

**3 August 2021**  
**165-21**

## **Administrative Assessment Report – Proposal M1020**

### Maximum Residue Limits (2021)

#### **1. Proposal details**

<p><b>Brief Description of Proposal:</b> To consider varying certain maximum residue limits (MRLs) for residues of specified agricultural and veterinary (agvet) chemicals that may occur in food commodities.</p>		<p><b>Potentially affected Standard:</b> Standard 1.4.2 Schedule 20 of the Code</p>
<p><b>Procedure:</b> General level</p>	<p><b>Estimated total hours:</b> Maximum 1000</p> <p><b>Reasons why:</b> Involves assessment of the food safety risk of residues of the requested agvet chemicals in the specified food commodities to Australian consumers.</p>	<p><b>Estimated start work:</b> Late July 2021</p>

#### **2. Decision**

**Proposal prepared**  
Date: 23 July 2021

### **3. Other Comments or Relevant Matters:**

This Proposal will consider varying Schedule 20 in the *Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code* (the Code) to align MRLs with those established by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA), Codex or trading partner standards for the requested agvet chemicals for food import purposes.

This process allows the sale of imported food commodities with legitimate residues of agvet chemicals used in their production. The use is consistent with international regulations for the safe and effective use of the agvet chemicals based on good agricultural practice.

Since M1018 (2020), FSANZ has considered MRL requests for chemical-commodity combinations adopted by the preceding Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex) meeting which is held annually. This assessment is part of a strategic plan to routinely include MRLs adopted by Codex for consideration in every harmonisation proposal. It is also consistent with FSANZ's aim to promote consistency between domestic and international food regulatory measures without reducing the safeguards that apply to public health and consumer protection.

For this proposal, stakeholders were advised that if they intended to request to align with a non-Codex MRL, which is lower than an existing adopted Codex MRL for the same chemical/commodity combination, they should request to align with the Codex MRL. The inclusion of Codex MRLs or any other MRL requests in this Proposal is not automatic and each MRL request is subject to a dietary exposure assessment.

This Proposal also includes consideration of MRL variations requested by the APVMA. The APVMA requests are predominantly deletions, however several MRL additions and substitutions are included. Consideration of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) implications for variations requested for antimicrobial chemicals as part of this proposal will be undertaken in consultation with the APVMA. A broader risk assessment framework for AMR is currently being developed by FSANZ, and if available, will be applied to MRL requests considered in this proposal.

Of particular note, proposal M1020 will be reflecting changes in crop commodity groupings related to the ongoing [proposal M1019](#)<sup>1</sup>, which aims to update the food classification system for crop commodities in Schedule 22 to align with Codex and the APVMA.

All agvet chemicals included in this proposal will be assessed for an *All other foods except animal food commodities* MRL where appropriate.

### **4. Consultation & assessment timeframe**

#### **Proposed length of public consultation period:**

30 days (Domestic)

60 days (WTO member countries)

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/proposals/Pages/M1019---Review-of-Schedule-22-%E2%80%93-Foods-and-classes-of-foods-\(2021\).aspx](https://www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/proposals/Pages/M1019---Review-of-Schedule-22-%E2%80%93-Foods-and-classes-of-foods-(2021).aspx)

**Proposed timeframe for assessment:**

Commence assessment (clock start)	Late July 2021
Completion of assessment & preparation of draft food reg measure	Early December 2021
Public comment	January to March 2022
Board to complete approval	Early June 2022
Notification to Forum	Late June 2022
Anticipated gazettal if no review requested	Late September 2022