

THE APEC IMPORT MRL GUIDELINES FOR PESTICIDES

Chilean/Latin American perspective to the challenges and prospective benefits of its implementation

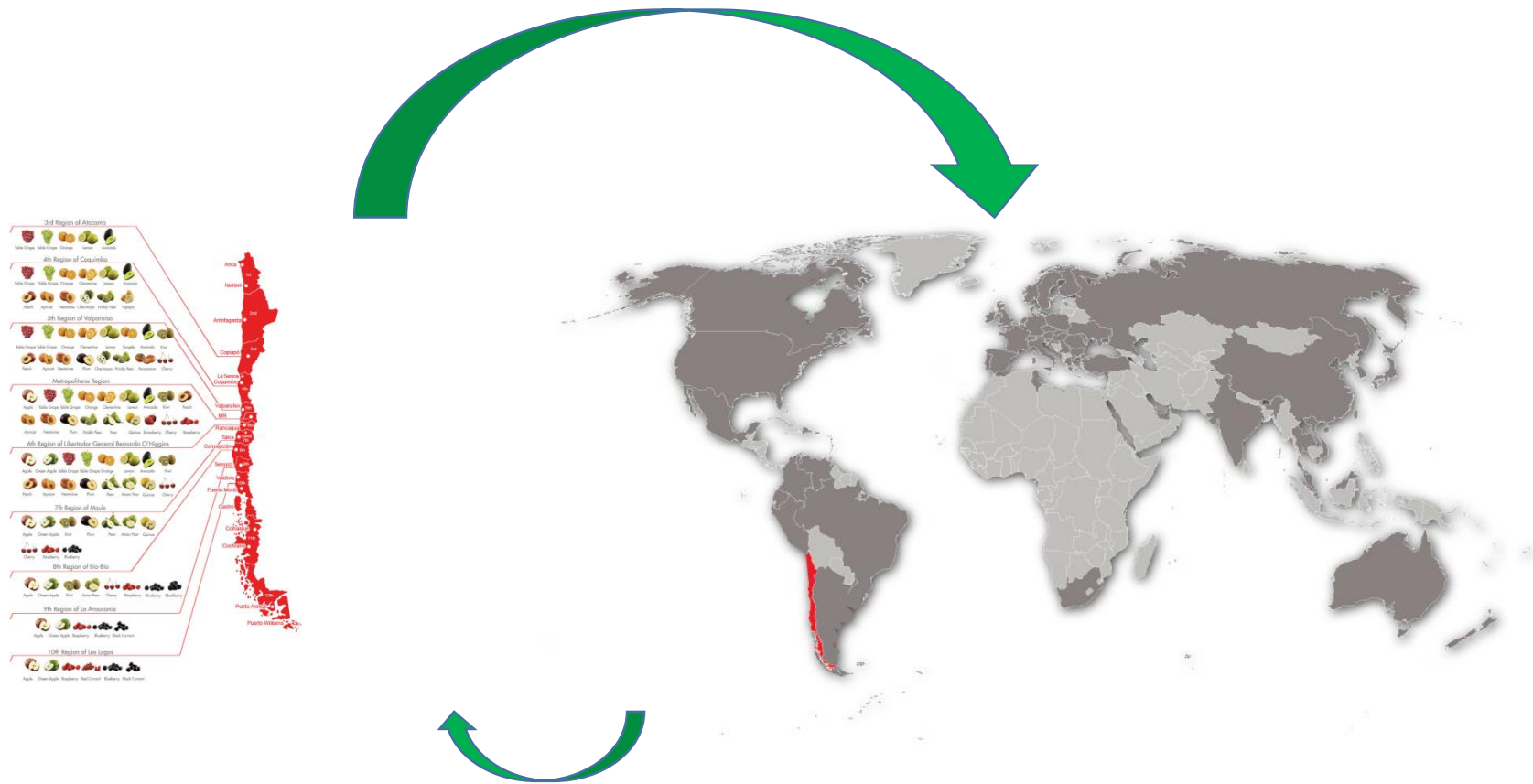
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Alimentos seguros y saludables, tarea de todos y todas



Chile is a net exporter of agricultural products



But...

In recent years, countries of destination of Chilean exports have moved towards the establishment of domestic MRLs or Positive List Systems

National regulations establish MRLs only for pesticides with registered uses in the country.

MRLs established through Import Tolerance requests.

Provisional MRLs based on international standards (CODEX) but with an expiration date. (entry into force of new regulation)

The above basically means impediments to the trade of some products in certain markets and / or difficulties in the control of certain pests or diseases of crops due to uses restriction.

MRLs Standards in Chile

Supreme Decree No. 977/96 art 162: “The Ministry of Health through the dictation of the appropriate technical standard shall determine the tolerances for residues of pesticides in food allowed”

Regulation No. 33/2010 and No. 762/2011 (Current regulation)

In Chile MRLs are deferred from Codex or EU or US MRL regulations.

Criteria:

1. CODEX
2. EU or USA MRLs (depending on specific criteria)

The MRLs of the Chilean regulation apply both domestic and imported products

Chile has not a procedure to establish import MRLs in case a third country requests it.

MRLs Monitoring and Enforcement in Chile

1) National Plan for the Surveillance of Pesticide Residues in Food (MoH)

“The general objective is to have reliable information that accounts for the situation of pesticide residues in the food, **of domestic production for internal consumption**, evaluating whether the foods studied are safe for human consumption and verifying compliance with current regulations and international normative references”

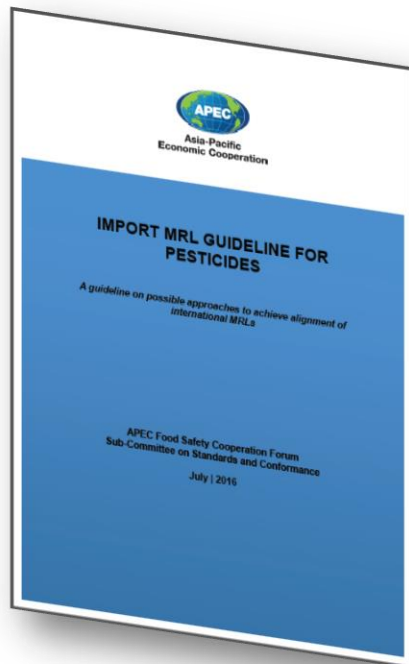
2) Monitoring program for pesticide residues in fruits and vegetables (SAG)

The objective is to have information that allows to improve **pesticide use** and handling practices in the country and **verify compliance** with the national MRL standard, as well as verify compliance the MRL of the countries to which it is exported.”

Only in domestic RAC.

Chile, until now, does not control MRLs in imported products

The APEC guideline as well as both implementation tools represent opportunities and challenges for the country



APEC IMPORT MAXIMUM RESIDUE LIMITS FOR PESTICIDES APPLICATION FORM



Opportunities:

Growers and exporters of chilean produce today have a procedure to request Import MRLs in third countries, as well as updated information on how the process operates in APEC economies as well as a common application form.

Challenges:

Growers and exporters of chilean produce should be able to provide all required data to support an application.

The authorities responsible for setting MRLs in Chile should implement a procedure to establish import MRLs and develop capacities to properly conduct the dietary exposure assessments for the MRLs proposed or requested by a third country.

