

**For Immediate Release
June 4, 2015**

Producer Alert –

New Crop Input Question on Wheat Delivery Declaration

Beginning with the 2015/16 crop production year, wheat producers delivering to the majority of grain handling facilities will be required to officially declare if they have or have not used the crop input product containing the active ingredient Chlormequat Chloride as part of their production practices. Chlormequat Chloride is the active ingredient in a new plant growth regulator product marketed in Canada as Manipulator.

The application of Chlormequat Chloride on wheat has met or exceeded all of the health, safety and environment requirements in Canada by PMRA and for the majority of our major customers. Approval has not yet been completed in the United States. In this transition time MRLs (maximum residue limits) for shipments to the United States are technically zero and unattainable for any production treated with Chlormequat Chloride.

As a result, Canadian grain buyers who export will require a signed declaration indicating use of Chlormequat Chloride in order to manage supply and ensure that only untreated production is shipped to the United States prior to MRLs being established.

As an example, Western Grain Elevator Association (WGEA) member companies have added the following wording to their delivery declaration:

*I understand that Chlormequat, the active ingredient in “Manipulator”, is registered for use on wheat in Canada, but is not lawfully registered for use in the United States. Therefore, grain exported to the United States must be free of Chlormequat. I hereby represent and warrant that **(please check one)**:*

- Any and all deliveries of wheat or any other grains made by me or on my behalf have not been treated with any crop protection product containing Chlormequat, including the product known as “Manipulator.”*
- My delivery has been or may have been treated with “Manipulator” and/or a product containing Chlormequat.*

In the event of noncompliance of this warranty, the Grain Handling Company and/or the Grain Buyer may refuse to accept delivery of the grain and/or oilseed offered for sale.

Based on producer declarations grain companies will reserve the right to not accept Chlormequat Chloride production while accumulating stocks for a United States destined sale.

It is important to be clear that a declaration signed by a producer is a legally binding document. Any intentional or unintentional mistake in declaration traced back through retained samples will expose individuals and their farms to significant liability.

Fred Greig chair of the Manitoba Wheat and Barley Growers Association says, “We raise these concerns to ensure that individual producers and the reputation of Canadian export sales are each protected and preserved. Producers and grain exporters must work together to respect and protect our market relationship with the United States.”

“We add our voice with Cereals Canada to strongly encourage all producers to speak with your intended market channels to confirm the market acceptability or limitations of any new crop input product this summer” adds Robert Misko, MWBGA vice chair and board member of Cereals Canada.

This is a manageable market challenge as long as producers are aware of the facts and work transparently with their market channels.

Manitoba Wheat and Barley Growers Association is a producer led organization with a mission to grow the potential of wheat and barley as profitable and sustainable crop choices through leadership and strategic research investment. Visit us online at www.mbwheatandbarley.ca or on Twitter at @mbwheatbarley.

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