Reporting Chemical 'Non-Performances' or 'Adverse Experiences'

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The Adverse Experience Reporting Program (AERP) is a post-registration program that assesses reports of adverse experiences associated with the use of a registered chemical product (or those on minor use permit). Reports of adverse experiences are closely monitored by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) and it is vital to record, assess and classify adverse experiences to detect uncommon events not evident during the initial registration process of a product.

Problems reported with chemical products may result in further regulatory action in accordance with the legislation, for instance, through compliance action or chemical review. If the issue reported is related to control of use, or is otherwise outside the jurisdiction of the APVMA, the information may be referred to the appropriate authority.

What is a 'non-performance'?

A 'non-performance' or adverse experience is an unintended or unexpected effect on plants, plant products, animals, human beings or the environment, including injury, sensitivity reactions or lack of efficacy associated with the use of an agricultural chemical product(s) when used according to label (or permit) directions.

Why is it important to report non-performances or adverse experiences with registered chemicals?

Before any agricultural chemical product can be legally supplied, sold, or used in Australia it must be registered by the APVMA. The process to register a chemical for use in Australia is a comprehensive one, with the application being supported by information that allows the APVMA to determine whether they are satisfied that the product meets the applicable 'statutory criteria'; namely, safety, trade, efficacy and labelling criteria.

For a new agricultural or veterinary (agvet) chemical product that contains a new active constituent, the APVMA must approve the active constituent before it will register the product. Once approved, the active constituent may then be used in new agvet chemical products that are presented for registration.

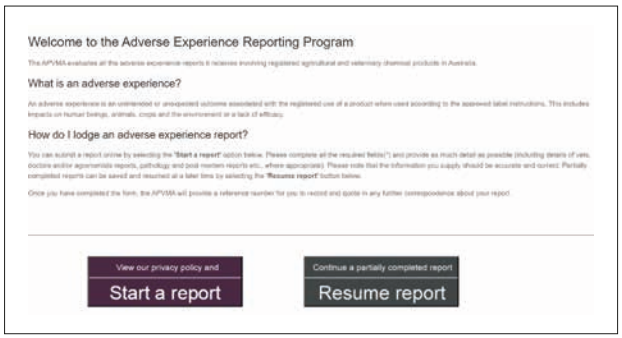
The process to test the efficacy and safety of a new active constituent – particularly where that active ingredient will be applied to food crops – is a significant one and requires the applicant to provide scientific data to support the application. Despite this rigour, it is impossible for every chemical to be tested fully on every crop in every growing region and so from time-to-time adverse experiences will occur.

As an authorised and trained user of agvet chemicals, it is your responsibility to notice, record and report anything unexpected when using a registered chemical as directed on the label or minor use permit.

How do I report a non-performance or adverse experience?

If you believe you have had a non-performance or an adverse experience following use of a registered chemical or under a minor use permit, please submit a report via the new online reporting process at bit.ly/APVMA-AE.

This replaces the paper document that previously would have been completed and returned via email.



Once you open the portal, you can submit a report by selecting the '**Start a report**' option.

Complete all the required fields (*) and provide as much detail as possible (including details of agronomists reports, test reports etc., where appropriate).

Please note that the information you supply should be accurate and correct.

Partially completed reports can also be saved and resumed at a later time by selecting the '**Resume report**' button.

Once you have completed the form, the APVMA will provide a reference number for you to record and quote in any further correspondence about your report.

Further details about the APVMA's Adverse Experience Reporting Program for Agricultural Chemicals may be found at: http://apvma.gov.au/node/311 or https://portal.apvma.gov.au