

# Insecticide withdrawals: what a pest!

We are soon to see a rationalisation of the insecticide products available to professional pest controllers but why, and what impact is this likely to have? PPC talks to Nic Blaszkowicz, Global Marketing Manager for PelGar International.

Article 95, Annex I listings, ECHA – all words we hear bandied around in technical circles and, while it may be easy enough to nod our heads and feign understanding, what are all these things and what do they mean in practical terms to the UK PCO?

Let us start with a bit of background information – the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) manages the technical, scientific and administrative aspects for EU chemical regulations, and is the driving force among regulatory authorities in implementing chemicals legislation across Europe.

By now most of you will be aware of the Biocidal Products Regulation (BPR), and seen the impact that this has had on rodenticides. For example, the current restriction of second generation anticoagulants to use 'in and around buildings' as well as impacts on permanent baiting and public area use. If you're not aware then now would be a good time to grab a bucket of rat bait and have a good read of the label!

Article 95 is part of the BPR, and in the words of ECHA, "Article 95 aims to ensure equal treatment of persons placing active substances on the market (on their own or in biocidal products). The supplier of the active substance or the product is required to hold a dossier or have a Letter of Access (LoA) to a dossier for each of the active substances used in the relevant biocidal product."

In layman's terms, if a company such as PelGar wants to sell an insecticide, it must compile a full dossier for each of the active substances in the product (e.g. cypermethrin), or have a LoA from someone else who has compiled a dossier which has been reviewed and accepted. The significance of this is the cost of getting a product into the market – you are unlikely to see any change out of a couple of million pounds to

put together an active substance dossier, plus there is the cost of having the dossier reviewed – around £200k. Not surprisingly there are few companies out there that can justify these costs.

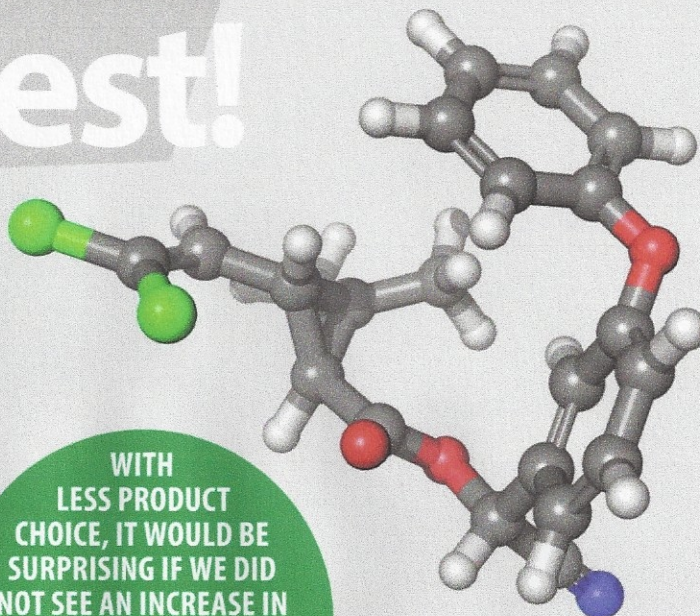
## When are we likely to see changes?

Sooner than you may think. A key date that should be on everyone's mind is 1 September 2015, by which time a biocidal product cannot be placed on the EU market unless the active substance is from a source included in the Article 95 list for the product-type to which the product belongs. So if you do not have documentary evidence that the active substance is from an Article 95-listed supplier there will be no sales after 31 August.

## What impact will this have?

Simply put there are a lot of products out there that you will no longer be able to buy. For example, PelGar's Cimetro and Stingray, two popular bed bug products, will no longer be available and the same will be said for other products containing alpha-cypermethrin. The good news for end users is that there will be a period of 180 days from 1 September for the products to be used, then a further 180 days for storage or disposal, and with a lack of equivalent replacement products PCOs may choose to stock up on their favourite products now.

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Cypermethrin 3d by Yassine Mrabet



Nic Blaszkowicz, Global Marketing Manager for PelGar International

## What does the future hold?

Following the initial impact of product withdrawal some products will be reformulated – Cimetro Super for example will hopefully not be too far away. However, some products from smaller companies and those for niche markets will simply disappear. With less product choice, it would be surprising if we did not see an increase in the price of available insecticides as there will be a lot of investment to recoup. With ongoing costs to maintain approvals for those products that do survive we will likely see innovation stifled and a lack of investment in the research and development of new active substances and new products.

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