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Guideline on Labels for Pesticide Products

(For Approval)

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China

Foreword

This Standard is formulated in accordance with *Administrative Regulations of the People's Republic of China on Pesticides*, with reference to *Standard Rules on Labels for Pesticides* issued by Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) in 1995, and in light of specific conditions of China.

This Standard is proposed by China Petroleum and Chemical Industry Association.

This Standard is managed by National Technical Committee of Standardisation for Pesticides.

This Standard is drafted by (unit) Institute for the Control of Agrochemicals of the Ministry of Agriculture.

This Standard is drafted by (individuals) Ye Jiming, Liu Shaoren, Zong Fulin, Chen Jingfen, and Yang Jun.

Guideline on Labels for Pesticide Products

1 Scope

This Standard stipulates the basic requirements for labels for pesticide products and some other requirements.

This Standard applies to the design and preparation of labels for commercial pesticides (market-orientated, including imports).

This Standard shall not apply to the design and preparation of labels for export-orientated pesticides, and genetically modified crops and natural-enemy products.

2 Normative documents quoted

Clauses of the following documents become clauses of this Standard once quoted herein. None of the revisions (excluding contents of the corrigenda) or revised versions of dated reference documents are applicable to this Standard. However, we encourage parties to reach an agreement in accordance with this standard and to discuss whether the latest editions of these documents are applicable. For undated reference documents, the latest edition is applicable in the standard.

GB 4839 Common names for pesticides

3 Terms and definitions

The following terms and definitions shall apply to this Standard.

3.1 Pesticide label

Any word, diagram or sign that is on or attached to a pesticide container and describes the pesticide.

3.2 Pesticide container

Any form of package as a basic unit for selling and using pesticides.

3.3 Common name of pesticide

Name of active component that is approved by the standardisation institution and functions in the pesticide.

3.4 Trade name of pesticide

Name approved by the pesticide registration and approval department to identify or refer to a certain pesticide product.

3.5 Preharvest interval

The number of days between the last application of pesticide and the harvest of crops.

3.6 Shelf life

The period in which the quality of pesticide product is guaranteed under the specified storage conditions. In that period, the respective technical indices such as the appearance and available component content of the product shall meet the relevant standard.

4 Basic principles

4.1 The contents marked on pesticide labels shall comply with relevant state laws and regulations and meet the specifications and requirements of the corresponding standard.

4.2 The contents marked on pesticide labels shall be true and consistent with the product registration and approval information.

4.3 The contents marked on pesticide labels shall be simple, accurate and scientific, and help users understand and use the product.

5 Basic contents to be marked

5.1 Name, content and formulation of the product

5.1.1 The name of a pesticide product may be its trade name or common name or a name consisting of the abbreviations of two or more common names of pesticides. One pesticide product shall have only one name.

5.1.2 The name of the pesticide product shall be marked in large noticeable print in an easily visible position on the label.

5.1.3 The full common names, contents and corresponding common international names of respective available components in the product shall be marked in a visible position on the label.

Common names of pesticides shall comply with GB 4839. Common international names of pesticides shall be ISO-approved names. Documented recommended names may be used for those pesticides that have no specified common names or common international names at the moment. In special circumstances, the pesticides may be left unmarked.

5.1.4 If the trade name (including textual trademark already registered) or a name consisting of the abbreviated common names of pesticides is used for a product, it shall be approved by the pesticide registration and approval department and shall comply with 5.1.3.

5.1.5 The available component content of a pesticide product shall be presented in mass percentage (%) or in mass concentration (g/l).

Special pesticides may be presented in specific common units.

5.1.6 The formulations of pesticide products shall be marked in compliance with relevant state standards or regulations. If such regulations are not available, documented recommended names may be used.

5.2 Approval certificate (number) of product

The label shall specify the pesticide registration certificate number (or temporary registration certificate number) of the product; specify the valid pesticide production license number or pesticide production approval document number where applicable; and specify the product standard number for a product manufactured and used in China.

5.3 Scope of use, dosage and use method

5.3.1 The scope of use, dosage and use method of a product shall be marked in compliance with the registered and approved contents, including applicable crops, target pests, applicable time, dosage, and method of application.

5.3.2 For field crops, the dosage shall be expressed by the mass (g) of available component content of the product that is used in a hectare (hm²) or the quantity (g or ml) of the product that is used in a hectare; for crops like trees, the dosage may be expressed by the total quantity of available components or the density (mg/kg or mg/l) of the product; and the dosage of feed finishing agent shall be expressed by the mass ratio of pesticide to feed. For other special uses, dosage shall comply with the contents of the registered and approved pesticide.

5.3.3 To help users understand, formulation quantity per mu or dilution ratio may be parenthesised behind the specified dosage.

5.4 Net content

The net content of product in each pesticide container shall be marked in an easily visible

position of the label, in such statutory units as g, kg, t, ml, [L or l], and kl. The value of net content shall comply with the product standard.

5.5 Shelf life of product

The shelf life of a pesticide product may be specified in any of the following three ways:

a) Specifying the production date or batch number and shelf life. For example, production date (batch number) “2000-06-18”, which means the pesticide was produced on 18 June 2000, and “Shelf life: 2 years”.

b) Specifying the batch number and validity period of the product.

c) Specifying the batch number and expiry date of the product.

