

# Sweet Potato

## 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Regulatory pressures on agrichemicals are increasing globally, with many being either restricted or withdrawn from use.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 Potato 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
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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	Root-knot nematode Permit PER84249 for the control of Tomato Potato Psyllid Leaf miners	Australia: <a href="#">APVMA nominated for reconsideration and spray drift assessment.</a> Permit PER84249 Expiry date: 30/09/2026 Codex MRL: 0.005 mg/Kg Canada: Re-evaluation finalised. Label amendments to mitigate risks to human health and environment (July, 2025) Permit PER96481 Expiry date: 31/07/2028
AFIDOPYROPEN	9D	Green peach aphid Cabbage aphid Currant lettuce aphid Cotton aphid/Melon aphid	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved
BIFENTHRIN	3A	Wireworm Sweet potato weevil PER84249 for the control of Tomato potato psyllid	Australia: <a href="#">APVMA nominated for reconsideration after 2029.</a> Permit PER84249 Expiry date: 30/09/2026 Codex MRL: 0.05 mg/Kg EU: Not approved Canada: Cancelled
CARBARYL	1A	Sweet potato weevil	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.02 mg/Kg EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation Codex - being considered for periodic review
CHLORPYRIFOS	1B	--	Australia: <a href="#">The chemical review was completed in September 2024.</a> Most uses in horticultural crops were removed. After 30 September 2025, products with previously approved labels must not be supplied. The only remaining approved use is in Brassica crops as specified on current labels. EU: Not approved Canada: Cancelled
CYANTRANILIPROLE	28	Permit PER84805 for the control of Tomato Potato Psyllid	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER84805 Expiry date: 31/12/2027 Codex MRL: 0.05 mg/Kg

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CYROMAZINE	17	Permit PER81867 for the control of Leafminer	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER81867 Expiry date: 30/09/2026 EU: Not approved
DIMETHOATE	1B	Leafhoppers Green vegetable bug Thrips Wingless grasshoppers	Australia: APVMA: Prioritised for chemical reconsideration in 2029. EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation
FIPRONIL	2B	Wireworm Mole Cricket Whitefringed Weevil	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 Codex MRL: 0.002 mg/Kg EU: Not approved
FLUAZAINDOLIZINE	N-UN	Root-knot nematodes	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Pending
FLUBENDIAMIDE	28	Diamondback moth Cabbage white butterfly Cluster caterpillar	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved
FLUENSULFONE	5	Root-knot nematode	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.8 mg/Kg
FLUOPYRAM		Root-knot nematode	Australia: No current concerns.
FLUPYRADIFURONE	4D	Green peach aphid silverleaf whitefly	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.05 mg/Kg
IMIDACLOPRID	4A	Aphids Thrips Jassids Two spotted mite Wireworms Silverleaf whitefly	Australia: APVMA: Neonicotinoids chemical review has been delayed. The proposed regulatory decision unlikely before 2027. Codex MRL: 0.5 mg/Kg EU: Not approved Canada: Very few uses allowed in greenhouses and seed treatment.
IRON EDTA COMPLEX	--	Snails and slugs	Australia: No current concerns
LAMBDA-CYHALOTHRIN	3A	Tomato potato psyllid	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER84249 Expiry date: 30/09/2026
METALDEHYDE	--	snails and slugs	Australia: No current concerns Canada: In re-evaluation

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METALDEHYDE   FIPRONIL	2B	European Earwigs, Portuguese Millipedes, Slaters Snails Slugs	<p><b>METALDEHYDE</b> Australia: No current concerns Canada: In re-evaluation</p> <p><b>FIPRONIL</b> 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 Codex MRL: 0.002 mg/Kg EU: Not approved</p>
METHOMYL	1A	PER82428 for the control of varous pests PER84249 for the control of Tomato potato psyllid	<p>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 Permit PER84249 Expiry date: 30/09/2026</p>
NUCLEAR POLYHEDROSIS VIRUS OF HELICOVERPA ZEA	--	Helicoverpa	Australia: No current concerns.
OXAMYL	1A	Root-knot nematode	<p>Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation</p>
PIPERONYL BUTOXIDE   PYRIPROXYFEN	7C	Silverleaf whitefly	<p><b>PIPERONYL BUTOXIDE</b> Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.5 mg/Kg</p> <p><b>PYRIPROXYFEN</b> Australia: No current concerns.</p>
PIRIMICARB	1A	Aphids including Green peach aphid , Melon aphid and Cabbage aphid	<p>Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.05 mg/Kg EU: Approved, candidate for substitution Canada: Cancelled</p>
PYRIPROXYFEN	7C	Silverleaf whitefly	Australia: No current concerns.

