

Emergency Authorisation Number: 0646 of 2023

## EMERGENCY AUTHORISATION OF A PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCT

### PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS REGULATION (EC) No 1107/2009

Extent of authorisation: Great Britain

Product name: Apron XL

Active ingredient: 339.2 g / l metalaxyl-M

MAPP number: 14654

Product authorisation holder: Syngenta UK Limited (Registered Company no. 849037)

Marketing company: Syngenta UK Limited

Emergency authorisation holder: The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 2TL

This Emergency Authorisation starts: 1 April 2023

This Emergency Authorisation ends:

(a) for placing on the market and use:  
30 June 2023

(b) for storage and disposal of stocks:  
31 July 2023

This emergency authorisation can be withdrawn or amended before its end date if the requirements of authorisation under Regulation 1107/2009 are no longer met. The requirements may no longer be met as a result of, for example, new information brought to the attention of the competent authority on the danger necessitating the use of the PPP, the effects of the PPP, or whether use of the PPP is limited and controlled. These examples are not exhaustive.

## HSE Digital Signature

This and the attached Appendices 1 and 2 are signed by the Health and Safety Executive for and on behalf of the Secretary of State, the Welsh Ministers and the Scottish Ministers.

Date of issue: 1 April 2023

### **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

1. This is emergency Authorisation number 0646 of 2023.
2. This emergency authorisation will be published on HSE's website.
3. Application reference number: COP 2022/02291
4. Persons using the product to which this emergency authorisation applies should acquaint themselves with and observe all requirements contained in the Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009.
5. Neither the efficacy nor the phytotoxicity of the product for which this emergency authorisation has been granted has been assessed and, as such, the user bears the risk in respect of failures concerning its efficacy and phytotoxicity.
6. In this notice Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 means:  
In relation to Great Britain, Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 as it has effect in Great Britain.  
In relation to Northern Ireland, Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 as it has effect by virtue of the Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland in the EU withdrawal agreement.

## ADVISORY INFORMATION

This emergency authorisation relates to the use of 'Apron XL' (M14654) as a seed treatment for use on carrot seed for control of damping off (*Pythium*). 'Apron XL' is to be applied as a seed treatment using a maximum individual dose of 0.5 ml product / kg seed. Application must only take place using continuous flow or batch seed treaters. The maximum dilution rate is four parts water to one part of product.

**IMPORTANT:** When applying this product under the terms of this emergency authorisation, comply with any resistance guidance or restrictions stated on the product label.

**IMPORTANT:** Those parties involved in the distribution and sale of goods should note that goods treated under the terms of this authorisation can only be legally marketed in Northern Ireland if they are in accordance with the statutory EU MRL set under Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. Growers are advised to draw this to the attention of distributors and retailers who are customers for their goods so that EU MRL breaches and potential enforcement against goods marketed in Northern Ireland is avoided.

'Apron XL' contains a phenylamide fungicide. A number of diseases, including *Pythium* species, have developed resistance to phenylamides.

## APPENDIX 1: CONDITIONS OF EMERGENCY AUTHORISATION

The conditions below are obligatory. They must be complied with when the product is placed on the market and used pursuant to this emergency authorisation. Failure to comply with the following conditions is likely to result in the withdrawal or amendment of the emergency authorisation under Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 and may result in other enforcement action, including prosecution.

For the purposes of this emergency authorisation only, the conditions and/or requirements shown below supersede any corresponding conditions and/or requirements set out on the label or otherwise provided for under the product authorisation **which would otherwise apply**.

### Use:

Field of use: **ONLY AS A SEED TREATMENT**

User: Professional

Crops/situations:	Maximum individual dose: (ml product / kg seed)	Maximum total dose:	Maximum number of treatments: (per batch)	Latest time of application:
Carrot (seed)	1	-	1	Pre-drilling

### Operator Protection:

- (1) Engineering control of operator exposure must be used where reasonably practicable in addition to the following personal protective equipment:
  - (a) Operators must wear suitable protective clothing (coveralls), suitable protective gloves and face protection (faceshield) when handling the concentrate, handling contaminated surfaces or handling treated seed.
  - (b) Operators must wear suitable protective clothing (coveralls)\*, suitable protective gloves and face protection (faceshield) when cleaning machinery. \*With liquid tight connections for the whole body to at least EN 14605 Type 3 or equivalent.
- (2) However, engineering controls may replace personal protective equipment if a COSHH assessment shows that they provide an equal or higher standard of protection.

Environmental protection:

- (1) To protect birds and mammals treated seed must not be left on the soil surface. Bury or remove spillages.
- (2) Treated seed must not be broadcast.
- (3) Treated seed must be precision drilled.

Other specific restrictions:

- (1) This product must only be applied in accordance with the terms of this emergency authorisation, the product label and/or leaflet.
- (2) A maximum sowing rate of 2.2 million seeds per hectare must be observed.
- (3) Treated seed must be sown between 1 April and 1 July 2023.
- (4) Treated seed must not be stored from one season to the next. Treated seed must be drilled in the season immediately following treatment.
- (5) Treated seed must not be used for food or feed.
- (6) Sacks containing treated seed must not be re-used for food or feed.
- (7) Treated seed must not be applied from the air.
- (8) Reasonable precautions must be taken to prevent access of birds and wild mammals to treated crops.

## **APPENDIX 2: GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR AN EMERGENCY AUTHORISATION**

Failure to comply with the following conditions is likely to result in the withdrawal or amendment of the emergency authorisation under Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 and may result in other enforcement action, including prosecution.

