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Unilever Global Guidelines on Use of Pesticides in Sustainable Tea Sourcing

Introduction

After water, tea is the most popular non-alcoholic beverage in the world. Unilever is the world's largest buyer of tea and the world's largest supplier of branded tea. Our brands provide customers and consumers with a wide choice of plain and flavoured teas, including tea blends with other herbal and fruit ingredients. For Unilever's customers and consumers it is important that our tea is sourced sustainably, as well as being safe to consume and of the reliably great quality they expect.

Commitment

Our priority is to provide safe products that meet the wishes of our consumers. We have committed that by 2020 all our food raw materials will be produced using sustainable crop practices, minimising the use of pesticides through integrated pest management techniques, and with due care for the environment and the health, safety and livelihood of farmers.

Framework

Unilever's Guidelines on Use of Pesticides in Sustainable Tea Sourcing is designed to drive market transformation by working with key suppliers and the industry to eliminate and reduce the use of other pesticides in tea production as far as reasonably practicable.

Under our Sustainable Agriculture Code, we work with suppliers and farmers to minimise the use of pesticides. In addition, we collaborate with independent certification schemes for sustainable agricultural practices, such as the Rainforest Alliance.

The Guidelines' recommendations on the use of pesticides in the tea industry are aligned with the recommendations of international authoritative bodies, specifically:

- The World Health Organization Recommended Classification of Pesticides by Hazard;
- The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs);
- The Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent (PIC) for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade.

The wider principles for use of these pesticides in sustainable agriculture are encapsulated within Unilever's Sustainable Agriculture Code.

Commitments and Ambition

We will work with our suppliers and with the tea industry in general to eliminate the following pesticides from use in Unilever's entire tea value chain by the end of 2014:

- WHO Class 1a or Class 1b pesticides;
- Pesticides listed as Persistent Organic Pollutants (POP) in the Annexes to the Stockholm Convention; and

- Pesticides subject to the Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure for certain hazardous chemicals in international trade, as listed in Annex III to the Convention.

For clarity and reference, the integrated list of pesticides subject to this commitment is given in Annex 2 to these Guidelines.

Further, our ambition is the elimination of WHO Class II pesticides from tea production for Unilever by 2020. We will proactively engage with our suppliers, pesticide manufacturers and national governments or regulatory agencies, as appropriate, to achieve this ambition as it will not be possible to do so without their close cooperation.

We will start by working with our suppliers and pesticide manufacturers to initiate baseline assessments on the use of pesticides in order to obtain more detailed insights into integrated pest management practices. We will review the outcome of this and take action with our suppliers, as necessary, to encourage continuous improvement in minimising pesticide use and implementation of best practice integrated pest management methods.

In addition, we will work with our suppliers and national governments or regulatory agencies to eliminate or actively reduce as far as reasonably practicable the use of WHO Class III pesticides. Growers and suppliers must have a plan in place for reducing or eliminating where possible the use of WHO Class III pesticides.

Suppliers must provide evidence of tangible progress in the reduction of use of any pesticides included in WHO Class II or III within three years of the date of these Guidelines.

For clarity and reference, the list of pesticides subject to this commitment, as currently defined by WHO Class II and III, is given in Annex 3 to these Guidelines.

Note: we will review and update our commitments above when required to adapt to future revisions of the WHO, POP and PIC lists.

Milestones

- With immediate effect, we will work with suppliers that show commitment and intent to adhere to principles consistent with our own ambition.
- We will continue to work with the Rainforest Alliance, and other certification or standards bodies where appropriate, to help us to drive forward the market transformation represented in these guidelines.
- By the end of 2014 the use of pesticides listed under WHO1a, WHO1b, POP or PIC will not be permitted in tea production for Unilever.
- Within three years of the date of these Guidelines, suppliers must provide evidence of tangible progress in reduction of use (or elimination where possible) of any pesticides included in WHO Class II or III.
- By 2020 at the latest, Unilever will only source tea which is traceable to sustainable sources.

Measurement and Reporting

Unilever will be transparent about its progress and provide publicly available information supported by independent assurance of the Unilever Sustainable Living Plan.

Supplier Education Programme

We will work with our suppliers and tea research institutes to develop an education programme for

suppliers and their grower network which communicates our commitments and longer-term vision for sustainable tea production. The programme will set out our expectations for the standards which our suppliers must meet in pesticide use and for continuous improvement in the reduction or elimination from use of specific chemicals.

