

# Sweet Corn

## Agrichemical Regulatory Risk Assessment

May 2026

Regulatory pressures on agrichemicals are increasing globally, with many being either restricted or withdrawn from use. For older agrichemicals, these pressures are often the result of reconsiderations involving new or refined risk assessment methodologies that require the generation of new data. A consequence of which can be that many of these agrichemicals are not meeting contemporary risk assessment standards as the necessary data is unavailable, or where data is available, the risk posed is considered unacceptable.

The use of agrichemicals can also be impacted through differences in standards between trading partners. The lack of an appropriate pesticide maximum residue limit (MRL) in an importing country can, for practical purposes, effectively prohibit use in the exporting country to ensure compliance, as MRL breach would adversely affect market access. This report provides details of CODEX MRLs as a means of highlighting risks for countries that rely on CODEX, however does not include every instance of where an importing country specific MRL is less than the relevant Australian MRL. The Australian Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry provides information directly to grower bodies when MRLs change in other countries.

The effects of the above are greater regulatory pressure placed on the use of individual agrichemicals or chemical groups. Consequently, the number of approved agrichemical options could be adversely impacted.

To assist strategic planning, with respect to future pest management options, the following tables have been developed to highlight the regulatory threats to agrichemicals currently approved for the management of the pests and diseases in Sweet Corn in Australia, as well as assisting with any current initiatives aimed at identifying and addressing pest management deficiencies.

R0	Use no longer approved
R1	Short-term: Critical concern over retaining access < 1 year
R2	Medium-term: Maintaining access of significant concern <2-5 years
R3	Long-term: Potential issues associated with use – Monitoring required < 5 years
R4	No current risk/concerns

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### INSECTICIDES/MITICIDES/NEMATICIDES - Insect and other pests

Blue text = new APVMA approved uses

Active Constituent	MoA Group	Pest	Risks and Comments
ABAMECTIN	6	Two-spotted (Red spider) mite PER96481 for the control of Leaf miner	Australia: <a href="#">APVMA nominated for reconsideration and spray drift assessment.</a> Permit PER96481 Expiry date: 31/07/2028 Canada: Re-evaluation finalised. Label amendments to mitigate risks to human health and environment (July, 2025)
AFIDOPYROPEN	9D	Corn aphid Cotton aphid Green peach aphid	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved
ALPHA-CYPERMETHRIN	3A	Helicoverpa Looper caterpillars PER80099 for the control of Mediterranean fruit fly and Queensland fruit fly PER85447 for the control of False codling moth	Australia: <a href="#">APVMA nominated for reconsideration after 2029.</a> Permit PER80099 Expiry date: 30/11/2029 Permit PER85447 Expiry date: 31/12/2029 EU: Not approved
AMORPHOUS SILICA		Cotton aphid	Australia: No current concerns.
Bacillus thuringiensis	11A	Armyworms Cabbage white butterfly Caterpillars Diamondback (Cabbage) moth Helicoverpa species Lightbrown apple moth Looper caterpillars Painted vine moth Potato moth (Leafminer) Soybean & Tobacco looper	Australia: No current concerns.
BROFLANILIDE	30	PER95794 for the control of Cluster caterpillar	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER95794 Expiry date: 31/07/2028
CHLORANTRANILIPROLE	28	Helicoverpa Permit PER89259 for the control of Fall armyworm.	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER89259 Expiry date: 31/01/2028 Codex MRL: 0.01 mg/Kg Canada: In re-evaluation

