

# Update on PMRA Re-Evaluations

Lorraine MacKinnon, P.Ag

# What is PMRA?

- Pest Management Regulatory Agency
- Agency under Health Canada
- Regulates the Pest Control Products Act, pesticides and their uses
- Primary objective is to protect the health of Canadians and the Environment

# What are re-evaluations?

- **GENERAL RE-EVALUATIONS – “HAS ANYTHING CHANGED?”**
  - On a 15 year basis, **ALL** pesticides must undergo a re-evaluation using the most modern techniques and current scientific information to assess health and environmental safety criteria.
  - Example: Chlorothalonil & mancozeb
- **SPECIAL REVIEWS – “SOMETHING SPECIFIC SHOULD BE ASSESSED!”**
  - Can be initiated at any time on any pesticide. Only examines a certain aspect of a pesticide; can result from new information that provides reasonable grounds to believe that the health and/or environmental risks of a pesticide are no longer acceptable.
  - Example: Clothianidin & thiamethoxam – Aquatic Invertebrates

# What is the process?

- Manufacturers provide information and data to PMRA as per the re-evaluation or special review process.
- After reviewing data and information, PMRA publishes a PROPOSED DECISION for period of public consultation (often 90 days).
- PMRA considers all the submitted information and comments.
- PMRA issues a FINAL DECISION.
- Entire process can take several years.

# Recent PMRA Decisions

- CHLOROTHALONIL
  - Bravo, Echo, Tattoo C, Elixir, Ridomil Gold Bravo
- Proposed Decision 2011; Amended 2016; Decision May 2018; label changes enforced 2020
  - DF must be water soluble packaging
  - Additional PPE
  - Reduced # of apps (3 in potatoes)
  - Lengthened REIs

# Recent PMRA Decisions

- METIRAM
  - Polyram, Cabrio Plus
- Proposed Decision 2014; Final Decision June 2018; label changes enforced June 2020
  - Every use BUT potatoes cancelled
  - Max 3 apps and 1.4kg/ha per season
  - Extra PPE
  - Lengthened REIs
  - Limit applications of metiram and mancozeb in one season

# What products are currently undergoing re-evaluations or reviews?

- Mancozeb (Dithane, Manzate, Penncozeb, etc)
- Clothianidin (Titan, Poncho)
- Imidacloprid (Admire, Alias, Gaucho, Clutch)
- Thiamethoxam (Actara, Cruiser Max, Cruiser 5S)

