

Application summary

Application number:	ERMA200078, Trexel
Application type:	Notified, Importation or manufacture for release, Category A
Applicant contact:	Len Stulich
Applicant:	Adria New Zealand Limited P O Box 535 Kumeu AUCKLAND 0841 New Zealand
Purpose:	To import Trexel as a plant growth regulator containing the active ingredient trinexapac-ethyl, to reduce the risk of lodging in wheat, barley and oats, and to promote seed yield increases in ryegrass seed crops.
Date formally received:	10 June 2009

Application summary prepared by Adria New Zealand Limited

Trexel is a plant growth regulator for reducing the risk of lodging in wheat, barley and oats, and to promote seed yield increases in ryegrass seed crops. Trexel contains the active ingredient *trinexapac-ethyl*.

Trexel contains the same active ingredient as a substance already approved for use in New Zealand – in the same concentration and in the same formulation type (emulsifiable concentrate).

Trexel is provisionally classified as 3.1D (flammable liquid), 6.3A (skin irritant), 6.4A (eye irritant), 9.1A (aquatic ecotoxicant) and 9.2D (soil ecotoxicant).

Trexel will be applied only once per season in each crop, at a rate range of 400ml-800ml / hectare. Trexel is a low-level flammable substance, is a skin and eye irritant, and is ecotoxic in aquatic and soil environments. However, in a managed-use situation with almost negligible exposure to aquatic environments and the user/applicator, we believe that the benefits of using Trexel outweigh the potential risk factors. The benefits include significantly higher yields per hectare (i.e. producing more food from the same amount of land), bringing another competitor product to the market (thereby reducing farmer input costs), and reduced chemical rates per hectare (compared with other plant growth regulators such as chlormequat chloride). Disposal directions will be listed on the label and will state to triple rinse the container and add the residue to the spray tank. Empty containers should then be returned to a nearby AgRecovery depot for disposal.

The substance will be available only to ERMA approved handlers for use in specialised crop situations, under strict controls. The main toxicity hazards relating to its handling, use and storage, can be managed – with comprehensive precautionary information and directions on the product label, material safety data sheet, and through the information and advice provided by our distributors and Adria.

When our systems and controls relating to the proposed storage, distribution and application are taken into account, we believe that the human and environmental risks posed by Trexel can be mitigated to a great degree, and are not significantly different to a substance that is already approved for use in New Zealand.