



November 8, 2007

Ref: 2007-9-1

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Agricultural Research Service (ARS)
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
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Subject: Colombian MRLs

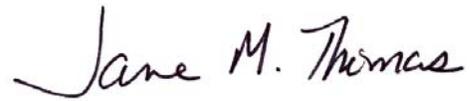
The following information is provided to you from the Western Integrated Pest Management Center (WIPMC) in response to your October 23, 2007 inquiry regarding Colombian MRLs. I am responding for the states of Idaho, Oregon, Utah, and Washington.

In your request you asked if any of the Colombian MRLs might pose a problem for growers. According to information from Rick Melnicoe, Director of the WIPMC, the largest and most significant US exports to Colombia are cotton, soybeans, and wheat; thus, for the Pacific Northwest (PNW), the only MRLs of interest are those for wheat. After reviewing the Colombian wheat MRLs, US pesticide registration information, and existing wheat tolerances, I finalized a list of eight ingredients registered for use where the US tolerance is higher than Colombia's MRL. The chemicals are: carbaryl, disulfoton, endosulfan, ethephon, fipronil, malathion, triadimefon, and lindane. (Note that in my research I came across a 0.1 ppm limit associated with lindane on wheat which was listed as an "administrative guideline" and I include it here for the sake of completeness.)

Of the responses I received to my inquiries regarding this issue, the only MRL of concern was that for malathion. This conclusion is supported by pesticide residue testing conducted by USDA's Pesticide Data Program. In both 1997 and 2005, USDA analyzed US wheat for pesticide residues. Of the data gathered for both years, malathion was the only chemical from my working list that was both tested for, and which showed residues above the Colombian MRLs.

I hope that you find this information useful. I am attaching a contact sheet should you have further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane M. Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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Contact List
Colombian Wheat MRLs

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