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<b>CHLORANTRANILIPROLE   THIAMETHOXAM</b>	28 + 4A	Corn Earworm Native Budworm Potato Moth Cluster caterpillar Green peach aphid Silverleaf Whitefly Greenhouse whitefly Western Flower Thrips Tomato Thrips	<b>CHLORANTRANILIPROLE</b> Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER89259 Expiry date: 31/01/2028 Codex MRL: 0.01 mg/Kg Canada: In re-evaluation  <b>THIAMETHOXAM</b> Australia: APVMA: Neonicotinoids chemical review has been delayed. The proposed regulatory decision unlikely before 2027.
<b>CLOTHIANIDIN</b>	4A	Permit PER95268 for the control of Mediterranean fruit fly & Queensland fruit fly	Australia: APVMA: Neonicotinoids chemical review has been delayed. The proposed regulatory decision unlikely before 2027. Permit PER95268 Expiry date: 31/01/2028 Codex MRL: 0.05 mg/Kg EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation
<b>CYANTRANILIPROLE</b>	28	Permit PER84805 for the control of Tomato Potato Psyllid Permit PER93849 for the control of Liriomyza leafminers	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER84805 Expiry date: 31/12/2027 Permit PER93849 Expiry date: 31/12/2026 Codex MRL: 0.5 mg/Kg
<b>CYANTRANILIPROLE   DIAFENTHIURON</b>	28 + 12A	Silverleaf whitefly Helicoverpa Two-spotted mite	<b>CYANTRANILIPROLE</b> Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER84805 Expiry date: 31/12/2027 Permit PER93849 Expiry date: 31/12/2026 Codex MRL: 0.5 mg/Kg  <b>DIAFENTHIURON</b> Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved
<b>CYPERMETHRIN</b>	3A	Australian plague locust Common armyworm Helicoverpa species Spur-throated locust	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Approved, candidate for substitution
<b>DELTAMETHRIN</b>	3A	Helicoverpa	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.02 mg/Kg

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DIMETHOATE	1B	Aphids Bugs Green vegetable bug Jassids Plague thrips Spur-throated locust Wingless grasshopper	Australia: APVMA: Prioritised to be commenced by 2029. <a href="#">Prioritised to be commenced by 2029.</a> EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation
EMAMECTIN	6	Helicoverpa species Fall armyworm	Australia: <a href="#">Nominated for targeted spray drift reconsideration</a> EU: Approved, candidate for substitution
ESFENVALERATE	3A	Helicoverpa	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Approved, candidate for substitution
ETHYL FORMATE	8A	Helicoverpa Two-spotted spider mite Western flower thrips	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved
ETOXAZOLE	10B	Permit PER88170 for the control of Two-spotted Mite	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER88170 Expiry date: 30/11/2028 EU: Approved, candidate for substitution
EUCALYPTOL   D-LIMONENE		Moths of Helicoverpa	<b>EUCALYPTOL</b> Australia: No current concerns. <b>D-LIMONENE</b> Australia: No current concerns.
FIPRONIL	2B	European wasp	Australia: APVMA: Proposed Regulatory decision was expected by April 2026. APVMA is now advising the by end of 2026 at the earliest. Permit PER89402 Expiry date: 30/04/2027
FLUBENDIAMIDE	28	Heliothis (Helicoverpa spp.), Tomato leafminer (Phthorimaea operculella)	Australia: No current concerns.
HEXYTHIAZOX	10A	Tomato spider mite, Twospotted mite, Broad mite, Tomato russet mite	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER95394 Expiry date: 30/09/2029

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IMIDACLOPRID	4A	Aphids Black field crickets Black field earwig Cutworms Eastern false wireworm Southern false wireworm, Sugarcane false wireworm, Striate false wireworm Wingless cockroaches Wireworm	Australia: APVMA: Neonicotinoids chemical review has been delayed. The proposed regulatory decision unlikely before 2027. Codex MRL: 0.02 mg/Kg EU: Not approved Canada: Very few uses allowed in greenhouses and seed treatment.
INDOXACARB	22A	Helicoverpa Cluster caterpillar Permit PER93815 for the control of Fall armyworm	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER93815 Expiry date: 31/12/2028 Codex MRL: 0.02 mg/Kg EU: Not approved
IRON EDTA COMPLEX	--	Snails and slugs	Australia: No current concerns
METALDEHYDE	--	Snails and slugs	Australia: No current concerns
METHOMYL	1A	Armyworms Helicoverpa species PER82428 for the control of: Helicoverpa spp. Cucumber moth Cluster caterpillar Loopers Webworm Rutherglen bug  <b>Thrips including Western Flower Thrip</b>	Australia: APVMA reconsideration. Was to start 2026. APVMA to publish a new Chemical Review priority list by mid 2026. Permit PER82428 Expiry date: 31/01/2029 EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation
METHOXYFENOZIDE	18	Permit PER84531 for the control of Lepidopteran Pests	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER84531 Expiry date: 30/06/2030 Codex MRL: 0.02 mg/Kg EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation
NUCLEAR POLYHEDROSIS VIRUS OF HELICOVERPA ARMIGERA	--	Helicoverpa	Australia: No current concerns.

