

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: September 22,2020

Report Number: DA2020-0009

Report Name: WTO Notified of Proposal to Ban the Sale of Concentrated Pesticides and Biocides to Private Individuals

Country: Denmark

Post: The Hague

Report Category: FAIRS Subject Report, WTO Notifications

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Report Highlights:

On September 14, 2020, Denmark notified the World Trade Organization of its proposal to ban the sale of concentrated pesticides and biocides to private individuals via G/TBT/N/DNK/102. The public comment period for the notification will close on October 21, 2020. Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to share their comments and/or concerns with the National Institute of Standards and Technology at ncsci@nist.gov. For potential inclusion in the U.S. official position, please send your comments by October 7, 2020.

General Information:

On September 14, 2020, Denmark notified the World Trade Organization of its proposal to ban the sales of concentrated pesticides and biocides to private individuals (see [G/TBT/N/DNK/102](#) and the attachment).

Denmark commented:

“{i}n {the} future, non-professionals may only use pesticides that are sold as ready-to-use or are low-risk agents. The amendment replaces a requirement that concentrated pesticides must be stored behind locks. The storage regulations, which currently regulate toxic and highly toxic pesticides as well as pesticides with safety phrase P 405, are extended to pesticides with serious long-term effects, which are pesticides with CMR substances.¹

The rules that toxic and highly toxic pesticides must not be used in private gardens and in other outdoor areas that are publicly available or for the treatment of plantings in public roads or in private gardens are extended to pesticides and biocides with serious long-term effects, meaning they contain CMR substances. The rules have been like this before, so they are changed back to how it was in 2011, as the subsequent changes in the definition have created uncertainty about the rules....”

The Danes add:

“{t}he proposal will have positive effects on the environment and health. When prohibiting the sale of concentrated pesticides, users do not risk wastage and misdosing, and there is... less environmental risk associated with the private users' use of pesticides. Therefore, it is considered positive, that in future private individuals may only buy and use pesticides sold as ready-to-use or low-risk agents.

Removing the requirement for storing concentrated pesticides behind the counter will help the stores. They will still have the same or higher earnings on ready-to-own funds {sic}. Private citizens will still be able to use ready-to-use pesticides and certain concentrated agents, so they will still have the opportunity to fight weeds and more.”

The public comment period for the WTO notification will close on October 21, 2020. Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to share their comments and/or concerns with the National Institute of Standards and Technology at ncsci@nist.gov. For potential inclusion in the U.S. official position, please send your comments by October 7, 2020.

Attachments:

[Danish WTO TBT Notification - GTBTNDNK102.docx](#)

¹ The Danes define these as “substances that can cause cancer, damage inheritance, or cause damage to the fetus and/or human fertility.”