Risk Assessment Report on Apivar, a Parasiticide for Honeybees Containing Amitraz as the Active Ingredient (Veterinary Medicines) Food Safety Commission of Japan (FSCJ)

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Apivar

Active ingredient, efficacy/effects, and dosage/administration of the Apivar formulation are shown below.

(1) Main active ingredient

Amitraz

(2) Efficacy and effects

Apivar is effective in the termination of Varroa destructor, a tick parasitic to honeybees.

(3) Dosage and administration

Apivar is administrated in early spring before the honey harvest season and in autumn after the final harvest at the rate of 2 sheets (500 mg/sheet) per a standard size hive box (8 combs per box). Each sheet is centrally suspended between the second and third combs and sixth and seventh combs. The sheets can be administered for no longer than six weeks. Apivar is not approved for use in hives that produce propolis, royal jelly, and bees as food items for human consumption.

Health risk assessment

The provisional standard for amitraz, the main ingredient of this formulation, is set at 0.2 ppm for honey. A detailed toxicological assessment was carried out as described in the Appendix.

As the conclusion of the health risk assessment for amitraz, it is recommended that the following the acceptable daily intake (ADI) be established.

ADI for amitraz: 0.0025 mg/kg bw/day

Residue tests have confirmed that Apivar does not exceed the provisional standard value under appropriate usage conditions.

The level of exposure will be confirmed when the provisional standard value is reviewed using the results of this assessment as a base.