

**MINUTES OF THE 51<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF THE AGRICULTURAL PESTICIDE  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (APTAC) HELD ON 28-11-2016**

The 51<sup>ST</sup> meeting of Agricultural Pesticide Technical Advisory Committee (APTAC) was held in the committee room of the Ministry of National Food Security and Research (MNFS&R) at Islamabad on 28.11.2016, under the chairmanship of Secretary, MNFS&R (List of Participants is attached).

Item wise discussion and decision are recorded as below.

**ITEM NO.1 - PROPOSED AMENDMENTS IN RULE 14 (MANNER OF LABELING) OF AGRICULTURAL PESTICIDES RULES, 1973**

The Adviser & Director General, Department of Plant Protection, Member Secretary placed before the committee the following recommendations of the Sub-Committee for consideration that the following clauses may be inserted in rule 14 (manner of labeling) after clause (l).

- (m) Pre-Harvest Interval (PHI).
- (n) Re-entry Interval (REI).
- (o) Usage information shall be furnished by the company on their website and address of the website shall be printed on the label.
- (p) Instructions to read label before use shall appear on label.
- (q) Dose of application for a crop shall be mentioned.

After detailed discussion the APTAC approved the recommendation of the Sub-Committee.

**ITEM NO.2 - PROPOSED AMENDMENTS IN RULE 14 (MANNER OF LABELING) OF AGRICULTURAL PESTICIDES RULES, 1973 REGARDING SECURITY SEAL ON CONTAINER**

The Adviser & Director General, Department of Plant Protection, Member Secretary placed before the committee the following recommendations of the Sub-Committee for consideration that:

- i) The manufacturers of technical grade material shall provide the shelf life and the PSIA mention the same as date of expiry on PSI report.
- ii) Storage stability requirement of technical grade material shall be withdrawn from the specifications of technical grade material issued by the Department.
- iii) Senior Chemist shall provide his written comments in respect of storage stability test of technical grade material and its shelf life.
- iv) All the importers / stakeholders shall provide the data of expired pesticides / obsolete pesticide to the Provincial governments under intimation to the Department of Plant Protection to avoid unnecessary litigation.
- v) The Import permission holder of technical grade material shall ensure that the formulation of their registered pesticides either on their own duly registered plant or under contractual agreement facility as submitted at the time of registration shall provide total formulation of the product to the Provincial government and intimate the same to the Department of Plant Protection, Karachi.
- vi) Member companies of the both Associations on initial stage may develop their own security seals voluntarily, with effect from 01<sup>st</sup> January 2017 and the same may be updated in future, if needed.

The matter was discussed in detail and APTAC approved the recommendations of the Sub-Committee vide serial No. i-v. So for as serial No. vi is concerned, it was decided that the APTA Sub-Committee should discuss the matter again regarding security seal and come up with solid recommendation.

**ITEM NO.3 - CONSIDERATION OF 37 PRODUCTS FOR NEW REGISTRATION/ LABEL EXPANSION DEFERRED BY APTAC IN ITS 50<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**

The Adviser & Director General, Department of Plant Protection placed before the APTAC the list of new insecticides / fungicides / herbicides for registration on Form – 1 and label expansions of already registered insecticides / fungicides / herbicides and locally manufactured pesticides in Pakistan as per the Annexure-A which were deferred in 50<sup>th</sup> APTAC meeting because MRL data on specific crops were not available and the APTA Sub-Committee recommended that:

- i) The Sub-committee recommended all the 37 products at annexure-A on the basis of MRL data provided by the companies from the international recognized research institutes / accredited laboratories / GLP lab / European Union / OECD countries / China / Japan and Codex Alimentarius for pending cases only.
- ii) In future, MRL data of the product on specific crops shall be provided by the companies from any accredited / GLP lab as per check list of Form-1, as notified vide SRO 1017(I)/2014.

After detailed discussion, APTAC approved the recommendation of Sub-Committee.

**ITEM NO.4 - ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF PAKISTAN CENTRAL COTTON COMMITTEE IN APTAC MEETING**

The Adviser & Director General, Department of Plant Protection placed before the APTAC recommendation of APTA Sub-Committee that:

“The Department of Plant Protection may also send protocol of the product directly to the Vice President, PCCC for conducting bio-efficacy field trials of the product and the PCCC may forward standardized bio-efficacy trial data of the product directly to the Department of Plant Protection”.

