

SPECIFICATIONS FOR PESTICIDES A TRAINING MANUAL

PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE



World Health
Organization



Food and Agriculture
Organization of
the United Nations

Specifications for pesticides: a training manual

Participant's guide



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List of abbreviations used in the training course

| | |
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| CIPAC | Collaborative International Pesticides Analytical Council |
| CS | capsule suspension |
| EC | emulsifiable concentrate |
| EU | European Union |
| GC-FID | gas chromatography, using a flame-ionization detector |
| GHS | Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), accessible under the Transport of Dangerous Goods heading at http://www.unece.org/trans/ |
| HPLC-UV | high performance liquid chromatography, using an ultraviolet light absorption detector |
| IPCS | International Programme on Chemical Safety, a joint programme of WHO, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) |
| ISO | International Organization for Standardization |
| JMPS | FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Specifications |
| LC-MS | high performance liquid chromatography, using a mass spectrometer as detector |
| LC-MS/MS | high performance liquid chromatography, using a tandem mass spectrometer as detector |
| LN | long-lasting insecticidal net |
| LOQ | limit of quantification |
| M1 | Manufacturer 1 and/or the supporting data and test methods used by M1, which form the basis of a reference specification |
| M2 | Manufacturer 2 and/or the supporting data and test methods used by M2, where a product of M2 is to be tested for equivalence with the corresponding product of M1 |
| OECD | Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development |
| OK | acceptable |
| OL | oil-miscible liquid |
| SE | suspo-emulsion |
| TC | technical material |
| TK | technical concentrate |
| UL | ultra-low volume (ULV) liquid |
| USEPA | United States Environmental Protection Agency |
| WG | water-dispersible granules |
| WHOPES | WHO Pesticide Evaluation Scheme |

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Background and preparation

Why offer this course?

The International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides¹ promotes trade in, and use of, good-quality pesticides and discourages the distribution of poor-quality products. Specifications for pesticides are developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and by the World Health Organization (WHO) to enable good- and bad-quality products to be distinguished, using simple, robust and well-validated tests. The Code of Conduct further promotes the use of FAO/WHO procedures for the determination of equivalence.

The FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Specifications (JMPS) provides independent expert scientific assessment of the data supporting FAO and WHO specifications. The JMPS has developed standard procedures for assessment of pesticide data, including the determination of equivalence which minimizes the requirements for additional animal testing of pesticide hazards. The principles and practice of JMPS procedures are of utility to anyone involved in setting and ensuring standards for pesticide product quality, especially pesticide registration authorities. However, although simple in principle, JMPS procedures require extensive technical knowledge and expertise in practice, because almost every case is different.

Who should take this course?

This course is intended for personnel with responsibility for defining and ensuring the acceptability of pesticide product quality.

What is the purpose of the course and what are its objectives?

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to the principles and practice of defining acceptable quality and equivalence of pesticides, to assist both governments and industry to strengthen the underlying procedures required for quality control of pesticides used in agriculture and public health. The course does not address the procedure and requirements for adapting national pesticide registration systems to implement the principles of determination of equivalence.

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