-NZ, Cedenco, and Talley's who collectively provide funding and resources for crop research projects and crop management programs.

Industry Profile

The key growing regions are Gisborne, Hawkes Bay, Marlborough and Canterbury with Process Vegetables NZ representing the commercial growers of: Carrots, Sweet corn, Peas, Beans and Beetroot. (Potatoes are separately represented by Potatoes NZ Inc). Other minor process crops include Kumara (sweet potato), Cauliflower and Broccoli.

The farm gate value of the total process vegetable industry including potatoes exceeds \$375 million and production figures for the principal process crops are:

- Carrots 88,000 tonnes
- Sweet corn 77,000 tonnes
- Peas 58,500 tonnes
- Beans 17,500 tonnes
- Beetroot 22,000 tonnes

Support for new Fungicide

Process Vegetables New Zealand (PVNZ) supports the application for the new fungicide, Xivana.

Processed vegetable growers are under an increasingly difficult crop protection environment, with shrinking older chemistry use, due to reassessments and the demands from overseas customers with regard to strict residue standards and limited new chemistry to protect their crops from diseases.

The introduction of Xivana would be a benefit to processed vegetable production as Xivana contains a new active that will assist growers with control of late blight. This product will carry a label claim, use directions and a WHP for growers to follow. Moreover, registered on label uses are critical to limit resistance as growers can change to different MOAs as well as manage the residue profile.

Bayer have said that this product is a valuable alternative tool as it has a high level of efficacy. Bayer

also note that this product is low hazard and does not trigger many hazard classifications. Those which are triggered, appear to be the lowest degree of hazard classification for their category.

Processed vegetable growers make a significant contribution to NZ GDP and provide a valuable source of employment and revenue for NZ as well as healthy food. Xivana is likely to be a vital additional tool to assist in safeguarding and promoting the productivity of our growers.

From Bayer's application form, PVNZ understands and appreciates the following benefits that this new fungicide will provide:

- Good rainfastness = practical benefits for growers.
- Choice is an important benefit for growers. As it allows for rotation to prevent resistance management.
- As it will also be approved on two others crops (also commonly grown by processed growers) - this means growers can stock less product. In turn this can reduce wastage - improving grower profitability.
- High level of efficacy with improved yield in trials conducted.
- Level of residues in treated crops are expected to be below the limit of quantification – meaning this product has a very favourable residue profile enabling our growers to access many export markets.
- Xivana will be one of the least hazardous of the current fungicides registered for use. The application rate is also significantly less than currently used control options . Approval of Xivana will result in less overall active ingredient loading to the environment.

PVNZ supports Xivana being approved for use in NZ as soon as possible to have the product registered and available to use for growers in the coming season.

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