

## Measures for the Administration of Pesticide Labels and Manuals

Promulgation date: 12-08-2007 Department: Ministry of Agriculture

Effective date: 01-08-2008 Subject: Industrial Management

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Order of the Ministry of Agriculture  
(No.8)

The Measures for the Administration of Pesticide Labels and Manuals, which were deliberated and adopted at the 15th executive meeting of the Ministry of Agriculture on December 6, 2007, are hereby promulgated and shall come into effect from January 8, 2008.

Minister: Sun Zhengcai  
December 8, 2007

## Measures for the Administration of Pesticide Labels and Manuals

### Chapter I General Provisions

Article 1 The present Measures are enacted according to the Regulation on Pesticide Administration and the Measures for Implementing the Regulation on Pesticide Administration for the purpose of regulating the administration of pesticide labels and manuals and improving the pesticide registration system.

Article 2 The present Measures shall apply to the pesticide products sold within the territory of the People's Republic of China as well as their labels and manuals.

Article 3 The term "labels and manuals" as mentioned in the present Measures refers to all the instructions that are written on pesticide packages or attached to pesticide packages and are characters, drawings and symbols about pesticide contents.

Labels shall be printed or pasted to the package surface of pesticide products. If the size of packages is so small that it is unable to indicate the contents stipulated in the present Measures, corresponding manuals shall be attached.

Article 4 The pesticide labels and manuals shall be examined and approved by the Ministry of Agriculture at the time of pesticide registration. Label samples of pesticide products shall be submitted at the time of applying for pesticide registration. If the contents in the manual are different from those in the label, the manual sample shall be submitted simultaneously. An applicant shall be responsible for the truthfulness, scientificness and accuracy of the contents in the labels and manuals.

When the Ministry of Agriculture makes a decision on approval of pesticide registration, it shall publicize the contents in the pesticide labels and manuals. The label and manual samples shall be affixed with the date of approval as well as the "Special Seal of the Ministry of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China for Pesticide Registration".

Article 5 The contents in the labels and manuals shall be truthful, normalized and accurate, the characters, symbols and drawings on labels and manuals shall be easy for people to identify and read, and shall not be illegally revised or supplemented by way of paste, cut or alteration, etc.

Article 6 Normalized Chinese characters as publicized by the state shall be used on the labels and manuals, and Chinese Pinyin or other kinds of language may be used simultaneously. The meanings

expressed by any other kind of language shall be consistent with those expressed by Chinese characters.

## Chapter II Contents of Labels and Manuals

Article 7 A label shall indicate the pesticide name, active ingredient and content, formulation, pesticide registration certificate number or pesticide temporary registration certificate number, pesticide production license number or pesticide production approval document number, product standard number, enterprise name and contact information, date of production, product batch number, validity term, weight, product performances, functions, technology and method for use, toxicity and logo, points for attention, first aid measures in case of pesticide poisoning, storage and transport methods, pesticide category, drawings and other contents required according to the standards of the Ministry of Agriculture.

If a manual is attached to a product, the manual shall give clear indication of all the contents as stipulated in the preceding Paragraph; the label shall at least give clear indication of the pesticide name, formulation, pesticide registration certificate number or pesticide temporary registration certificate number, pesticide production license number or pesticide production approval document number, product standard number, weight, date of production, product batch number, validity term, enterprise name and contact information, toxicity and logo as well as the characters of “see the manual for details”.

The label of a rodenticide product shall also be printed or pasted with the rodenticide logo and anti-counterfeiting logo as stipulated.

For the pesticide products as separately packed, their labels shall be consistent with the labels used by the producing enterprise, and simultaneously indicate the enterprise name, contact information of the enterprise for separate packing, the registration certificate number for separate packing, the production license number of the pesticide as separately packed, or the pesticide production approval document number, and the date of separate packing; the validity term shall start from the date of production.

Article 8 The pesticide name shall be a common name or simplified common name, and the name of sanitary pesticides for direct use shall be the functional description terms and formulations. The naming rules and inventory of pesticide names shall be separately stipulated.

For the pesticide preparations that have not been incorporated into the inventory, an applicant shall put forward a suggestion on pesticide name to the Ministry of Agriculture according to the naming rules for pesticide names, and the said pesticide name may be used after having been approved by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Article 9 If the imported pesticide products are used for direct sales, the pesticide production license number or pesticide production approval document number as well as the product standard number may not be indicated.

Article 10 The “enterprise name” refers to the name and contact information of the producing enterprise, including the address, zip code and phone number.

The pesticide products as imported shall give clear indication of the name of the country (region) of origin, the name of manufacturer, as well as the name, address, zip code and phone number, etc. of the representative or agency institution in China in Chinese.