After detailed discussion, APTAC approved the recommendation of the Sub-Committee with remarks that the companies may give preference to the crop specific institutes in Pakistan.

**ITEM NO. 5 - REVISED DOSE EFFICACY OF THE PRODUCTS REGISTERED SINCE 10 YEARS**

The Adviser & Director General, Department of Plant Protection placed before the APTAC recommendation of APTA Sub-Committee that:

- i) The bio-efficacy trial of the product shall be revisited by the Pesticide Industry with revised dosage per acre for those products which has been registered since 10 years in collaboration with the concerned Agriculture Research Institutes.
- ii) And the revised bio-efficacy trials shall be started from next crop season, starting on cotton crop against major pests and subsequently for other crops.

Dr. Muhammad Afzal, the executive director, Crop Life Pakistan commented that the revised efficacy trials shall be started against cotton jassid and whitefly.

Mr. Khalid Mahmood, S.E. for Secretary Agriculture, Government of Punjab disagreed enhancing dosage of the product.

After detailed discussion APTAC approved the recommendation of the Sub-Committee.

**ITEM NO.6 - LEGISLATION TO REGULATE PESTICIDE BUSINESS UNDER FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

After 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment, in the Constitution, the Punjab Government passed Punjab Agricultural Pesticides Act 2012 to register pesticides within their own territory, and developing Provincial regulation, the other Provincial Governments may follow the Punjab Government for process of Provincialization of their own Agriculture Pesticide Acts.

Both the Pesticide Associations sought clarification and guidance for the Industry as to how they should be working in future, after they found Punjab government developing provincial regulations to register pesticides within their own territory. They further stated that would it mean the Federal Government regulatory function will cease to exist? or both federal and provincial governments should have their own regulatory systems and the Industry is expected to follow both.

The Adviser & Director General, Department of Plant Protection placed the recommendation of APTA Sub-Committee that:

“Since the matter is very sensitive and could raise complication for the industry as well as the Federal Government. Hence it is recommended that the Ministry may take-up the matter with Punjab Government to resolve the issue at the earliest”.

Mr. Khalid Mahmood, S.E. for Secretary Agriculture, Government of Punjab commented that the subject matter is only for policy maker and he was not able **to comment** on the policy issues.

Mr. Altaf Hussain, Assistant Chief, Ministry of Commerce commented that it may not be practical for his Ministry to entertain advice of every province.

The matter was discussed in detailed. It was the firm opinion of the house that registration and standardization of pesticides by each province would create problems and there would be no harmony in the country. It was decided that the matter may be taken up with the concerned quarters to resolve the issue.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks.

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

S. #	Name	Designation	Department
1	M. S. Imran Shami	Adviser & Director General	Dept. of Plant Protection, Karachi
2	Dr. Wassem Ul Hassan	Food Security Commissioner-I	Ministry of National Food Security & Research, Islamabad
3	Muhammad Khurram Jamshaid	Assistant Chief	Ministry of National Food Security & Research, Islamabad
4	Muzaffar Iqbal Khan	Deputy Director (Reg.)	Dept. of Plant Protection, Karachi
5	Dr. Khalid Abdullah	Cotton Commissioner	Ministry of Textile
6	Altaf Hussain Maitlo	Assistant Chief (TP)	Ministry of Commerce
7	Khalid Mahmood	S.E. for Secretary Agriculture	Govt. of Punjab, Lahore.
8	DR. Gulzer Ahmad	PRO	Agriculture Department, K.P.K
9	Juma Khan	Director Agriculture Research, Plant Protection	Agriculture Research Institute, Quetta
10	Muhammad Khan	Director Coordination	Agri. Extension Department, Hyderabad, Sindh
11	M. Masud Mahmood	Director (PP)	PARC
12	Dr. M. Amjad	Director Plant Scientific	PARC
13	Dr. Khalid Hameed	Senior Vice Chairman	PCPA
14	Saad Akbar Khan	Member	PCPA
15	Jawed Saleem Qureshi	Member	PCPA
16	Dr. Muhamad Afzal	Executive Director	CropLife Pakistan
17	M. Tauseef-ul-Haq	Member	CropLife Pakistan
18	M. Sarwar Rahi	Member	CropLife Pakistan