Fungicide Withholding Period Update – November 2014

Aim

To examine reasons and make recommendations regarding the current 90 day withholding period stated in the Olives New Zealand best practice manual.

Background

Fungicides currently registered for use on olives in New Zealand:

- 1. Spotless no withholding period as currently not recommended for use after fruit set.
- 2. Copper Oxychloride no apparent withholding period.

Fungicides registered in Australia. (See report from Australian Olives for further information.):

- 1. Copper based withholding period 1 day.
- 2. Azoxystrobin withholding period 21 days.
- 3. Pyraclostrobin currently under review. No withholding period available as yet.

There are a number of fungicides registered for use in Australia for use on olive nursery stock. These include Mancozeb 750 DF, mancozeb 800 WP, Bayfidan 250 EG(Triadimenol), Saprol fungicide (Triforine), Plantvax750 WP (oxycarboxin), Tilt 250EC. (Propiconazole).

Fungicides registered outside NZ and Australia:

<u>1. Mancozeb</u> Greece - 7 day withholding period Spain - 15 day withholding period

2. Difenoconazole Spain - 30 day withholding period. On other crops withholding period 7 days

<u>3. Copper based products.</u>21 days withholding period

<u>4. Trifloxystrobin</u> Spain - 14 days withholding period.

Summary

All of the data outside of NZ and Australia was obtained from the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations.

The Australian figures were provided by Peter McFarlane, the AOA Code of Practice Administrator.

It is clear from the above that the current 90 day withholding period stated in the Olives New Zealand Food Safety Template manual is impractical and ineffective in terms of practical disease control.

To bring our industry into line with other olive growing regions the Executive approve that the withholding periods be changed:

- 1. to match on label recommendations as listed above
- 2. for any other fungicides which are not approved for on label use in the olive industry, a 30 day withholding period should apply.