



## USA Pulses 2026 Policy Positions Crop Protection Regulations

*For US dry pea, lentil, chickpea, and dry bean growers to compete effectively in domestic and global markets, crop protection materials must evolve just as the pests they help control are evolving. US producers must not lose markets due to a lack of labeled crop protection materials that are the most effective, least costly, and pose the lowest environmental risk.*

- 1. Crop Protection Labels.** New crop protection materials for pulse crops must be approved by the EPA as rapidly as possible. USA Pulses will work to secure labels for the following active ingredients:
  - a. Section 3 label registration for **Storm®** (*Bentazon* and *Acifluorfen*) post-emergence herbicide on chickpeas and peas.
  - b. Section 3 Federal Label for **Omega®** (*Fluazinam*) fungicide on lentils (dry peas) through the IR-4 Program.
  - c. Federal Label for **Transform®** (*Sulfoxaflor*) insecticide on dry peas and lentils through the IR-4 Program.
  - d. Section 3 Federal Label for **Diquat®** (*Diquat dibromide*) as a pre-harvest aid for pulse crops.
  - e. Continued support for the Section 3 Federal Label for *Dimethoate* to control aphids in peas and lentils.
  - f. Section 3 label expanding the use of **Linuron®** (*Lorox*) as a spring-applied herbicide on winter (autumn-sown) pulse crops to control broadleaf weeds.
- 2. Crop Protection Harmonization.** Providing access to improved crop protection tools is a major goal of USA Pulses, but without wide acceptance of Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs), the lack of new products may create an artificial barrier to trade. USA Pulses is working on the following efforts to harmonize MRLs and improve access to new crop protection materials:
  - a. **Codex Reform.** USA Pulses is working with Global Pulse Confederation partners to encourage efficiencies at the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR), which provides better access to trade through the harmonization of international MRLs. *USA Pulses supports efforts to create efficiencies at the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues.*
  - b. **Harmonization of MRLs.** To prevent serious disruptions in trade, MRLs should be harmonized between our trading partners. Many of our partners use the CODEX standard as their default MRL. Currently, the CODEX standards lack MRLs for many widely used crop protection products. *USA Pulses supports the efforts of our agency partners, including the EPA, IR-4 Project, USDA-FAS, and others, to add MRLs for pulse crops to all our trading partners, particularly the CODEX.*
  - c. **Use of Crop Groups.** Crop Groups in the US are created to achieve maximum use of residue testing. Multiple crops within one group are registered with the MRL established for a single “representative” crop. For example, with this system, the MRL established with trials for dry peas can be applied to lentils and chickpeas. *USA Pulses endorses efforts by the IR-4 Project and the EPA to gain acceptance for this system in the CODEX standards and with our trading partners.*
  - d. **Establish International Crop Zones.** Crop Zones are another method of making residue testing more efficient. The creation of international crop zones encourages international cooperation and joint pesticide registrations by combining work done in several geographic regions rather than just one country. *USA Pulses supports sharing both data and regulatory capacity using expanded international crop zones and crop use patterns to evaluate pesticide residue data. USA Pulses supports capacity increases to improve the responsiveness for gaining CODEX MRLs.*
- 3. IR-4 Project & Pesticide Registration (\$25.0 million).** The IR-4 Project assists in the registration of crop protection products for specialty crops. *USA Pulses supports an appropriation of \$25.0 million in FY 2026 to fund IR-4 Project programs. In addition, USA Pulses supports increased funding of USDA-ARS pest management programs in support of the IR-4 Project.*