NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

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| **1.** | **Notifying Member:** European Union **If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):**  |
| **2.** | **Agency responsible:** European Commission**Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:** European CommissionEU-TBT Enquiry PointFax: +(32) 2 299 80 43E-mail: grow-eu-tbt@ec.europa.euWebsite: <http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/tbt/en/>  |
| **3.** | **Notified** **under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [ ], 5.6.2 [ ], 5.7.1 [ ], other:** |
| **4.** | **Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable):** Thiophanate-methyl (pesticide active substance) |
| **5.** | **Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:** Draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the non-renewal of approval of the active substance thiophanate-methyl, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market, and amending the Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 540/2011. (5 page(s), in English)  |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** This draft Commission Implementing Regulation provides that the approval of the active substance thiophanate-methyl is not renewed in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009. Existing authorised plant protection products containing thiophanate-methyl will be withdrawn from the market. The non-approval is based on the first evaluation of the substance for use as a pesticide active substance in the EU under Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009. The substance was formerly approved under Directive 91/414/ EEC.This decision only concerns the placing on the market of this substance. Following non-approval and the expiry of all grace periods for stocks of products containing this substance, separate action will likely be taken on MRLs and a separate notification will be made in accordance with SPS procedures. |
| **7.** | **Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:** Protection of human health or safety; protection of animal or plant life or health; protection of the environment.In order for an active substance to be approved in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 (concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market), it must be demonstrated that the substance is not harmful to human health, animal health or the environment. Criteria are listed in Article 4 of the Regulation (and also detailed in Annex II) which must be met to enable approval. During the evaluation and peer-review of thiophanate-methyl, a number of concerns and areas that could not be finalised were identified. These are detailed in the conclusion of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). In particular, it was not possible to exclude risk to consumers, operators, workers, bystanders and residents due to their exposure to residues of thiophanate-methyl (for which the genotoxic potential could not be excluded) and its main metabolite carbendazim (for which harmonised classification is mutagen category 1B and toxic for reproduction category 1B). The Authority also concluded that a high long-term risk was identified to birds and mammals for all representative uses. Finally, the Authority highlighted lack of toxicological data for the metabolites 2-AB, FH-432, DX-105 to which consumers might be exposed and for metabolite CM-0237 which might occur in surface and groundwater. Furthermore, the Authority concluded that there is enough evidence to conclude that the substance is an endocrine disruptor and that the mechanism is relevant to humans.These concerns mean that thiophanate-methyl does not meet the approval criteria as outlined in Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 and cannot be approved currently.Existing authorisations will need to be withdrawn; EU Member States must withdraw existing plant protection products containing thiophanate-methylat the latest by 6 months from the date of entry into force. A period of grace in line with Article 46 of Regulation 1107/2009 is allowed for and shall expire at the latest 12 months from the entry into force (allowing for a final season of use). |
| **8.** | **Relevant documents:** * Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market and repealing Council Directives 79/117/EEC and 91/414/EEC: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32009R1107&qid=1437730988988&from=EN>
* Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 540/2011 of 25 May 2011implementing Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the list of approved active substances (*OJ L 153, 11.6.2011, p. 1-186*). <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1442928512004&uri=CELEX:32011R0540>
* Conclusion on the peer review of the pesticide risk assessment of the active substance thiophanate-methyl. EFSA (European Food Safety Authority), 2018. l EFSA Journal 2018;16(1):5133. <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/5133>
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| **9.** | **Proposed date of adoption:**2nd quarter 2019**Proposed date of entry into force:**3 days following publication in the Official Journal of the EU. |
| **10.** | **Final date for comments:** 60 days from notification |
| **11.** | **Texts available from: National enquiry point [ ]** **or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:** European CommissionEU-TBT Enquiry PointFax: + (32) 2 299 80 43E-mail: grow-eu-tbt@ec.europa.euThe text is available on the EU-TBT Website: <http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/tbt/en/><https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2019/TBT/EEC/19_1140_00_e.pdf> |