

Flax Markets and Maximum Residue Limits

Marketing of Canadian flax is dependent on international buyers. Canadian flax is recognized around the world for its high quality and reliable supply. This reputation is valuable in all markets and is important to the entire value chain. Keeping flax within residue limits helps to maintain our international reputation for high quality flax. To ensure these markets remain open to Canadian flax:

- Only apply chemicals that are registered for use on flax, and are supported for use by the manufacturer and your grain buyer.
- Follow application instructions on labels.
- Abide by pre-harvest intervals (PHIs) for chemicals.



Talk to your grain buyer to determine if there are any chemicals that may be a concern for their markets.

Late-season Chemicals for Flax and Maximum Residue Limits

Several late-season chemicals registered for flax lack maximum residue limits (MRLs) for key export markets and some have established MRLs that may be too low for the associated pre-harvest interval.

Some MRLs are low and the use of a chemical may still pose a market risk.

Pre-harvest chemicals registered for use on flax

Active ingredient	Products	Crop stage	PHI (days)	Comments
diquat	Desica, Dessicash, Diquat 240, Drifast, Guardsman Diquat, MPower Clone 240, Reglone, Reglone Ion, Stage	75% brown bolls	none listed	harvest when seed dry ($\leq 10\%$ grain moisture); no MRLs for US, China or Codex
glyphosate	Agri Star Crush'R 540, ClearOut 41 Plus, Co-op Vector 540, Credit 45, Credit Xtreme, Crush'R Plus, IPCO Factor 540, Flame Glyphosate 360, Guardsman Glyphosate, Matrix, MPower Disruptor Glyphosate 360, MPower Disruptor Glyphosate 540, Roundup Transorb HC Liquid, Roundup WeatherMax with Transorb 2, R/T 540 Liquid, Smoke 41%, Sharda Glyphosate 360, StartUp, Stonewall, Vector, Vector 540, VP480	$\leq 30\%$ grain moisture (75-80% brown bolls)	none listed	harvest 7-14 days after application, do not apply to crops if harvested seed will be sown; no MRL for China or Codex
saflufenacil	Heat WG, Heat LQ	75% brown bolls	3	harvest 7-14 days after application, if tank mixed with glyphosate do not sow harvested seed; no MRL for China, MRL for EU too low for pre-harvest application

Compiled from the 2018 Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba crop protection guides, product labels and various online MRL databases. Check product labels for application rates and restrictions.

- Diquat does not have MRLs for the US, China or at Codex. Diquat has a low MRL for Japan.
- Neither China nor Codex have established MRLs for glyphosate. Glyphosate must only be applied to the crop when seed moisture content is 30% or less to avoid the risk of exceeding key export market MRLs.
- Saflufenacil (Heat WG and Heat LQ) is lacking an MRL for China and the established MRL for the EU is too low for the use of Heat as a desiccant in flax. **The use of Heat WG and Heat LQ on a flax crop that is exported to the EU will result in the MRL being exceeded.**

Contact your grain buyer to determine if the application of a late season chemical to your flax crop will be a marketing concern.