

AGIL PRODUCT NEWS

DEMETER gains further approvals.

The removal of Actellic dust from the approved list of pesticides for grain storage left a vacuum for the crop protection industry that was always going to be difficult to fill.

DEMETER was launched a year ago and was immediately permitted as an acaricide and insecticide for animal feed grains as the main ingredient had previously been approved as a feed ingredient and already had an E number.

The mode of action of DEMETER is entirely physical and this means that no approvals under the biocides regulations were required.

Under the European Directive 91/414/EEC all active substances used in plant protection products needed to be notified by the fourth stage of the review programme and DEMETER has been accepted as notified in Sanco/10179/2003 rev.3 on 24.06.2003.

Since then Agil has conducted tests with Brewing Research International who have evaluated DEMETER as a storage insecticide for malting grains. Optic, a standard malting barley, was treated with DEMETER at 3.4kg/Te, higher than our maximum recommended inclusion rate. Test samples were malted and monitored against a control and no differences in germination after 2 days were observed.

After kilning the dried malt was de-rooted and the malt rootlets were analysed as animal feed, again there was no difference between control and DEMETER treatments.

Malt analysis showed no differences in Hot water extract (IOB) (litre/kg), Colour (IOB), Total Soluble Nitrogen (% dry), Total Nitrogen (% dry), Soluble Nitrogen Ratio, Free Amino Nitrogen (% dry basis), pH, Fermentability (%), Diastatic Power (IOB), Viscosity (mPa/s) and Friability (%). As a result of these trials the British Beer and Pub Association have now accepted DEMETER as an insecticide for use in stored barley for use by brewers.

The Central Science Laboratory, a UK Government test laboratory, reported that DEMETER had been applied to floor and structure of one of their experimental storage areas in July 2003. DEMETER had been applied at a mean dose of 8 g/M², and achieved 100% control of the saw-toothed beetle within 1 week and the grain weevil within 5 weeks in contained bioassays. Associated trapping of free roaming populations showed immediate significant decrease, but it took several months to achieve control of both species. The laboratory commented that this was not surprising as there would have been untreated harbourages in their storage areas.

DEMETER has now gained acceptance for the animal feed and brewing industries as a safe and effective alternative to the harsh biocides recently withdrawn from European markets.

Murray J Hyden – Managing Director

November 2003



Agil, Hercules 2, Calleva Park, Aldermaston, READING, RG7 8DN, UK
Tel 00 44 (0) 118 9813333, Fax 00 44 (0)118 9810909. E mail sales@agil.com