Except the institutional names stipulated in the present Measures, the name of any other institution shall not be indicated on the label.

Article 11 The “date of production” shall be indicated by the order of year, month and date, the year shall be indicated by four digits, and the month and the date shall be respectively indicated by two digits.

Article 12 The “validity term” shall be indicated by the product quality assurance term and the effective date or the expiry date.

Article 13 The “weight” shall be indicated by the statutory units of measurement as used by the state. The volume may be used to indicate the weight of liquid pesticide products, and the weight of other special pesticide products may be indicated in any other proper form in light of their performances.

Article 14 The performances of products shall mainly include the fundamental nature, main functions and characteristics of products, and the descriptions about the performances of pesticide products shall not be inconsistent with the scope of use or the control targets as approved at the time of pesticide registration.

Article 15 The “functions, technology and method for use” shall mainly include the applicable crops or the scope of use, the control targets, the period, dosage and methods, etc. for use.

If the pesticide is used for field crops, the dosage for use shall be indicated by the dosage of preparations per hectare, and the dosage per mu or the dilution rate shall also be indicated in a bracket. If the pesticide is used for trees or other crops, the dosage for use shall be indicated by the concentration of total effective contents, and the dilution rate of preparations shall also be indicated in a bracket. The dosage for use in the case of seed treatments shall be indicated by the ratio between the pesticide as used and the quality of seeds. For the pesticides used for a special purpose, the dosage for use shall be indicated in consistency with the contents of pesticide registration approval.

Article 16 The “toxicity” is divided into such five degrees as highly toxic, very toxic, moderately toxic, low toxic, tiny toxic, which shall separately be indicated by the logo of “” and the characters of “highly toxic”, the logo of “” and the characters of “very toxic”, the logo of “” and the characters of “moderately toxic”, the logo of “” and the characters of “low toxic”, and the logo of “” and the characters of “tiny toxic”. The logo shall be in black and the characters shall be in red.

Where the preparations are processed from the original drugs of highly toxic or very toxic pesticides, if the toxic degree of highly toxic or very toxic pesticides is different from the highest toxic degree of original drugs, the highest toxic degree of original drugs as used shall be indicated in a bracket.

Article 17 The “points for attention” shall contain:

1. Pesticides for field crops

- (1) If the safety interval needs to be specified for the use of products, the safety interval and the maximum times for use of products on the crops in each production circle shall be indicated;
- (2) If the pesticide will cause impact on the succeeding crops, such impact as well as the crops that can only be planted or can not be planted in succession and the interval shall be indicated;
- (3) If the pesticide is prone to cause harms on crops or causes the resistance to pests, main causes and prevention methods shall be indicated;
- (4) If the pesticide is prone to cause unfavorable impact on the useful organisms (such as bees, birds, silkworms, earthworms, fish and predators, daphnids, and other aquatic organisms) or the environment, such contents shall be explained in detail, and the prevention measures, the requirements for cleaning the spraying apparatuses, as well as the methods for dealing with the residual medicine and second-handed packages shall be indicated;
- (5) If it has been known that the pesticide could not be used by mixing with any other pesticide, such contents shall be indicated;
- (6) If the opening of packages will cause the spray of pesticide or the human injury, the correct opening method shall be indicated;
- (7) The safety protection measures that should be adopted at the time of use; and

(8) The crops or scope on which the pesticide shall not be used according to state provisions.

## 2. Sanitary pesticides

The prevention and control measures shall be stated and indicated if sanitary pesticides are prone to cause harms to the people, the livestock or the environment.

Article 18 The “first aid measures in case of pesticide poisoning” shall include poisoning symptoms, as well as the first aid measures and treatments after one has wrongly eaten or sunk pesticide, the pesticide enters into one’s eyes, or the pesticide sprays on one’s skin, etc.

Where there is any special antidote, such antidote and the medical suggestion shall be indicated.

Where the conditions are met, the emergency phone in case of pesticide poisoning may be indicated.

Article 19 The “storage and transport methods” shall include the environmental conditions and requirements for light irradiation, temperature, humidity and ventilation, etc. at the time of storage as well as the points for attention at the time of uploading, discharge and transport, and such warnings as “Keep out of reach of children” and “No mixed storage with food, beverage, grain and feed, etc.” shall be indicated at an eye-catching place.

Article 20 The “pesticide category” shall be indicated by the corresponding characters and the distinctive color strip.

The pesticide of a different category shall give clear indication of itself through adding a distinctive color strip at the bottom part of the label, which shall be parallel to the bottom edge of the label and not fade.

