

Annex to news: Highlights from March BPC meeting

Helsinki, 14 March 2022

Further information about the opinions

Active substances:

Methylene dithiocyanate for product-type 12

[Methylene dithiocyanate](#) is an existing active substance.

Products based on methylene dithiocyanate are intended to be used by professionals through intermittent or shock dosing in papermaking processes (product-type 12) to control microbial proliferation of fungi including yeast, bacteria and algae.

The evaluating competent authority of the active substance application is France.

(13Z)-Hexadec-13-en-11-yn-1-yl acetate for product-type 19

[\(13Z\)-Hexadec-13-en-11-yn-1-yl acetate](#) is a new active substance.

This pheromone is used to prevent toxic processionary caterpillar plague. It is encapsulated into natural waxes or oils leading to a gel, which is introduced into a biodegradable polymer shell to form a ball. This product is called Pine T Pro Ball.

The product is applied seasonally to the top of the pine and oak trees by professionals with a compressed air gun, similar to a paintball gun. The balls burst on the trunk of the trees to form a film which dries in a few hours. From this film, the active substance slowly evaporates in the air saturating it with female pheromone. This prevents the male caterpillars from finding the females and reproducing offspring.

The evaluating competent authority of the active substance application is France.

Propiconazole for product-type 8 (renewal)

[Propiconazole](#) has been evaluated for its use as a wood preservative (product-type 8). It is intended to be used as a fungicide against wood destroying and discolouring fungi. The submitted dossier for renewal supports the use of propiconazole as a wood preservative for use class (UC) 2 and 3 of a solvent-based formulation for industrial and professional users. The evaluated application methods cover brushing/rolling, automated spraying and fully automated dipping.

Biocidal products containing propiconazole have also been authorised in the EU for UC 3 and 4 for wood vacuum-pressure impregnation.

The evaluating competent authority of the active substance application is Finland.

In addition to the Union authorisations mentioned in the news release, the committee adopted its opinion on two biocidal products containing **propan-2-ol** for product-type 2 (disinfectants and algaecides not intended for use directly on people or animals) and for product-type 4 (food

and feed area) for which data (as specified in the BPC opinion) were received after the authorisation was granted. The BPC concluded that the existing authorisations do not need to be amended.

The evaluating competent authority of these products is Germany.

More information about [product-types](#).

The opinions will be available on ECHA's website at: [Biocidal Products Committee](#).

Background information

The role of the Biocidal Products Committee in EU regulatory processes

The Biocidal Products Committee prepares the opinions of the Agency related to several processes under the Biocidal Products Regulation. Each EU Member State is entitled to appoint one member to the BPC for a renewable term of three years.

In relation to applications for the approval of new active substances, companies have to apply for approval of an active substance by submitting a dossier. After a validation check, the evaluating competent authority carries out an evaluation within one year.

The result of the evaluation is forwarded to the BPC, which prepares an opinion within 270 days. The opinion serves as a basis for decision-making by the European Commission and the Member States. The approval of an active substance is granted for a defined number of years, not exceeding 10 years.

Substances, which were on the market before 14 May 2000 and are evaluated under the biocides review programme in an analogous manner to new active substances, are referred to as existing active substances.

During the approval process of an active substance, the evaluating competent authority may conclude that the active substance meets the criteria for substitution of Article 10(1) of the BPR and is therefore a potential candidate for substitution. The objective of this provision is to identify substances of particular concern to public health or the environment and to make sure that these substances are phased-out and replaced by more suitable alternatives over time. The criteria for substitution are based on the intrinsic hazardous properties in combination with the use and include, for example, if the substance meets at least one of the exclusion criteria listed in the BPR or if the substance is a respiratory sensitiser.

For substances that are identified by the evaluating competent authority as a potential candidate for substitution, ECHA will initiate a public consultation to allow interested third parties to submit relevant information, including information on available substitutes. Subsequently, in the preparation of its opinion, the BPC reviews the proposed identification of the active substance as a candidate for substitution.

Active substances which are candidates for substitution will not be approved for more than seven years, even in the case of renewal. If the active substance meets one or more exclusion criteria, it will only be approved for five years. When an active substance is identified as a candidate for substitution, products containing that active substance will have to be subject to a comparative assessment at the time of authorisation and will only be authorised if there are no better alternatives.