

Tuesday 25 June 2019

## Background

Chlorpyrifos (claw-pi-rif-os) is an organophosphorous insecticide used for urban and domestic pest control, including turf maintenance, and as a termiticidal barrier in, around or under buildings. Agricultural uses include cotton, sugarcane, vegetables, cereals, canola, rice, pome fruit, stone fruit, citrus, tropical fruit and grapes.<sup>1</sup>

[Section 6 of the Interim Review for Chlorpyrifos](#) outlines use to include: urban and domestic pest control, termite protection, Cotton, sugarcane, ornamentals, pome fruit, citrus, cereals and pasture, vegetables, rice, grapes, stone fruit, canola.

The APVMA has been reviewing Chlorpyrifos since 2014. <https://apvma.gov.au/node/12451>

Yesterday (240619) APVMA announced the proposal “to remove all remaining uses of the insecticide chlorpyrifos in domestic and home garden settings, and certain public spaces” AND “...it is proposed that no chlorpyrifos products used in domestic and home garden situations will be available for sale in Australia after 28 days.” <https://apvma.gov.au/node/50106>

Chlorpyrifos is contained in products which Members produce and distribute.

Effected NGIA Members include **Richgo, Searles, Brunnings, Amgrow, Dulux Group and Heiniger Australia as well as all Retailers with product on the shelves**. A list of all product names is attached at [Annexure A of the Special Gazette detailing the Proposed Regulatory Decision](#)

The APVMA is also reviewing [critical agricultural, biosecurity, and permitted uses of chlorpyrifos](#) before a final decision on the category of theme products is made. They indicate that a critical use is *one where no alternative products exist*.

The APVMA is inviting [written submissions](#) on the proposed decisions around critical uses of chlorpyrifos and will use these submissions to inform their final proposed regulatory decision on these uses. The closing date for submissions is 22 September 2019.

## Media Received as at 25 June 2016

Media in Australia does not seem to have picked up the story this week.

However internationally, media have been linking the issue to other debates including Neonics and Glyphosate and so issues such as bee (pollinator) health, cancer have again been raised.

## Australia

31 Oct 2018 <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-10-31/chlorpyrifos-apvma-review-delay/10450498>

13 Aug 2018 <https://www.nationalgeographic.com.au/science/epa-must-ban-dangerous-insecticide-chlorpyrifos-what-is-it.aspx>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://apvma.gov.au/sites/default/files/publication/14756-chlorpyrifos-irr-environment.pdf>

## International

- 21 June 2019 <https://www.timesunion.com/opinion/article/Commentary-Pesticide-ban-can-protect-our-children-14029531.php> (New York)
- 19 June 2019 <http://en.rfi.fr/france/20190619-eye-france> (France)
- 17 June 2019 <https://euobserver.com/health/145146> (Copenhagen)
- 9 May 2019 <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/may/08/california-pesticide-ban-chlorpyrifos-agriculture> (California)

## *NGIA Position*

- Chlorpyrifos is an insecticide widely used for urban and domestic pest control, including turf maintenance.
- Our industry relies on the research and reviews conducted by Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) of chemicals which may be used from time to time in the production and maintenance of greenlife and green spaces.
- The review has found Chlorpyrifos presents a serious and significant health risk to humans.
- NGIA supports the recommendation of APVMA in relation to Chlorpyrifos.
- The decision affects several NGIA Members including manufacturers and distributors of the product; retailers who supply the product and some growers who may use the product.
- Retail Members who are affected by the decision are encouraged to remove all relevant products from shelves by 22 July 2019.
- NGIA will provide a submission to the APVMA review for agriculture and biosecurity and permitted use.
- All Members are invited to provide their concerns directly to NGIA/Greenlife Industry Australia by 26 August 2019.
- NGIA also encourages the practice of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as an underlying approach to managing any pest (insect, disease, weed etc) intervention activity including the rotation of control options.

## *Authorised representatives for comment on this issue*

Peter Vaughan  
CEO NGIA

Karen Brock  
NGIA President

John McDonald  
National Biosecurity Manager

## *Media protocol*

Please direct all requests for information or comment by media or other organisations to NGIA as follows:

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