

**Regulatory Harmonization Commission Report
IHGC Executive Committee Meeting
26 April 2019 - Freising, Germany**

EU Cut-Off Criteria:

Several activities have been underway since the November 2018 IHGC meeting in Nuremberg. Several IHGC member countries submitted letters to members of the European Parliament PEST Committee, accompanied by the IHGC Resolution regarding the EU's precautionary principle approach to the regulation of pesticides.

Mr. Weingarten has continued to work with officials in Brussels and recently received confirmation from the Bavarian Mission in Brussels to schedule a high level international event on November 18 (whole day) to focus attention on the impact of EU's regulatory approach on the production of hops: **"No Hops – No Beer"**. The concept document for this event is included on the reverse side of this report.

Mr. Weingarten had a meeting with the German Brewers Association on April 25, to get them plus Brewers of Europe on board. He will provide a report during the IHGC meeting on April 26. He has stressed that it is also important to get the support of Brewers Association and other international brewer organizations. Ann George is contacting officials at the US EPA and IR-4 Program to determine availability and willingness to participate.

Korea transition to a positive list system:

The new Korean positive list system is in place as of January 1, 2019. Through the efforts of the US and German hop industries, there are now 62 Korean hop MRLs established: 22 permanent hop MRLs and 40 temporary hop MRLs. The temporary MRLs will be in place until January 1, 2022. Between now and then, submissions need to be made to the Korean government seeking permanent MRLs for relevant compounds. The US and German industries are coordinating this effort and have developed priorities lists for the needed MRLs.

On April 10 and 11, Matt Lantz, representing the US hop industry and Dr. Reinhold Kugel, representing the European industry met with the US Embassy in Seoul, the EU Mission in Seoul, and several pesticide registrants to determine which submissions are expected in the coming year. For those the registrants are not planning to submitted, the industry itself will need to determine whether to make the submissions. On April 15, the US hop industry learned that it had received approval for a three year grant from USDA and Washington state to seek needed MRLs in Korea. The industry will work with experts to put together data packages for submission and to pay the Korean review fees.

While in the EU, Mr. Lantz and Dr. Kugel also met with the Korean Brewers Association to explain the efforts of the US and European hop industries are taking to seek Korean hop MRLs.

For the EU hop growers, establishing Korean MRLs quickly for fosetyl-al, fluopicolide, and milbemectin are high priorities. The EU Mission in Korea is approaching the Korean Ministry of Health in support of these submissions. The US Embassy will also approach the Korean government for US priorities if support is needed in their review.

Korean MRL work will remain a high priority over the next three years.

MRL Tracking Chart: This document is updated monthly. The global comparison of MRLs may be found at <https://www.usahops.org/growers/plant-protection.html> by clicking the link to the Hop MRL Tracking Chart near the bottom of the page.

Submitted by: Ann George, Hop Growers of America

Draft concept

Global Hop Summit

"No Hops-No Beer" - Shaping the future of hop growing International Conference and Parliamentary Evening in Brussels

Background

Hops is not only one of the oldest medicinal plants, but also an indispensable raw material for beer production. It is often referred to as the "soul of beer". The international cultivation of hops grown on around 60,000 hectares, with a focus on Europe and the US, is currently facing enormous challenges as a small special culture.

Above all, climate change and the increased protection of environmental resources are forcing discussion on the reorientation of hop growing for the future. Main points are the introduction of new methods for more efficient, adequate irrigation and fertilization. Another key issue is the necessary reorientation of pest and disease control as well as a significant intensification of breeding and research to achieve these objectives.

However, this concerted action cannot be achieved in the relatively short time required by law and politics. On the contrary, there is an urgent need for sufficiently long transitional periods, which are needed in particular for breeding and research in the hops sector, in order to establish new, alternative cultivation and disease control methods in practice in addition to new climate-adapted varieties.

Otherwise, it can be assumed that there will be enormous losses in terms of quality and yield in European and international hop growing within the next 5 years, which will endanger the coexistence between the hops and brewing industry.

Date: Monday, 18.11.2019 full day

Location: Bavarian representation in Brussels (address)

Agenda:

9.30-17.30 Full-day conference (about 100 participants / 2 languages - German / English)

6.00 pm Podium Conclusions and Parliamentary Evening

Accompanying, public campaign in the run-up to the event in early November 2019

Organizer: German Hop Growers Assoziation - Verband deutscher Hopfenpflanzer e.V.

Partners:

Confirmed

International Hops Growers Convention (IHGC)

USA Hops / US hops growers

German Hop Industry Association e.V.

Bryant Christie Inc./Seattle

MEP Norbert Lins, MEP Ulrike Mueller

To be confirmed

The German Federal Ministry for Agriculture (BMEL)

Bavarian State Ministry of Agriculture (BayStmELF)

International Brewer Associations

Society for Hop Research – Hüll

Centre for Hop Research and Hop Breeding Hüll (LFL Bavarian Agency for Agriculture)

COPA-COGECA

US EPA and IR-4 Program

Wolnzach in March 2019

Otmar Weingarten, Executive Director

German Hop Growers Association

Verband Deutscher Hopfenpflanzer e.V.