

DPI Primefact

Understanding Permits for the Safe Chemical Control of Varroa

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Introduction

All chemicals and medicines used in agriculture must be registered or authorised by a permit issued by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA).

It is critical that only chemicals that are registered or have a valid permit for distribution and application are used. Decisions about which chemicals can be used are made by the APVMA and are based on many factors including effectiveness, safety, toxicity, the risk of residues remaining in food or the environment, and the safety of livestock being treated.

Each permit has a unique number and an expiry date, before which permits are reviewed and may be renewed.

A single permit can be for one or more chemicals and may be held by a specific body who can supply and use the chemical, or it may be more generally available for supply, distribution, and use. Permitted users are described under the heading “Persons who can use the product under this permit.”

A key section of any permit is the ‘Conditions of Use’

Conditions of Use

The Conditions of Use section outlines:

1. The product/s that can be used
2. Restraints
3. Directions for Use
4. Critical Use Comments
5. Specific Product Directions
6. Withholding Periods
7. Jurisdiction
8. Additional Conditions
9. Label from the product

1. Product/s That Can Be Used

This section lists the:

- Trading/product name
- Registration status of the product
- The amount in grams (g), milligrams (mg) or as a percentage (%) of the active constituent (the chemical that does the work) per kilogram and per strip/packet

2. Restraints

Lists any conditions under which the chemical cannot be used or products that cannot be harvested if the chemical is used.

E.g., DO NOT make comb honey or beeswax from frames from treated hives available for human consumption or for use with food at any point.

3. Directions for Use:

In table form outlines directions for use:

- **Situation**- what the chemical can be used for
- **Pest**- the intended target of the chemical use

- **Rate**- the chemical trading name, application, and timing

E.g., **Directions for Use:**

Situation	Pest	Rate
For control of....	<i>Pest name</i> <i>Varroa destructor</i>	Product Name <u>Control</u> Dosage e.g., 2 strips per brood box Timing e.g., leave for 6-8 weeks Removal e.g., remove after 2 weeks

4. Critical Use Comments:

Outlines information about how to apply the product, safety directions, first aid instructions, storage instructions and potential risks to be avoided.

e.g., Where possible, rotate the use of strips with other products with different modes of action (MOA). MOA refers to the way the active constituent of the product acts on the target organism. Products with the same MOA used consecutively can lead to chemical resistance.

5. Specific Product Directions:

Permits that allow the use of a number of products often have specific product directions. These outline specific information for the permitted product including:

- The Signal Heading- a word and/or phrases that refer to a chemical's level of hazard or toxicity
- Directions for Application- how to use the product
- Safety Directions-
- First Aid Instructions- what to do if poisoning or other contact with chemical occurs
- Re-entry/Rehandling Statement- what PPE to wear when handling and disposing of the product

6. Withholding Period:

Outlines any restrictions on time before harvest of products e.g., do not harvest honey for 2 weeks after treatment.

7. Jurisdiction:

Outlines in which jurisdictions the product can be used.

8. Additional Conditions

Additional conditions may include:

- Allowable manner of use- how and when the chemical can be used
- Necessity to read or have the permit explained
- Obligation to notify the APVMA of any new information related to the product e.g., if you noticed chemical resistance
- Supplier obligations e.g., container and label regulations
- Record keeping obligations including date, treatment type, location and who applied the treatment
- Maximum Residue Levels (MRL's) permitted in honey for human consumption in Australia and/or conditions for export
- Permit issuer, updates, and version number

Key Take Home Messages

1. You must only use permitted and registered products for Varroa control
2. You must read or have explained to you the relevant permit
3. You must follow all directions for use and all additional conditions

For more detailed information on using the permitted product you should read and understand the specific product label before application. Use patterns that do not comply with an Australian label, or an approved permit are not permitted.

[Link to Label fact sheet](#)

You should also read and have available the Safety Data Sheet for the product. For more information on [Safety Data Sheets](#) see [Prime fact #. link](#)

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