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SPINETORAM	5	Tomato potato psyllid Permit PER94451 for the control of leaf miners	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation Permit PER94451 Expiry date: 31/07/2027
SPINOSAD	5	Potato moth Leaf miners	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER96806 Expiry date: 30/05/2031 Canada: In re-evaluation
SPIROTETRAMAT	23	Silverleaf whitefly PER84245 for the control of Tomato potato psyllid	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER84245 Expiry date: 31/12/2029 EU: Not approved Canada: In re-evaluation
SPODOPTERA FRUGIPERDA NPV	--	Permit PER91477 for the control of Fall Amyworm + Permit PER90820 for the control of Fall Amyworm	Australia: No current concerns Permit PER91477 Expiry date: 31/03/2027 Permit PER90820 Expiry date: 31/03/2027
SULFOXAFLOX	4C	Green peach aphid Tomato-potato psyllid Rutherglen bug	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 0.03 mg/Kg
ZINC PHOSPHIDE	24A	PER13151 for the control of House Mouse and Introduced Rats	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER13151 Expiry date: 31/03/2027 Canada: In re-evaluation

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### FUNGICIDES – Disease Control

Blue text = new APVMA approved uses

Active Constituent	MoA Group	Pest	Risks and Comments
BOSCALID	7	Sclerotinia rot	Australia: No current concerns. Codex MRL: 2 mg/Kg Canada: In re-evaluation
COPPER	M1	Leaf spot	Australia: No current concerns.
IODINE	M	*Post Harvest sanitiser	Australia: No current concerns. Canada: Cancelled
PENTHIOPYRAD	7	Early blight Powdery mildew	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved
PYDIFLUMETOFEN   DIFENOCONAZOLE	7 + 3	Early blight Powdery mildew Cercospora leaf spot	<b>PYDIFLUMETOFEN</b> Australia: No current concerns. EU: Pending Canada: In re-evaluation  <b>DIFENOCONAZOLE</b> Australia: APVMA nominated for reconsideration after 2029. Codex MRL: 4 mg/Kg EU: Approved, candidate for substitution Canada: In re-evaluation
THIABENDAZOLE	1	PER12047 for the control of Field rots caused by scurf & root rot	Australia: No current concerns. Permit PER12047 Expiry date: 30/09/2026 Codex MRL: 9 mg/Kg

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### HERBICIDES - Weed Control

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Active Constituent	MoA Group	Risks and Comments
DIQUAT	22	Australia: APVMA: <a href="#">Currently under review</a> , Publication of the final regulatory decision is expected in Mid 2026. EU: Not approved
FLUAZIFOP-P PRESENT AS THE BUTYL ESTER	1	Australia: <a href="#">Nominated for targeted spray drift reconsideration</a> Permit PER82556 Expiry date: 30/11/2027 Canada: Cancelled
GLYPHOSATE	9	Australia: <a href="#">Nominated for targeted spray drift reconsideration</a> USA: Under Registration Review (scheduled)
METOLACHLOR	15	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved Canada: Cancelled
PARAQUAT	22	Australia: APVMA: <a href="#">Currently under review</a> , Publication of the final regulatory decision is expected in Mid 2026. Candidate chemical recommended to be listed to Rotterdam Convention. Codex MRL: 0.05 mg/Kg EU: Not approved Canada: Cancelled USA: Restricted use
S-METOLACHLOR	15	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved
SETHOXYDIM	1	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved Canada: Phase-Out

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### FUMIGANTS

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Active Constituent	Use	Risks and Comments
1,3-DICHLOROPROPENE	Control of soil borne diseases, plant parasitic Nematodes, Symphylans and Wireworms	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Pending Canada: Cancelled
CHLOROPICRIN	Control of soil borne diseases, plant parasitic Nematodes, Symphylans and Wireworms	Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved USA: Restricted use
CHLOROPICRIN + 1,3-DICHLOROPROPENE	Control of soil borne diseases, plant parasitic Nematodes, Symphylans and Wireworms	<b>CHLOROPICRIN</b> Australia: No current concerns. EU: Not approved USA: Restricted use <b>1,3-DICHLOROPROPENE</b> Australia: No current concerns. EU: Pending Canada: Cancelled
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 EU: Not approved Canada: Remaining pre-plant soil fumigation uses were cancelled (June 2025) USA: Restricted use

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**Funding statement:** MT24008 – Regulatory Support & Response Co-ordination. This multi-industry project has been funded by Hort Innovation, using industry research and development levies and contributions from the Australian Government. Hort Innovation is the grower-owned, not-for-profit research and development corporation for Australian horticulture.

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