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PARAFFINIC OIL	UNM	Aphids Bugs Leafhoppers Mites Thrips Whiteflies	Australia: No current concerns.
PERMETHRIN	3A	Helicoverpa	Australia: <a href="#">APVMA nominated for reconsideration after 2029.</a> Codex MRL: 0.1 mg/Kg EU: Not approved
PETROLEUM OIL	UN	Aphids Bugs Leafhoppers Mites Thrips Whiteflies	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved
PIRIMICARB	1A	Aphids Corn aphid	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.05 mg/Kg EU: Approved, candidate for substitution Canada: Cancelled
PROPARGITE	12C	Permit PER88179 for the control of Two-spotted Mite	Australia: <a href="#">APVMA reconsideration. Prioritised to be commenced by 2029.</a> Permit PER88179 Expiry date: 31/10/2027 EU: Not approved Canada: Cancelled
PYMETROZINE	9B	Corn aphid	Australia: <a href="#">APVMA nominated for reconsideration and spray drift assessment.</a> EU: Not approved Canada: Cancelled
SPINETORAM	5	Helicoverpa species Painted vine moth Western flower thrips Permit PER89241 for the control of Fall armyworm Permit PER94451 for the control of Leafminers.	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER89241 Expiry date: 31/01/2028 Permit PER94451 Expiry date: 31/07/2027 EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation
SPINOSAD	5	Potato moth Heliothis Western flower thrips Permit PER89870 for the control of Fall armyworm.	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER89870 Expiry date: 31/10/2030

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SPIROTETRAMAT	23	Corn aphid	Australia: No current concerns.
SPODOPTERA FRUGIPERDA NPV	--	Permit PER90820 for the control of Fall Armyworm (Unregistered product)	Australia: No current concerns Permit PER90820 Expiry date: 31/03/2027
SULFOXAFLOX	4C	Green peach aphid	Australia: No current concerns.
TERBUFOS	1B	Wireworm	Australia: No current concerns.
TETRANILIPROLE	28	Fall armyworm	Australia: No current concerns.
THIAMETHOXAM	4A	Eastern false wireworm Southern false wireworm, Sugarcane false wireworm, Striate false wireworm	Australia: APVMA: Neonicotinoids chemical review has been delayed. The proposed regulatory decision unlikely before 2027.
THIODICARB	1A	Helicoverpa	Australia: <a href="#">Nominated for targeted spray drift reconsideration</a>
TRICHLORFON	1B	Cabbage white butterfly Green vegetable bug Rutherglen bug	Australia: <a href="#">APVMA nominated for reconsideration after 2029.</a>
ZETA-CYPERMETHRIN	3A	Common armyworm Helicoverpa species	Australia: No current concerns.

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### FUNGICIDES – Disease Control

Blue text = new APVMA approved uses

Active Constituent	MoA Group	Pest	Risks and Comments
AUREOBASIDIUM PULLULANS	--	Botrytis Grey Mould Suppression of: Sclerotinia	Australia: No current concerns.
AZOXYSTROBIN   CYPROCONAZOLE	11 + 3	Rust (Common & Polysora) Turcicum leaf blight /Northern corn leaf blight	<b>AZOXYSTROBIN</b> Australia: No current concerns. UK: Withdrawn (2029). Canada: In re-evaluation  <b>CYPROCONAZOLE</b> Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration after 2029. EU: Not approved
AZOXYSTROBIN + TEBUCONAZOLE	11 + 3	Permit PER86245 for the control of Maize Rust	<b>AZOXYSTROBIN</b> Australia: No current concerns. UK: Withdrawn (2029). Canada: In re-evaluation  <b>TEBUCONAZOLE</b> Australia: APVMA: Removed from nomination list - maintain watching brief Codex MRL: 0.6 mg/Kg EU: Approved, candidate for substitution Canada: In re-evaluation USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
CHLOROTHALONIL	M5	Turcicum leaf blight Northern corn leaf blight	Australia: APVMA reconsideration. <a href="#">Prioritised to be commenced by 2028.</a> EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
FLUDIOXONIL	12	Damping off (seed treatment)	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.01 mg/Kg EU: Approved, candidate for substitution