Working with Suppliers

Unilever will work with growers, traders and processors to develop individual time-bound action plans to deliver a supply chain for sustainable tea. In working with suppliers, Unilever will conduct all of its operations in accordance with the principles of fair competition and applicable regulations including adherence to Unilever's Supplier Code.

References

Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in international Trade.

<http://www.pic.int/TheConvention/Chemicals/AnnexIIIChemicals/tabid/1132/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Unilever Sustainable Agriculture Code

http://www.unilever.com/images/sd_Unilever_Sustainable_Agriculture_Code_2010_tcm13-216557.pdf

United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).

<http://chm.pops.int/TheConvention/ThePOPs/ListingofPOPs/tabid/2509/Default.aspx>

World Health Organization. The WHO recommended classification of pesticides by hazard and guidelines to classification: 2009. ISBN978 92 4 154796 3.

http://www.who.int/ipcs/publications/pesticides_hazard_2009.pdf

Annexes

Annex 1. Glossary of Terms

- WHO Class Ia / Ib / II / III
The World Health Organization (WHO) first published a recommended classification scheme for pesticides in 1975 and from 1978 WHO added categorisation guidance on individual pesticides. These guidelines have subsequently been revised and reissued every few years. The current recommendation was published in 2009. The classification is well recognised internationally, based as it is on standard procedures in toxicology. Pesticides regarded as hazardous are categorised into the following 4 classes:
 - Class 1(a): Extremely hazardous technical grade active ingredients of pesticides
 - Class 1(b): Highly hazardous technical grade active ingredients of pesticides
 - Class II: Moderately hazardous technical grade active ingredients of pesticides
 - Class III: Slightly hazardous technical grade active ingredients of pesticides.

In addition the classification also lists active ingredients which are unlikely to present acute hazard (Class U) in normal use.

- POP
The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants is an international environmental treaty, signed in 2001 and effective from May 2004, that aims to eliminate or restrict the production and use of persistent organic pollutants (POPs). There are currently 152 signatory countries to the Convention. The Convention currently lists 16 individual chemicals which are used as pesticides and are subject to obligations on the elimination from use or restrictions in use.
- PIC
The Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade is an international treaty to promote shared responsibilities in relation to importation of hazardous chemicals in order to protect human health and the environment from potential harm. The Convention promotes open exchange of information on hazardous chemicals within its scope, including information on bans or restrictions of use, between exporting and importing countries. The Convention entered into force in 2004 and currently has 154 party countries. The Convention currently lists 33 pesticides subject to its provisions on prior informed consent for international trade.

Annex 2.

List of Crop Protection Products Not Acceptable for Use in Tea Production

Active Ingredient	WHO 1a	WHO 1b	POP	PIC
1,2-dibromoethane (ethylene dibromide)				X
1,2-dichloroethane (ethylene dichloride)				X
2,4,5-T (2,4,5-trichlorophenoxyacetic acid) and its salts and esters (dioxin contamination)				X
Acrolein		X		
alachlor				X
aldicarb	X			X
aldrin			X	X
allyl alcohol		X		
alpha HCH (alpha-hexachlorocyclohexane)			X	
arsenic compounds (calcium, copper, lead arsenate; sodium arsenite)		X		
azinphos-ethyl		X		
azinphos-methyl		X		X
beta HCH (beta-hexachlorocyclohexane)			X	
binapacryl				X
blasticidin-S		X		
Brodifacoum	X			
Bromadiolone	X			
Bromethalin	X			
Butocarboxim		X		
Butoxycarboxim		X		
cadusafos (ebufos)		X		
calcium cyanide	X			
captafol	X			X
carbofuran		X		
chlordane			X	X
chlordecone (kepone)			X	
chlordimeform				X
Chlorethoxyfos	X			
Chlorfenvinphos		X		
Chlormephos	X			
chlorobenzilate				X
Chlorophacinone	X			
3-chloro-1,2-propanediol		X		
Coumaphos		X		
Coumatetralyl		X		
cyfluthrin and beta-cyfluthrin	X			
zeta-cypermethrin		X		
DDT			X	X
demeton-S-methyl		X		