### **Adverse effects:**

The authorisation holder must immediately notify the Secretary of State, the Welsh Ministers and the Scottish Ministers, if they have any new information on the potentially adverse effects of the authorised product, or of residues of an active substance in that product when used in accordance with the conditions of this authorisation. Failure to comply with this requirement is an offence.

### **Provision of information:**

The authorisation holder must comply with all requests for information required by, or on behalf of, the Secretary of State, the Welsh Ministers or the Scottish Ministers in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009.

### APPENDIX 3: STEWARDSHIP

This stewardship is prepared in accordance with the specific conditions of this emergency authorisation. It must be followed as a condition of the authorisation.

The terms of the emergency authorisation stewardship are:

Records must be kept on the each location where seed treated with the product is sown. For each location, information on sowing rate and timing must be provided, as well as the time since the last carrot crop was sown in the same field, together with the total area sown in hectares. In addition, the monthly rainfall for the location at the time of sowing must be recorded.

The following table provides a summary of controlled use, with further details of each component provided below.

<b>Component of a strategy for controlled use:</b>	<b>Responsibilities:</b>
Overall stewardship approach	AHDB Horticulture (HCP Ltd from 1 April 2023 onwards)
Communication to industry on authorisation conditions and stewardship approach	AHDB Horticulture (HCP Ltd from 1 April 2023 onwards) with British Carrot Growers' Association (BCGA).
Product supply and amendments to product label if required	Syngenta UK Ltd
Seed treatment, supply of treated seed to growers, advice on seed handling and sowing restrictions.	Elsoms seeds Ltd (or other professional seed treatment companies).
Precision drilling and in-field stewardship of treated seed	Carrot growers and agronomists
Disposal of treated seed	Carrot growers
Collation of data if required by CRD	BCGA for AHDB (or HCP Ltd from 1 April 2023 onwards)

## **Overall stewardship approach and communication to industry**

There is a dedicated 'Standard Operating Procedure' (SOP) within the AHDB Crop Health and Protection Team. AHDB have a 'notifiable communications' procedure. All relevant end-users registered with AHDB through our database of levy payers receive copies of the emergency authorisation. Contact details of the Crop Protection Scientist responsible for the crop sector are included, to encourage growers to clarify any uncertainties about the conditions of use.

Overall responsibility for stewardship and communication will pass to Horticulture Crop Protection (HCP) Ltd from 1 April 2023. From that date onwards, communication with growers will be made via British Growers' Association contact databases rather than via AHDB levy database.

AHDB will work closely with Ian Holmes (R&D chair for BCGA and carrot agronomist), BCGA and Elsoms Seeds Ltd who routinely treat seed for the carrot industry.

## **Product supply**

The intended route of product supply of Apron XL is direct from the authorisation holder (or via relevant distributors) to seed treatment companies. Syngenta will ensure product label amendments are made if required (e.g. to notify users on maximum planting density).

## **Seed treatment, supply of treated seed to growers and information on sowing restrictions**

- Seed treatment will only be performed in professional seed treatment facilities. These facilities will apply the best available techniques in order to exclude the release of dust clouds during storage, transport and application.
- It is anticipated that the majority of seed treatment under this proposed authorisation will be undertaken by Elsoms Seeds Ltd who are accredited to ESTA (European Seed Treatment Assurance Scheme) standards and all seed treatment products are kept in BASIS-inspected stores.
- All machinery is checked according to the National Sprayer Testing Scheme (NSTS)
- All operators have a certificate of competence for pesticide application: PA11
- An example of a treated seed 'safe use' advice label is attached. This can be adapted as required to notify users of the emergency conditions of use.

## **Precision drilling and in-field stewardship of treated seed**

- The carrot establishment process includes several stages including precision drilling:
  - Primary cultivation – ploughing or deep tine cultivation
  - Deep ridging to create the profile of soil used to form the final bed
  - De-stoning - to remove stones/clods to reduce restrictions to root development
  - Bed shaping - forming the final bed profile for the carrots to grow in and working the soil fine enough to not restrict root development
  - Drilling of carrot seed. Most carrot seed is drilled as film-coated rather than as natural seed, where the seed is coated in a coloured polymer film coat.



- Drilling is carried out by precision drilling technology to ensure accurate seed placement and even depth. This is crucial for even emergence and establishment of the crop to manage population and size distribution.
- Precision drilling ensures that seeds are not left remaining on the seed surface which is important to reduce waste (and associated cost) and to minimise risk to birds and mammals.
- The drill operator will check at each end turn that no seed is spilled, and that any seed spilled is either buried or picked up.
- Seed is drilled to a depth of 18-25 mm dependent on soil moisture available at the time of drilling. Operators are trained to check frequently for correct depth and adjust the drill accordingly.
- No seed is left in the field overnight. Drills are cleaned of seed using vacuum attachments and covered if left in the field for any length of time. Any unused seed is returned to the seed store. Bird scarers could be placed in the field while the crop establishes.

### **Disposal of treated seed**

Seed will be treated to order so that there is unlikely to be an excess of treated seed remaining at the end of the carrot main crop drilling window. If there is any excess, it will be the responsibility of growers to dispose of treated seed under guidelines laid out within the UK National Action Plan for the Sustainable Use of PPPs.

### **Collation of data**

Data on volume of seed treated and supplied, and areas planted with treated seed will be collated by seed treatment companies and BCGA, respectively.

Stewardship records will be maintained and made available to the Chemicals Regulation Division of HSE on request and at the point of any subsequent application for this emergency use.