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FLUDIOXONIL   METALAXYL-M	12 + 4	Damping off Fusarium root rot (seed treatment)	<p><b>FLUDIOXONIL</b> Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.01 mg/Kg EU: Approved, candidate for substitution</p> <p><b>METALAXYL-M</b> Australia: No current concerns.</p>
METALAXYL	4	Downy mildew (seed treatment)	<p>Australia: No current concerns. EU: Approved, candidate for substitution Canada: In re-evaluation</p>
METALAXYL-M	4	Downy mildew (seed treatment)	Australia: No current concerns.
PROPICONAZOLE	3	PER13116 for the control of Northern Corn Leaf Blight	<p>Australia: <a href="#">APVMA nominated for reconsideration and spray drift assessment.</a> Permit PER13116 Expiry date: 31/10/2030 Codex MRL: 0.05 mg/Kg EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)</p>
SULPHUR	M2	Powdery Mildew Bean Rust Tomato Russet Mite Bean Spider Mite Twospotted Mite	<p>Australia: No current concerns. Canada: In re-evaluation</p>
THIRAM   CARBOXIN	M3 + 7	Boil smut Seedborne head smut Seed decay/Seedling blight complex (seed treatment)	<p><b>THIRAM</b> Australia: APVMA reconsideration. Prioritised to be commenced by 2027. EU: Not approved Canada: Only approved for seed treatment.</p> <p><b>CARBOXIN</b> Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved</p>

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### HERBICIDES - Weed Control

Blue text = new APVMA approved uses

Active Constituent	MoA Group	Risks and Comments
2,4-D	4	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.05 mg/Kg UK: Withdrawn (2030). Canada: In re-evaluation USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
ATRAZINE	5	Australia: <a href="#">Nominated for targeted spray drift reconsideration</a> EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
CYANAZINE	5	Australia: <a href="#">APVMA nominated for reconsideration after 2029.</a> EU: Not approved Canada: Cancelled
DIMETHENAMID-P	15	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.01 mg/Kg Canada: In re-evaluation
DIQUAT	22	Australia: APVMA: <a href="#">Currently under review</a> . Publication of the final regulatory decision is expected in Mid 2026. EU: Not approved
FLUROXYPYR	4	Australia: <a href="#">Nominated for targeted spray drift reconsideration</a>
GLUFOSINATE-AMMONIUM	10	Australia: <a href="#">Nominated for targeted spray drift reconsideration</a> EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation
GLYPHOSATE	9	Australia: <a href="#">Nominated for targeted spray drift reconsideration</a> Codex MRL: 3 mg/Kg USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
HALOSULFURON-METHYL	2	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Approved, candidate for substitution
LINURON	5	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved

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MCPA	4	Australia: Chemical reconsideration for Group 4 - Phenoxy-carboxylate herbicides. Spray drift. Prioritised for Q3 2025. Canada: In re-evaluation USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
METOLACHLOR	15	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved Canada: Cancelled
PENDIMETHALIN	3	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.05 mg/Kg EU: Approved, candidate for substitution Canada: In re-evaluation USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
PICLORAM	4	Australia: <a href="#">APVMA nominated for reconsideration and spray drift assessment.</a> USA: Restricted use
TERBUTHYLAZINE	5	Australia: No current concerns.

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### FUMIGANTS

*Blue text = new APVMA approved uses*

Active Constituent	Use	Risks and Comments
1,3-DICHLOROPROPENE	Control of soil borne diseases, plant parasitic Nematodes, Symphylans and Wireworms	Australia: No current concerns.
CHLOROPICRIN	Control of soil borne diseases, plant parasitic Nematodes, Symphylans and Wireworms	Australia: No current concerns. USA: Upcoming
CHLOROPICRIN + 1,3-DICHLOROPROPENE	Control of soil borne diseases, plant parasitic Nematodes, Symphylans and Wireworms	<b>CHLOROPICRIN</b> Australia: No current concerns. USA: Upcoming <b>1,3-DICHLOROPROPENE</b> Australia: No current concerns.
ETHANEDINITRILE	Soil borne pathogens, nematodes and weeds	Australia: No current concerns.
METHAM PRESENT AS SODIUM SALT	Germinating weeds and soil-borne fungus diseases	Australia: No current concerns.
METHYL BROMIDE	Disinfestation treatment of commodities to meet interstate and intrastate quarantine requirements	Australia: <a href="#">APVMA nominated for reconsideration after 2029.</a> Permit PER96144 Expiry date: 31/01/2031

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R4	No current risk/concerns

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