Active Ingredient	WHO 1a	WHO 1b	POP	PIC
Dichlorvos		X		
Dicrotophos		X		
dieldrin			X	X
Difenacoum	X			
Difethialone	X			
dinoseb, its acetate and dinoseb salts				X
dinoterb		X		
DNOC (dinitro-ortho-cresol) and its salts (ammonium, potassium, sodium)		X		X
Diphacinone	X			
Disulfoton	X			
Dustable powder formulations containing a combination of: benomyl . 7%, carbofuran . 10%, thiram . 5% (PIC: 15%)				X
Edifenphos		X		
endosulfan			X	X
endrin			X	
EPN	X			
Ethiofencarb		X		
Ethoprophos	X			
ethylene oxide (oxirane)				X
Famphur	X	X		
Fenamiphos		X		
Flocoumafen	X			
Flucythrinate		X		
fluoroacetamide		X		X
Formetanate		X		
Furathiocarb		X		
HCH mixed isomers (containing less than 99.0% of the gamma isomer)				X
heptachlor			X	X
Heptenophos		X		
hexachlorobenzene (HCB)	X		X	X
lioxathion		X		
lindane (gamma-HCH)			X	X
Mecarbam		X		
mercury and its compounds (including mercuric oxide, mercurous chloride (calomel), phenylmercury acetate (PMA), phenylmercuric oleate (PMO) other inorganic mercury compounds: alkyl mercury, alkoxyalkyl and aryl mercury compounds)	X	X		X
methamidophos		X		X
Methidathion		X		

Active Ingredient	WHO 1a	WHO 1b	POP	PIC
Methiocarb		X		
Methomyl		X		
methyl parathion (parathion methyl)	X			X
mevinphos	X			
mirex			X	
monocrotophos		X		X
Nicotine		X		
Omethoate		X		
Oxamyl		X		
oxydemeton-methyl		X		
parathion	X			X
pentachlorobenzene			X	
pentachlorophenol (PCP) and its salts and esters		X		X
Phorate	X			
phosphamidon	X			X
polychlorinated biphenyls PCB (except mono-and dichlorinated)			X	
Propetamphos		X		
sodium cyanide		X		
sodium fluoroacetate	X			
Strychnine		X		
Sulfotep	X			
Tebupirimfos	X			
Terbufos	X			
Tefluthrin		X		
thallium sulphate		X		
Thiofanox		X		
Thiometon		X		
toxaphene (camphechlor)			X	X
triazophos		X		
tributyl tin				X
Vamidothion		X		
Warfarin		X		
zinc phosphide		X		

Annex 3.**List of Crop Protection Products Subject to Requirements for Reduction of Use**WHO Class II: Moderately hazardous technical grade active ingredients in pesticides

Acephate	Cyanazine	Fenitrothion
Acifluorfen	Cyanophos	Fenobucarb
Alachlor	Cyhalothrin	Fenothiocarb
Alanycarb	Cyhexatin	Fenpropidin
Allethrin	Cymoxanil	Fenpropathrin
Ametryn	Cypermethrin	Fenpyroximate
Amitraz	Alpha-cypermethrin	Fenthion
Anilofos	Cyphenothrin [(1R)-isomers]	Fentin acetate
Azaconazole	Cyproconazole	Fentin hydroxide
Azamethiphos	2,4-D	Fenvalerate
Azocyclotin	Dazomet	Ferimzone
Bendiocarb	2,4-DB	Fipronil
Benfuracarb	DDT	Fluchloralin
Bensulide	Deltamethrin	Flufenacet
Bensultap	Diazinon	Fluoroglycofen
Bentazone	Dicamba	Flurprimidol
Bifenthrin	Dichlorobenzene	Flusilazole
Bilanafos	Dichlorophen	Flutriafol
Bioallethrin	Dichlorprop	Fluxofenim
Bromoxynil	Diclofop	Fomesafen
Bromuconazole	Dicofol	Fuberidazole
Bronopol	Difenoconazole	Furalaxyl
Butamifos	Difenzoquat	Gamma-HCH, Lindane
Butralin	Dimepiperate	Glufosinate
Butroxydim	Dimethachlor	Guazatine
Butylamine	Dimethipin	Haloxypop
Carbaryl	Dimethenamid	HCH
Carbosulfan	Dimethylarsinic acid	Hexazinone
Cartap	Dimethoate	Hydramethylnon
Chloralose	Diniconazole	Imazalil
Chlordane	Dinobuton	Imidacloprid
Chlorfenapyr	Dinocap	Iminoctadine
Chlormequat (chloride)	Diphenamid	Indoxacarb
Chloroacetic acid	Diquat	Ioxynil
Chlorphonium chloride	Dithianon	Ioxynil octanoate
Chlorpyrifos	Dodine	Iprobenfos
Clomazone	Endosulfan	Isoprocarb
Copper hydroxide	Endothal-sodium	Isoprothiolane
Copper oxychloride	EPTC	Isoproturon
Copper sulfate	Esfenvalerate	Isouron
4-CPA	Ethion	Lambda-cyhalothrin
Cuprous oxide	Fenazaquin	MCPA

