

1979/70



## THE AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS (PARAQUAT SPECIFICATION) NOTICE 1979

PURSUANT to regulation 18 of the Agricultural Chemicals Regulations 1968\*, the Director-General of Agriculture and Fisheries, on the recommendation of the Agricultural Chemicals Board, hereby gives the following notice.

### NOTICE

**1. Title and commencement**—(1) This notice may be cited as the Agricultural Chemicals (Paraquat Specification) Notice 1979.

(2) This notice shall come into force on the 1st day of April 1979.

**2. Interpretation**—In this notice—

“Board” means the Agricultural Chemicals Board constituted under the Agricultural Chemicals Act 1959:

“Emetic” means any substance that, when added to paraquat, will cause any person who swallows the mixture to vomit involuntarily:

“Paraquat” means any agricultural chemical that contains in liquid form either or both of the following substances:

(a) The dichloride salt of the parent substance 1, 1'-dimethyl-4, 4' bipyridilium ion:

(b) The di (methyl sulphate) salt of the parent substance:

“Stenching agent” means any substance that, when added to paraquat, imparts to it an offensive smell that is readily distinguishable from the aroma of any beverage, whether or not it is intended to serve any other purpose.

**3. Specification for paraquat**—(1) No proprietor shall pack for sale any paraquat unless—

(a) It contains a stenching agent and an emetic; and

(b) It conforms to the sample presented to and approved by the Board in accordance with clause 4 of this notice.

(2) Notwithstanding anything in subclause (1) of this clause or clause 4 of this notice, if a proprietor has imported or obtained any paraquat before the commencement of this notice, he may, with the written consent of the Board, pack that paraquat for sale without complying with the other provisions of this notice.

**4. Approval of paraquat samples**—(1) Before packing any paraquat for sale, the proprietor shall forward to the Board a sample of 500 millilitres of the paraquat for the Board's approval.

(2) Every sample submitted to the Board under subclause (2) of this clause shall be accompanied by sufficient written documentation as to enable the Board to determine, in accordance with subclause (3) of this notice, whether or not it should approve the paraquat.

(3) The Board shall not approve any sample of paraquat submitted to it under this clause unless it is satisfied that the sample—

- (a) Contains a stenching agent of such composition and in such concentration that it will retain its offensive smell under normal storage conditions for a period of at least 12 months after the date of the Board's approval; and
- (b) Contains an emetic of such composition and in such concentration that it will be effective, but will not produce serious toxicological or adverse environmental effects having regard to the normal use of paraquat, nor affect the stability or properties of paraquat.

**5. Revocation of approval**—Notwithstanding that any paraquat conforms to a sample approved by the Board under clause 4 of this notice, the Board may revoke its approval in respect of that paraquat if it is satisfied that the paraquat has not retained or will not retain its offensive smell for the whole of the period specified in that clause.

**6. Revocation of previous notice**—The Agricultural Chemicals (Paraquat Specification) Notice 1977\* is hereby consequentially revoked.

Dated at Wellington this 26th day of March 1979.

J. YUILL,  
For Director-General of Agriculture and Fisheries.

\*S.R. 1977/163

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

*This note is not part of the notice, but is intended to indicate its general effect.*

The Agricultural Chemicals (Paraquat Specification) Notice 1977 required the addition to paraquat of a stenching agent to impart to the product an offensive smell. This notice, which replaces the earlier one, requires an emetic (as well as a stenching agent) to be added, so as to induce vomiting if paraquat is swallowed.

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Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act 1936.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 29 March 1979.

This notice administered in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.