

Annual CIPAC/FAO/WHO Report Form on the Quality Control of Pesticides

Country/Name and Address of the Institution (contact person):

Panama, Ministry of Agriculture - National Directorate of Plant Protection,

Ariel Espino De León-Director, (507) 290-6710, aespino@mida.gob.pa

Brenda Checa Orrego-Chemist, Quality Control of Pesticidas laboratory, (507) 290-6710, bcheca@mida.gob.pa

1 - Essential Information

Reporting period/year:	Number of samples analyzed (1)	Number of non-compliance (2)	Uses (3) (optional)
2004	48	2 (4.1%)	Agricultural use: X
2005	23	0	
2006	33	4 (12.1%)	Public Health use:
2007	107	5 (4.7%)	Home and Garden use:
			Other uses (please specify):

(1) Any sample, including those of active inspection and registration control samples.

To see annex.

(2) Non-compliance with FAO/WHO or national pesticide specifications.

The reason of non-compliance: **According to FAO/WHO pesticides specifications, these pesticides formulations no comply below and above the concentration level written on the label.**

(3) If possible, please indicate the use/destination of the pesticide analyzed. If the pesticide has various uses, it should be included only in one category and should be explained under item 2 (comments).

2 - Any comments and/or background information

A lot of synthetic formulations (1115 units and 207 active ingredients in February, 2008) have been registered in the Department of Agrochemicals of the Ministry of Agriculture in Panama, being used in the national market.

Farmers face challenges of using pesticide of a composition that enables them to ensure the quality of their products (fruits and vegetables) on demanding international market, especially with participation of the Republic of Panama in the World Trade Organization (WTO). Hence the Ministry of Agriculture, under its political to comply with the existing regulations in this area, it has adopted a program to establish quality control of agricultural products, with the final goal of giving a response to the farmers needs.

The Quality Control Laboratory has been created based on the Law No. 47, July 9, 1996, "which dictate protective measures and others phytosanitary requirements.

Since 2004, has been operating Laboratory for Quality Control of Pesticides Formulation (insecticides, herbicides and fungicides). Currently, there are analysis 211 samples and 60 active ingredients of interest and most used in agriculture.

The consumers protection needs have never been greater than the amount of pesticides imported in the years 2002 (5,510,199 kg), 2003 (6,121,471 kg), 2005 (7,175,758 kg) and during the year 2006 (8,467,394 kg) have been increasing; this matter provides a means to determine and validate laboratory tests and the Lab competence according to ISO/IEC 17025 and the Lab sustainability that enable it to validate for achieving an international recognition.

The Official Laboratory of Quality Control of Pesticides of the Republic of Panama is sustainable since March 2007, through regulated procedures that allow us to get a payment of clients for sampling and testing services before pesticides importation. This procedure has been published in www.gacetaoficial.gob.pa (Document N°25535) and it is applied to all chemical or synthetic pesticides imported and elaborated in Panama. This effort to accomplish the validation process was started during 2007 and so far it has been achieved 50% of its implementation.

The samples are taken according to the procedure for collecting, packing, handling and transporting of samples. The Quality Control of Pesticides Laboratory receives the pesticide samples limits for accepting lots. This procedure has been published in www.gacetaoficial.gob.pa (N° 25600).

Annex:

List of active ingredients analyzed in Panama.

1. 2,4 D
2. Abamectin
3. Ametryn
4. Atrazine
5. Benomyl
6. Bifenthrin
7. Bitertanol
8. Butachlor
9. Carbendazim
10. Carbofuran
11. Carbosulfan
12. Cymoxanil
13. Cypermethrin
14. Clorfenapyr
15. Chlorothalonil
16. Clorpyrifos
17. Deltamethrin
18. Diazinon
19. Dicamba
20. Dimethoate
21. Diuron
22. Endosulfan
23. Epoxiconazole
24. Etofenprox
25. Fenitrothion
26. Fipronil
27. Fluazifop-butyl

28. Glyphosate
29. Imazalil
30. Imidacloprid
31. Isoprothiolane
32. Kresoxim-metil
33. Lambda cyhalothrin
34. Malathion
35. Mancozeb
36. Maneb
37. Metalaxyl
38. Methamidophos
39. Methomyl
40. Metribuzin
41. Metsulfuron methyl
42. Monocrotofos
43. Oxamyl
44. Oxyfluorfen
45. Paraquat
46. Pendimethalin
47. Picloram
48. Profenofos
49. Propanil
50. Propiconazole
51. Pyraclostrobin
52. Pyrazosulfuron- ethyl
53. Pyrimethanil
54. Spiroxamine
55. Terbufos
56. Thiamethoxam
57. Thiabendazole
58. Triazophos
59. Triclopyr
60. Tridemorph

3. CIPAC Activities