

# International MRL Harmonization

Leveling the Playing Field for International Hop Trade

# MRLs...

- Maximum Residue Levels or Tolerances
- Established for individual pesticide - plant combinations
- Serves as the regulatory limit for residues on a specific crop
- Does not indicate the maximum “safe” level of a pesticide
- Only represents the maximum residue that would be expected to occur if the maximum use pattern is utilized
  - Maximum allowed rate of active ingredient
  - Maximum number of applications
  - Minimum retreatment and pre-harvest intervals

# MRL Harmonization Project

- Launched by US Hop Industry in 1989
- Contract with Bryant Christie in 1992, one of the company's first clients
- Informal collaboration with European hop organizations and scientists for 25 years
- German hop industry formally joined the effort in 2018, also contracting with Bryant Christie

# Panelists:

- Matt Lantz, Vice President/Global Access, Bryant Christie Inc.
- Alinne Oliveira, Trade Policy Specialist, Bryant Christie Inc.
- Otmar Weingarten, Executive Director, German Hop Growers Association
- Reinhold Kugel, Director of Product Quality & Safety, Barth-Haas Group
- Korbinian Meier, Executive Director, German Hop Merchants Association

# Discussion Topics:

- German and US hop industry formal cooperation on MRLs; How it came about.
- European Union MRL situation and Cut-Off Criteria (Important)
- Response to EU Situation: IHGC November Resolution; Brussels Efforts
- Korea MRL Situation and Next Steps (Important)
- General hop MRL Situation in Other Markets
- Staying informed: MRL Chart availability