

II

(Acts adopted under the EC Treaty/Euratom Treaty whose publication is not obligatory)

DECISIONS

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 4 April 2008

concerning the non-inclusion of azocyclotin, cyhexatin and thidiazuron in Annex I to Council Directive 91/414/EEC and the withdrawal of authorisations for plant protection products containing those active substances

(notified under document number C(2008) 1187)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2008/296/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 91/414/EEC of 15 July 1991 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market⁽¹⁾, and in particular the fourth subparagraph of Article 8(2) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Article 8(2) of Directive 91/414/EEC provides that a Member State may, during a period of 12 years following the notification of that Directive, authorise the placing on the market of plant protection products containing active substances not listed in Annex I to that Directive that are already on the market two years after the date of notification, while those substances are gradually being examined within the framework of a programme of work.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 230, 19.8.1991, p. 1. Directive as last amended by Commission Directive 2008/40/EC (OJ L 87, 29.3.2008, p. 5).

(2) Commission Regulations (EC) No 451/2000⁽²⁾ and (EC) No 1490/2002⁽³⁾ lay down the detailed rules for the implementation of the second and third stage of the programme of work referred to in Article 8(2) of Directive 91/414/EEC.

(3) Azocyclotin, cyhexatin and thidiazuron are substances designated in the third stage programme.

(4) The sole notifiers for azocyclotin, cyhexatin and thidiazuron informed the Commission on 25 January 2007, 24 January 2007 and 7 February 2007 respectively, that they no longer wished to participate in the programme of work for these active substances, and therefore further information will not be submitted. As a consequence, these active substances should not be included in Annex I to Directive 91/414/EEC.

(5) Measures should be taken to ensure that existing authorisations for plant protection products containing azocyclotin, cyhexatin or thidiazuron are withdrawn within a prescribed period and are not renewed and that no authorisations for such products are granted.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 55, 29.2.2000, p. 25. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1044/2003 (OJ L 151, 19.6.2003, p. 32).

⁽³⁾ OJ L 224, 21.8.2002, p. 23. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1095/2007 (OJ L 246, 21.9.2007, p. 19).

- (6) For these active substances for which there is only a short period of advance notice for the withdrawal of plant protection products containing such substances, it is reasonable to provide for a period of grace for disposal, storage, placing on the market and use of existing stocks for a period no longer than 12 months to allow existing stocks to be used in no more than one further growing. In cases where a longer advance notice period is provided, such period can be shortened to expire at the end of the growing season.
- (7) This Decision does not prejudice the submission of an application for azocyclotin, cyhexatin or thidiazuron according to the provisions of Article 6(2) of Directive 91/414/EEC in view of a possible inclusion in its Annex I.
- (8) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health,
- (a) authorisations for plant protection products containing azocyclotin, cyhexatin and thidiazuron are withdrawn by 4 October 2008;
- (b) from 5 April 2008 no authorisations for plant protection products containing azocyclotin, cyhexatin and thidiazuron are granted or renewed under the derogation provided for in Article 8(2) of Directive 91/414/EEC.

Article 3

Any period of grace granted by Member States in accordance with Article 4(6) of Directive 91/414/EEC, shall be as short as possible and shall expire not later than 4 October 2009.

Article 4

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Azocyclotin, cyhexatin and thidiazuron shall not be included in Annex I to Directive 91/414/EEC.

Article 2

Member States shall ensure that:

Done at Brussels, 4 April 2008.

For the Commission
Androulla VASSILIOU
Member of the Commission
