

Drinking Water Reference Values - Recommendation for Use of Enforceable Drinking Water Standards and Drinking Water Guidance Values in ILRP Pesticides Prioritization for Monitoring

A. Chemicals with Enforceable Drinking Water Standards

Identify all pesticides, degradates, and contaminants with enforceable drinking water standards. Do not include these chemicals in the Step 2 preliminary ranking calculation. Instead, automatically assign these chemicals the highest ranking and take them directly to Step 3, the evaluation of pesticides for each monitoring watershed. (This will likely be a very small number of chemicals).

When evaluating these chemicals in Step 3, use the following process to identify the appropriate reference values (see attached table, "Currently Registered Pesticide Ingredients, Degradates, and Contaminants with Enforceable California Drinking Water Standards"). In the table, bold numbers are the current recommended reference values.

Use enforceable drinking water standards and guidance values in order of priority shown below (e.g., use item 1 if available. If not, use item 2 and so on):

1. First priority: use federal or state primary and secondary maximum contaminant levels (MCL). If more than one MCL exists, use lowest value.

See the following for Federal and California Drinking Water Standards:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/documents/dwdocuments/MCLsEPAvsDWP-2014-07-01.pdf

2. If an MCL is not available, use California Notification Levels (NL) or Archived Advisory Levels (AAL). If more than one value exists, use lowest value.

See the following for CA NLs:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/documents/notificationlevels/notificationlevels.pdf

See the following for CA AALs:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/documents/notificationlevels/archivedadvisorylevels.pdf

See the following for more information on NLs and AALs:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/NotificationLevels.shtml

B. Chemicals without Enforceable Drinking Water Standards

If chemical does not have an enforceable drinking water standard use the U.S. EPA Guidance values as reference values for the Step 2 preliminary ranking process.

1. If available, use U.S. EPA Health Advisory (HA). Considering both non-cancer risk and cancer risk HAs, select the lowest value. Use 10^{-4} Cancer Risk column divided by 100 to arrive at the 10^{-6} cancer risk, which is recommended for comparability with OEHHA methodology for PHGs.

See the following for the 2012 Edition of the Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories:

<http://water.epa.gov/action/advisories/drinking/upload/dwstandards2012.pdf>

See the following for additional information on Health Advisories:

<http://water.epa.gov/drink/standards/hascience.cfm>

2. If a Health Advisory is not available, use U.S. EPA Human Health Benchmark for Pesticides (HHBP). (Since HHBPs are only developed for chemicals without HAs, no overlap is expected). Consider non-cancer risk and cancer risk, and select more protective (lower) number. Use 10^{-6} Cancer Risk value.

See the following for EPA HHBPs:

<http://iaspub.epa.gov/apex/pesticides/f?p=HHBP:home>

3. If neither an HA nor an HHBP is identified, notify the Water Board (this will likely be a very small number of chemicals, if any). The Water Board can consider requesting that U.S. EPA develop an HHBP.¹ The Water Board may elect to consult with California Department of Pesticide Regulation and/or the State Water Board Division of Drinking Water to identify a reference value for use in the Step 3 evaluation.

¹ Requests can be made to the Health and Ecological Criteria Division, Office of Science and Technology, Office of Water or the Environmental Fate and Effects Division, Office of Pesticide Programs. Requests can also be made through the State-FIFRA Issues Research and Evaluation Group and its subcommittees.