The label on a sub-packaged product shall specify the production date and date of sub-packaging of the product, and the shelf life may be specified by the manufacturer.

5.6 Toxicity mark

The toxicity level and mark of a pesticide product shall be specified in an easily visible position. The toxicity level of a pesticide shall be marked in accordance with relevant state regulations on pesticide toxicity graduation marks and identification.

5.7 Precautions: The following must be specified:

5.7.1 Which materials the pesticide cannot be used with;

5.7.2 The conditions, crops and regions (or scope) requiring restricted use of the pesticide according to the registered and approved contents ;

5.7.3 The preharvest interval of the pesticide specified in the national standard, and the maximum number of times the pesticide can be used for one crop;

5.7.4 The protection articles to be used, safety measures to be taken, and precautions when applying the pesticide;

5.7.5 The methods for cleaning pesticide application devices and disposing of residual pesticide;

5.7.6 The first-aid measures for pesticide poisoning, and recommendations for doctors if necessary; and

5.7.7 The crops or scope for which the pesticide is forbidden in the related country.

5.8 Methods of storage and transportation: The following must be specified

5.8.1 The environment requirements and precautions for storing the pesticide;

5.9 Name and address of the manufacturer;

5.9.1 Name, detailed address, postcode and telephone number of the manufacturer that should be the same as registered on the business license;

5.9.2 (For sub-packaged product) Names, detailed addresses, postcodes and telephone numbers of the manufacturer and sub-packaging enterprise; and

5.9.3 (for imported product) The country (region) of origin, name of manufacturer, and name, detailed address, postcode and telephone number of the agency institution (or distributor) in China, all in Chinese.

5.10 Pesticide class characteristic colour strips

Every pesticide is marked with a non-fading pesticide class characteristic colour strip at the bottom of the label and parallel to the bottom side, to indicate the class of the pesticide (except pesticides for sanitation purposes).

“Green” for herbicides; “red” for insecticides (killing acarids and mollusca); “black” for germicides (killing nematodes); “deep yellow” for plant growth regulators; and “blue” for rodenticides.

5.11 Icons

Icons shall be used on the label to ensure better safety when using the pesticide. Icons shall be printed in black and white and usually marked at the bottom of the label. The size of the icons shall match the size of the label.

Icons shall be used optionally as required for the safe use of the pesticide but shall not take the place of necessary textual instructions on the label.

See Figure 1 for the icons and their meanings

(Storage icon: Keep out of the reach of children, and lock.

Operation icon: When preparing liquid pesticides.... When preparing solid pesticides....
When spraying pesticides....

Advice icon: Wear gloves; wear a mask; wear a gas mask;

wash after applying pesticide; wear a respirator; wear boots

Warning icon: Danger/hazardous for farm animals; Danger/hazardous for fish, do not pollute lakes, rivers, pools and streams)



贮存象形图	Saving the pictographs
放在儿童接触不到的地方, 并加锁	To be stored and locked in a place away from children's reach
操作象形图	Operating the pictographs
配制液体农药时.....	When preparing liquid pesticide...
配制固体农药时.....	When preparing solid pesticide...
喷药时.....	When spraying pesticide...
忠告象形图	Advice pictographs
戴手套	Wear gloves
戴防护罩	Wear protective shield
戴防毒面具	Wear gas mask
用药后需清洗	Wash after using pesticide
戴口罩	Wear mask
穿胶靴	Wear rubber boots
警告象形图	Warning pictographs

危險	Danger
对家畜有害	Harmful to livestock
对鱼有害，不要污染湖泊、河流、池塘和小溪	Harmful to fish. Do not pollute lakes, rivers, pools or streams.

Figure 1 Icons and Their Meanings

5.12 Other contents

Other necessary contents may be marked on the label, such as product instructions, and diagrams of crops and target pests, which may be helpful for the users. The label shall not include any words or diagrams about any crop or target pest not registered and approved.

6 Other requirements for labels

6.1 The pesticide label shall be stuck onto the container. The contents of the label may also be printed directly onto the container. If the container is too small so that the label does not cover all the necessary contents, instructions with the same contents as the label shall be attached to the external package, but the label shall at least include such contents as name, content, formulation, and net content of the product.

6.2 The material of the pesticide label shall be firm, durable and such that it will not deteriorate.

6.3 When the pesticide is in circulation, the label shall not fall off and its contents shall not become blurred, so users can clearly recognise and read the words, signs and diagrams when buying or using the pesticide.

6.4 In designing the layout of the label, the important contents shall be presented in relatively large or easily visible position. Important contents are: product name, content, formulation, Chinese and English common names of available components, target pests, use method, and toxicity mark.

6.5 The pesticide label shall use standard Simplified Chinese characters, or words of a related minor nationality where applicable.

6.6 The label of sub-packaged product shall basically be the same as that of the manufacturer in design and contents, but shall include additional information such as certificate number, sub-packaging date, net content, and name, detailed address, post code and telephone number of the sub-packaging enterprise.

6.7 One kind of label shall apply to one kind of pesticide; products with the same package specifications shall use one kind of label; the same product with different package specifications shall have labels of basically the same design and content.