

Chemical use legal requirements - Victoria

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AGRICULTURE VICTORIA

Regulating chemical use in Victoria

Agriculture Victoria (AgVic) is responsible for regulating the **use** of agricultural and veterinary chemicals in Victoria

- TARP - Targeted AgChem Residue Program: Monitor chemical residues in fresh produce and assess against maximum residue limits (MRLs)

Maximum Residue Limit (MRL)

The MRL is the maximum concentration of a chemical that is legally permitted to be present in a food.



MRL Standards - Chestnuts

Labs prepare and test samples in a standard way.

Chestnuts - The portion to which the MRL applies and is analysed: 'Whole in skin'

Type 4 – Nuts and seeds

CODE	COMMODITY
TN	Tree nuts Whole commodity after removal of shell. Chestnuts: whole in skin.

MRL Standards

There are two MRL standards recognised in Victoria:

- Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) MRL Standard, and
- Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) MRL Standard.

APVMA MRL Standard



Australian Government

**Australian Pesticides and
Veterinary Medicines Authority**

- MRL is set when either a product is registered, or a permit is issued by the APVMA.
- Set according to the instructions on the label or a permit
- If a product is used according to the label or permit directions, the MRL should not be exceeded.



Australian Government

**Australian Pesticides and
Veterinary Medicines Authority**

PERMIT TO ALLOW MINOR USE OF A REGISTERED AGVET CHEMICAL

FSANZ MRL Standard



- Set to assist with the trade of produce.
- Includes MRLs for chemicals that are not registered for use in Australia but used in other countries.
- An application is made to Australia to assist the importation of the produce.

Growers meeting MRL Standards

- AgVic assesses residues against both MRL Standards.
- When a residue exceeds the MRL, it is unacceptable, and produce is considered contaminated.
- If there is no corresponding MRL, any detectable residue is unacceptable.
- Under legislation, it is illegal to sell contaminated produce.

TARP and chestnuts

TARP - Chestnuts

- 12 samples were collected and analysed
- 4 contained no residues
- 5 contained residues below the MRL
- 3 contained residues above the MRL
 - iprodione,
 - diphenylamine (DPA),
 - thiabendazole,
 - fludioxonil



Chestnuts – Cause of unacceptable residues

Iprodione

- Failure to follow APVMA permit directions

APVMA Permit no. 83636 – Iprodione on chestnuts

Directions for Use:

Crop	Disease	Rate
Chestnuts (Post-harvest)	Surface moulds	<u>250 g/L product</u>
	Fungal rots (suppression only)	200 mL/100 L
		<u>500 g/L product</u>
		100 mL/100 L

Critical Use Comments:

- Apply no more than 1 post-harvest dip or low volume concentrate spray application per batch.
- Dip in prepared solution for 1 minute and allow produce to drain and dry thoroughly prior to storage.
- DO NOT dip chestnuts longer than 1 minute.
- Ensure thorough and even coverage of chestnuts in the dip or by spray application.
- Good storage hygiene is essential to aid in the suppression of surface moulds.
- Longevity and efficacy for suppression of surface mould is variable depending on the factors in which the chemical is applied and conditions maintained during storage.
- DO NOT use a Group 2 fungicide as the final pre-harvest spray.
- Where alternatives are available, rotate to use as many different activity groups as possible.
- DO NOT dispose of unused dip solutions as a spray to crops or orchards.
- DO NOT dispose of unused dip solutions within or near the crop or orchard area.

Chemicals where a MRL applies to chestnuts

WHY THERE IS A MRL	CHEMICAL	COMMON PRODUCT NAME	DISEASE/ PEST
Registered for chestnuts	Penthiopyrad	Fontelis	Brown rot
Registered for chestnuts	Fludioxonil	Fludy, Scholar	Moulds and rots
Registered for chestnuts	Sulfoxaflor	Expedite	Aphids
Registered for chestnuts	Phosphorus acid (stem injection)	Agri-Fos, Sprayphos	Phytophthora trunk and Root canker
APVMA permit	Sodium hypochlorite	Redox	Moulds
APVMA permit	Iprodione	Rovral liquid	Moulds and rots
APVMA permit	Peroxyacetic acid + hydrogen peroxide	Tsunami, Adoxysan	Moulds
APVMA permit	Metalaxyl-M	Ridomil Gold	Root and collar rot

Chestnuts – Cause of unacceptable residues

Diphenylamine (DPA), thiabendazole, fludioxonil

- Cross contamination: The transfer of chemicals from a surface to fresh produce

Sources include picking bins, storage bins, sorting and packing conveyor belts/ brushes, cool rooms.

Some controls to prevent cross-contamination

- Where possible, use different equipment for different commodities.
- If sharing equipment, ensure it has been adequately cleaned and is free of chemicals before you use it.
- When storing chestnuts, segregate from other produce that has had different chemical treatments.

Record keeping requirements

Record keeping in Victoria



Agricultural chemical use records are required to be made by:

- All chemical users.
- All agricultural chemicals applied by any application method.
- Must be made within 48 hours of use.
- Must be kept for a minimum of 2 years after use.
- Format is your choice (e.g. PC, paper-based).

Record keeping template Agricultural chemical use

Agricultural chemical application details					Weather details (if product is sprayed outdoors)		Contact details			Additional information (optional)
Date of use	Product trade name	Application rate of product OR sufficient information to allow it to be calculated	Crop / commodity treated OR situation in which product was applied	Specific location at which product was applied	Wind speed (km/h)	Wind direction	Name and contact details of the applicator	Name and contact details of the supervisor (if applicable)	Name and contact details of the person for whom the application was carried out (if applicable)	e.g., notes or additional records as required by quality assurance programs or product label directions

Agricultural chemical product details must be recorded within 48 hours of use and kept for two years

For details of your legal requirements when using agricultural chemicals, visit [the AgVic chemical use page](#).



For more information



Visit

<https://portal.apvma.gov.au/permits>

Visit the APVMA permit page to search for and obtain copies of permits.

agriculture.vic.gov.au/chemicals

Visit the Agriculture Victoria chemical pages for more information about chemical use, legislation, licencing and residues



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