Advisory note on risk assessment and compliance to NPOP requirements for export

APEDA has been receiving irregularity notifications from European Commission on detection of multiple pesticide residues in Organic products exported from India. Due to the detection, the consignments are not released for sales in European Union by the Competent Authorities of the Member States.

Detections have been reported in products such as Sesame, Soybean, Amaranth, Flaxseed etc. wherein repeated notifications are being received for Sesame and Soybean. During the past 2 months 15 notifications have been received on detection of Ethylene oxide in Organic Sesame seeds except one for Organic Amaranth seeds exported from India. The multiple detections of same residue in several organic shipments are alarming as it may tarnish the credibility that India has achieved in overseas market over years.

Detections have been reported in the shipments made during June-September 2020 and at various levels depending on the consignment. The detections reported during this period indicate irregularities with multiple organic shipments from India.

In view of the above, immediate attention of all accredited Certification Bodies is required to carry out risk assessment meticulously and to take adequate precautionary measures to ensure compliance to NPOP requirements. Certification Bodies are instructed to take preventive measures to avoid occurrence of such detections hereafter.

The operators may also be informed of the requirements while handling and export of organic consignments.

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