# Mancozeb

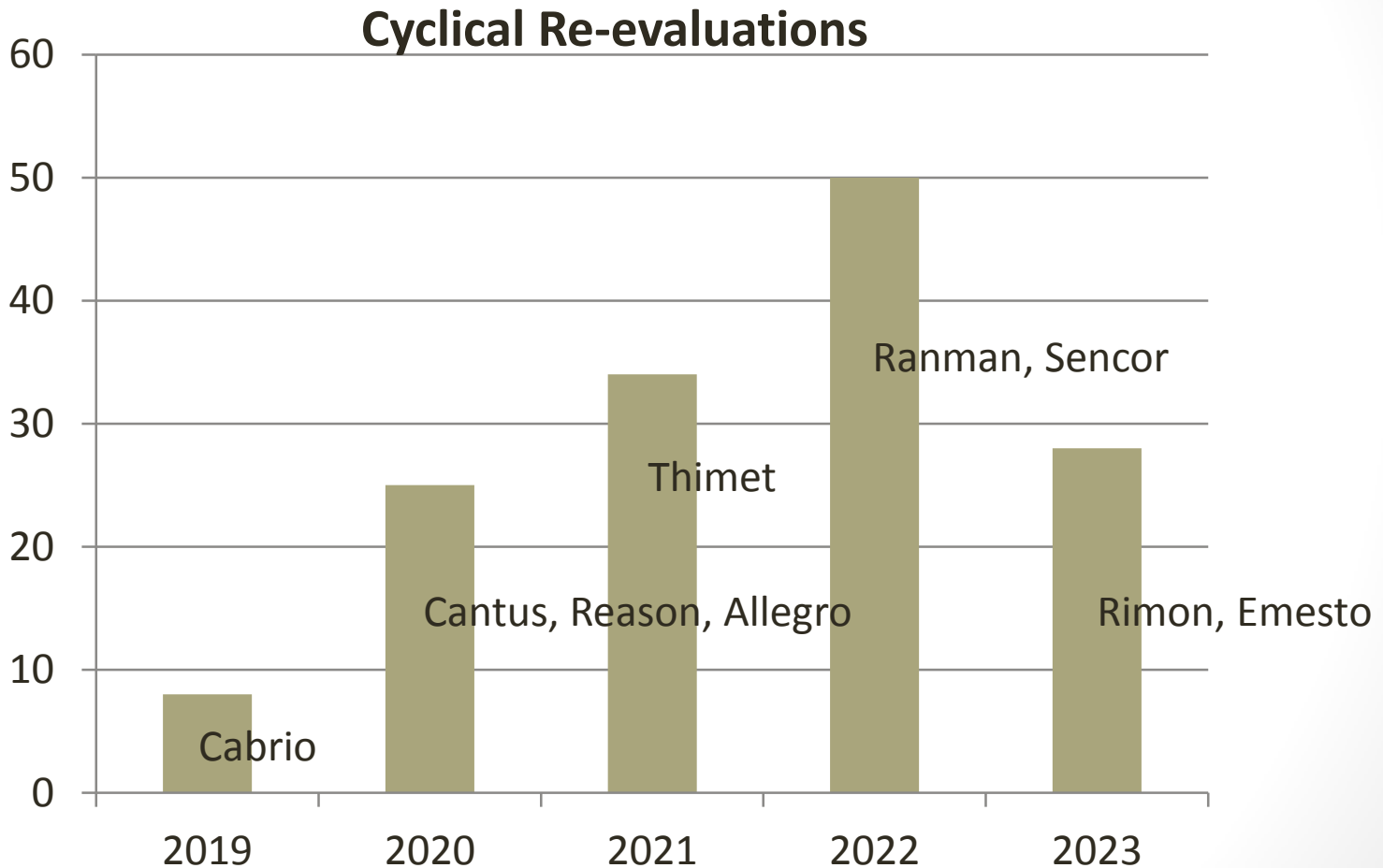
- Proposed Decision; published Oct 5, 2018; proposes cancellation
- Consultation now closed
- If cancelled, there will be a phase out period
- Still available in 2019



# Neo-Nicotinoids

	Imidacloprid	Thiamethoxam	Clothianidin
General Re-evaluation	~Spring 2019 Decision	~Winter 2020 Consultation	~Winter 2020 Consultation
Special Review: Pollinators	~Spring 2019 Decision	~Spring 2019 Decision	~Spring 2019 Decision
Special Review : Squash Bees	~Spring 2019 Consultation	~Spring 2019 Consultation	~Spring 2019 Consultation
Special Review: Aquatic Invertebrates	N/A	~Winter 2020 Decision	~Winter 2020 Decision
<b><i>PROPOSED DECISIONS (Most Restrictive Scenario)</i></b>	Cancel all outdoor uses (GR)	Cancel all outdoor uses (AI)	Cancel all outdoor uses (AI)

# PMRA Schedule 2019-2023



# What does this mean to a potato grower?

- Re-evaluations and special reviews do not necessarily result in cancellations of pesticides
- We have experienced label restrictions and some proposed cancellations.
- During the re-evaluation, special review, or consultation processes, there are usually no impacts to current labels
- We may be left with fewer tools in the future; and rotating pesticide families will get complex

# How do we adapt?

- Diligent planning of season-long pest control
  - Rotation of actives, max # of applications, labelled diseases
- More intense Integrated Pest Management Principles
  - Scouting, cultural practices, weather-based disease forecasting, spore trapping
- Resistant varieties
- Innovation in pest management (RNAi; drones/satellites for remote sensing; machine learning; precision ag)