The herbicide shall be indicated by the characters of “herbicide” as well as a green strip; the insecticide (mites, mollusks) shall be indicated by the characters of “insecticide”, “miticide” or “mollusk killer” as well as a red strip; the fungicide (nematodes) shall be indicated by the characters of “fungicide” or “nematode killer” as well as a black strip; the plant growth regulator shall be indicated by the characters of “plant growth regulators” as well as a dark yellow strip; the rodenticide shall be indicated by the characters of “rodenticide” as well as a blue strip; the insecticide/ bactericide shall be indicated by the characters of “insecticide/ bactericide” as well as a red & black strip. The descriptive characters for the category of pesticide shall be embedded on the strip in a different color.

Article 21 The “drawings” shall be determined in light of the measures for safe use of products, but which can not replace necessary written instructions on the label.

The drawings shall be arranged according to the operation requirements and the order for actual use of products, including the drawings about storage, operation, advices and warnings. The drawings shall be printed in such two colors as black and white, generally be placed at the bottom of the label, and their sizes shall be suitable for that of the label.

Article 22 The label of original drugs may not contain the technology and method for use.

Article 23 The sanitary pesticide for direct use may not contain the distinctive color strip or the drawings.

Article 24 The label shall not contain any characters, symbols, drawings, any enterprise’s award or honorable title for the publicity or advertisement, unless it is otherwise stipulated by the laws, regulations or rules.

## Chapter III Production, Use and Administration

Article 25 No packages similar to those for pharmaceutical products (such as oral liquid) may be used for highly toxic or very toxic pesticide products. If the packages similar to those for pharmaceutical products are used for other pesticide products, obvious warnings or drawings shall be indicated on the label.

Article 26 The height of Chinese characters indicated on the label shall be more than 1.8 mm, and the toxicity logo shall be striking.

Article 27 The pesticide name shall be indicated in a clear and striking manner, the font, size and color thereof shall be consistent with each other and shall comply with the following requirements:

1. The horizontal label shall be placed at an eye-catching site in the middle of the upper one-third scope of the label; the vertical label shall be placed at an eye-catching site in the middle of the one-third scope on the right side of the label;
2. No grass style, seal character or any other characters that are difficult for people to identify may be used, and no italics, hollow or shadow, et. may be used to adorn characters;
3. The color of characters shall have a clear contrast with the background color; and
4. The characters shall not be written in two or more lines except that they can not be written in a same line due to the size of packages.

Article 28 The content and formulation of effective ingredients shall be indicated just under the pesticide name in a striking manner (in the case of horizontal label) or just near to the left side of the pesticide name (in the case of vertical label) (the name of formulation may not be indicated in the case of the sanitary pesticide for direct use), and the height of characters shall not be less than 1/2 of the pesticide name.

The content of total effective ingredients as well as the common name and content of each effective ingredient shall be indicated for the mixed preparations. The common name and content of each effective ingredient shall be indicated just under the pesticide name (in the case of horizontal label) or just at the left side of the pesticide name (in the case of horizontal label) in a striking manner, the font, size and color thereof shall be consistent with each other, and the height of characters shall not be less than 1/2 of that of the pesticide name.

Article 29 If the trademark or the enterprise's award or honorable title allowed to use under the present Measures is used on the label, it shall be indicated on the edge or corner of the label; and if any character is contained, the size of each character shall not be larger than that of any single character in the pesticide name.

Article 30 No drawing, symbol or character for the scope of use or the control targets that have not been registered may be used on the label or manual.

Article 31 With respect to the label or manual as approved, the pesticide producer or dealer shall not illegally change the contents indicated on it. Where it is necessary to revise the contents in the label or manual, a report shall be submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture for approval once again.

The Ministry of Agriculture may, according to the safety and validity problems occurring in the use of pesticide products, require the pesticide producing enterprise to revise the label or manual and to report the revised one for approval once again.

Article 32 To apply for revising the contents in the label or manual, an applicant shall explain the cause for revision in writing, and submit the revised pattern of label or manual. The Ministry of Agriculture shall complete the examination within 20 working days, and announce the revised label or manual that has been approved through examination.

When an applicant obtains the label or manual sample that has been approved once again, it shall turn back the original label or manual sample.

Article 33 The pesticide producing enterprise shall not use the original label or manual again after three months since the new label or manual has been approved once again.

Article 34 Any entity or individual which violates the present Measures shall be punished according to the relevant provisions in the Regulation on Pesticide Administration.

#### Chapter IV Supplementary Provisions

Article 35 The present Measures shall come into effect as of January 8, 2008. If any registered label or manual does not comply with the present Measures, an application shall be filed to the Ministry of Agriculture for examination and approval once again. As of July 1, 2008, the pesticide products produced by pesticide producing enterprises shall generally not use the labels or manuals that are inconsistent with the present Measures.