Temporary guidance regarding data requirements for authorisations in walk-in-tunnels

Background

Cultivation in walk-in tunnels has become more common. A walk-in tunnel is an unheated, covered cultivation area. The structures are large enough to walk in and work inside. Generally, they are temporary in that they or their coverings are generally removed at the end of cultivation.

Only a few products on the Swedish market are authorised for use in walk-in-tunnels. The Swedish Chemicals Agency has been made aware of that products have been used in walk-in-tunnels without an authorisation for this use. Therefore, the Swedish Chemicals Agency encourages applicants to apply for this specific use.

A temporary guidance has been developed to clarify the requirements for authorisation in walk-in-tunnels. This guidance is applicable until a Northern Zone harmonised approach has been implemented.

Data requirements

Products that are authorised for use in the field as well as in greenhouses require authorisation for use in tunnels. An authorisation can be amended to include this use. If the use in walk-in-tunnels applied for is covered by the previous risk assessment, no additional risk assessment is required.

Products that are only authorised for use in the field requires additional assessment regarding mammalian toxicology. See the table below.

Products that are only authorised for use in greenhouses require additional assessment regarding fate and ecotoxicology and residues. See the table below.

For further guidance on how to perform a risk assessment for field or greenhouse use, please consult the Northern Zone guidance document (version applicable at the time of the submission of the application of amendment).

Table. Requirements for authorisation in walk-in-tunnels for products earlier authorised in field and/or greenhouse for the crop/use

Section	Both field and greenhouse uses authorised	Only field uses authorised	Only greenhouse uses authorised
Chemistry	No additional information	No additional information	No additional information
Analytical methods	No additional information	No additional information	No additional information
Mammalian toxicology	No additional information	Risk assessment for operators and workers in greenhouse	Risk assessment of field use for residents and bystanders
Residues	No additional information	No additional information	Risk assessment of residue trials from field uses
Ecotoxicology	No additional information	No additional information	Risk assessment for field use
Environmental fate	No additional information	No additional information	Risk assessment for field use
Efficacy	No additional information	No additional information	No additional information