

Introduction

January is the time of year when decisions are made in relation to the crops to be grown, drafting spray programs and the pricing of chemicals. It is also an opportune time to review your chemical store and its contents. In an ideal world you would be starting with an empty spray store, where all the products purchased in 2011 were used during the year of purchase. For the majority of growers this is probably an unrealistic scenario, but is an objective to which all should aspire. More realistically, there will be unused stock from previous years in most stores.

A useful exercise is to make an inventory of the products in-store, recording the product name, the PCS No and the volumes involved. The current status of each of these products should then be established, i.e. is the product still registered, is it in use-up, will it still be legal to use it when needed in 2012. Refer to the PRCD website at www.pcs.agriculture.gov.ie or contact your local advisor, merchant or PRCD directly for information on answering these questions.

Once the legal status of these products is established, the next question to be considered is, can they be legally applied to the crops it is intended to grow in the coming year. If yes, the spray program should ensure (where possible), that all existing stocks of pesticides that can be used (are used) at the earliest possible opportunity. If the answer is no and it is unlikely that the product can be used in the normal way it should be segregated within the store and must be disposed of in a safe manner by an authorised waste disposal contractor at the earliest possible opportunity.

When completing records of PPP use, do not rely on PCS numbers obtained from invoices provided by merchants. These numbers may be incorrect, and should not be the source of the PCS No entered in record worksheets. Nor should the PCS No taken from the PRCD website be taken as definitive, as this is updated and revised on a daily basis, and may refer to a new registration. As a result of product re-registrations, PCS Nos. will change at some point for all products and this change may also involve a change in crop or application details from the old label to the new. **In all instances record the PCS No. from the container you use on the day of use**

Errors will inevitably arise where PPP worksheet records are completed retrospectively. From 2012, all SPS applicants who are subjected to a cross compliance inspection will be expected to provide evidence of record keeping at the time of inspection.

Product update

Cereals

Several new **Chlorothalonil** based products have become available.

Balear 720 SC (PCS no 04411) is a 720g/l chlorothalonil product for use on wheat only. [NB. This product has different application rates compared to traditional 'straight' chlorothalonil products].

Acanto Prima is now re-registered under PCS No 04043. Old product (PCS No 02570) was revoked on 31/12/11, and has 6 months to sell, and a further 12 months to use until 30/06/13.

Moddus 250 EC (PCS No 01167) is now re-registered as Moddus (PCS No 03849). The old product was revoked on 31/12/11, and has 6 months to sell, and can be used for a further 12 months until 30/06/13.

Several new **Azoxystrobin** products have also become available (e.g. Tazer (PCS No 04523), and Zoxis (PCS No 04455), but the crop range is considerably restricted compared to Amistar (PCS No 01351).

Potatoes

Acrobat MZ is now re-registered under PCS No 04059. Old product (PCS No 00670) was revoked on 31/12/11, and has 6 months to sell, and can be used for a further 12 months until 30/06/13. [NB. The new product is not approved for use on potatoes].

Note

All **Asulam** based products (Asulox, Formule 1 and IT Asulam) were revoked on 31/12/11. Last day of sale and use is 31/12/12.

Twinprop is now re-registered under PCS No 04427. Old product (PCS No. 92091) was revoked on 31/12/11, and has 6 months to sell, and can be used for a further 12 months until 30/06/13. [NB. The new product is not approved for use on grassland].

A number of **Metaldehyde** products were revoked on 30/11/11 (e.g. Barclay Metaldehyde Dry (PCS No 02660), Barclay Tracker (PCS No 00210), Gastrotox Slug Pellets (PCS No 00685), Metarex Green (PCS No 01278), Optimol (PCS No 00422), and Pathfinder Excel (PCS No 02659)). These products have 6 months sell out after this date, and a further 12 months to use.

Straight **Triclopyr** products (e.g. Altix 240, Garlon 2, Garlon 4, Nettlex, Nettlex Brushwood Killer, Timbrel and Triptic 48 EC) were revoked on 31/05/11. The last day for use of these products is 30/05/12.

NB The above is for guidance only, and is not an exhaustive list of all product changes.

Remember – check the status of all products ‘in-store’ before use
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