MCPA-thioethyl	Pendimethalin	Simetryn
MCPB	Permethrin	Sodium chlorate
Mecoprop	Phenthoate	Spiroxamine
Mecoprop-P	Phosalone	Sulfluramid
Mefluidide	Phosmet	2,3,6-TBA
Mepiquat	Phoxim	TCA (acid)
Mercurous chloride	Piperophos	Tebuconazole
Metalaxyl	Pirimicarb	Tebufenpyrad
Metaldehyde	Pirimiphos-methyl	Tebuthiuron
Metamitron	Prallethrin	Terbumeton
Metam-sodium	Prochloraz	Tetraconazole
Metconazole	Profenofos	Thiacloprid
Methacrifos	Propachlor	Thiobencarb
Methasulfocarb	Propanil	Thiocyclam
Methylarsonic acid	Propiconazole	Thiodicarb
Methyl isothiocyanate	Propoxur	Thiram
Metolcarb	Prosulfocarb	Tralkoxydim
Metribuzin	Prothiofos	Tralomethrin
Molinate	Pyraclufos	Triadimefon
Myclobutanil	Pyrazophos	Triadimenol
Nabam	Pyrazoxyfen	Triazamate
Naled	Pyrethrins	Trichlorfon
2-Naphthoxyacetic acid	Pyridaben	Triclopyr
Nitrapyrin	Pyridaphenthion	Tricyclazole
Nuarimol	Pyroquilon	Tridemorph
Octhilinone	Quinalphos	Triflumizole
Oxadixyl	Quinoclamine	Uniconazole
Paclobutrazol	Quizalofop	XMC
Paraquat	Quizalofop-p-tefuryl	Xylylcarb
Pebulate	Rotenone	Ziram

WHO Class III: Slightly hazardous technical grade active ingredients in pesticides

Acetochlor	Bupirimate	Clopyralid
Alloxydim	Buprofezin	Cycloate
Ammonium sulfamate	Butachlor	Cycloxydim
Ancymidol	Butylate	Cyromazine
Asulam	Carboxin	Diafenthiuron
Atrazine	Chinomethionat	Dichlobenil
Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt)	Chloridazon	Dichlormid
Benalaxyl	Chlorimuron	Dicloran
Benazolin	Chlorpyrifos methyl	Diethyltoluamide
Benfuresate	Chlorthal-dimethyl	Diflubenzuron
Biphenyl	Chlozolate	Diflufenican
Bispyribac	Cinmethylin	Dimefuron
Borax	Clofentezine	Dimethametryn

Dimethirimol	Hymexazol	Propargite
Dimethomorph	Iprodione	Pyridate
Dinitramine	Linuron	Pyrifenox
Diuron	Malathion	Pyrimethanil
Dodemorph	Metazachlor	Pyriothiobac sodium
Empenthrin [(1R) isomers]	Methabenzthiazuron	Quinclorac
Esprocarb	Methyldymron	Resmethrin
Ethephon	Metobromuron	Sethoxydim
Etridiazole	Metolachlor	Spinosad
Fenarimol	Metoxuron	Spirotetramat
Fenbuconazole	Monolinuron	Sulphur
Fenbutatin oxide	1-Naphthylacetic acid	TCA (sodium salt)
Fenpropimorph	N-octylbicycloheptene	Temephos
Flamprop-M	dicarboximide	Terbuthylazine
Fluazifop-p-butyl	Ofurace	Terbutryn
Flufenoxuron	Oxycarboxin	Tetrachlorvinphos
Flurochloridone	Penconazole	Thiabendazole
tau-Fluvalinate	2-Phenylphenol	Thidiazuron
Fosamine	Pimaricin	Tri-allate
Glyphosate	Probenazole	Trietazine
Halofenozide	Prometon	Triticonazole
Hexaconazole	Prometryn	Undecan-2-one