



United Phosphorus Ltd

The Future of Asulox

I am writing to you to clarify the regulatory situation of Asulox in the UK and the steps that United Phosphorus are taking to ensure the long term future of the product. I can re-assure you that at present Asulox is fully approved with all its present uses until at least December 2010.

As with all active ingredients, Asulam, the active ingredient in the formulated product Asulox[®] has been subject to review according to the procedures laid down in Directive 91/414/EC, commonly known as the EU Review of Pesticides.

The sole notifier supporting Asulam through the EU review process is United Phosphorus Limited, who are the manufacturer and registration holder of Asulox[®] worldwide.

Asulam has recently been **voluntarily withdrawn** from the EU review process alongside 49 other active substances due to changes in the European evaluation process. These changes were primarily driven and implemented by the Commission to meet their deadlines for reviewing all active substances. As a result, additional data which were presented during the review process were no longer allowed to be taken into consideration during the decision making process.

To ensure the long-term future of Asulox[®], United Phosphorus Limited took the decision to voluntarily withdraw from the review process, and will re-submit an application for approval including the additional data at EU level under the new 'Accelerated Procedure'. You will probably be aware that most manufacturers have taken this route with some of their active ingredients (the 49 active ingredients referred to above).

On 5th December 2008, the European Commission published Directive 2008/934/EC concerning non-inclusion of all 49 voluntarily withdrawn substances in Annex I to Directive 91/414/EC and withdrawal of authorisation of products containing these substances. According to this Directive, non-inclusion is **not** based on indication of harmful effects. All products containing substances that have been voluntarily withdrawn are authorised until 31st December 2010 with a maximum additional 12 months use up period. It is envisaged that dossiers for withdrawn substances will be submitted for evaluation through the accelerated process and should achieve Annex I listing by this date.

By providing a robust dossier, United Phosphorus Limited is fully committed to ensure inclusion of Asulam onto Annex I to Directive 91/414/EEC, maintaining the long-term availability of Asulox[®]. We definitely do not wish for Asulox[®] to be

permanently withdrawn from the European market. In addition to this, United Phosphorus Limited intends to defend all key uses including derogation for aerial treatment of bracken at national re-registration in the UK and are working closely with relevant agencies.

If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact myself or Richard Allen, UK Sales Manager.

Chris Hepworth
European Herbicide Manager

Contact details:

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