

Survey of Metolachlor in China

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1. Introduction

This report presents an overview of China's supply and demand of metolachlor which is a selective herbicide, as well as forecast on the future trends.

Metolachlor is featured by broad weeding spectrum, high effectiveness and wide applications. During 2017–2022, the capacity and output saw some volatility. It is noteworthy that the pressure from environmental protection has been heavy in China in recent years. As a result, some metolachlor producers had to suspend production from time to time.

What's the detailed development situation of the industry? What are the driving factors and barriers? How will the industry go in the future years? This report will illustrate the details for readers through the following aspects:

- Product registration under the Institute for Control of Agrochemicals, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, as of Jan. 2023
- Production situation (capacity, output and key producers), 2017–2022
- Prices of metolachlor technical by month and year, 2017–2022
- Export analysis, 2017–Nov. 2022
- Domestic consumption, 2017–2022
- Forecast on supply and demand, 2023–2027

2. Approach for this report

This report is drafted by diverse methods as follows:

(1) Desk research

The sources of desk research are various, including published journals, government statistics, industrial statistics, Customs statistics, as well as information from the Internet. Obtained information has been compiled and analysed. When necessary, checks will be made with Chinese metolachlor suppliers regarding market information such as key producers, production and price trend, etc.

(2) Telephone interview

Extensive telephone interviews have been carried out in order to grasp the actual market situation of metolachlor in China.

Interviewees cover:

- Producers
- Traders

(3) Internet

CCM contacted with the players in this industry through B2B websites and software.

Data processing and presentation

The data collected and compiled were sourced from:

- a. Published articles from periodicals, magazines and journals
- b. Statistics from governments and international institutes
- c. Telephone interviews with domestic suppliers, traders, industrial experts
- d. Third-party data providers
- e. Information from the Internet

Data obtained from various sources have been combined and cross-checked to make this report as precise and scientific as possible. Throughout the process, a series of internal discussions were made in order to analyse the data and have conclusions drawn.

3. Executive summary

Metolachlor is a selective herbicide with a broad weeding spectrum, high effectiveness and wide application fields. According to statistics from the Institute for the Control of Agrochemicals, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China (ICAMA), as of Jan. 2023, a total of XXXX valid registrations of metolachlor have been licensed in China, including XXXX for technical, XXXX for single formulations and XXXX for mixed formulations.

The metolachlor capacity increased from XXXX t/a in 2017 to XXXX t/a in 2018, yet dipped to XXXX t/a during 2019–2020 and increased slightly to XXXX t/a in 2021–2022. The output of metolachlor technical declined overall from XXXX tonnes in 2017 to XXXX tonnes in 2021, while it XXXX to XXXX tonnes in 2022.

Metolachlor products made in China are export-oriented. The export volume of metolachlor (calculated by 97% technical) in China increased to about XXXX tonnes in 2017. After a plummet in 2019, it increased from about XXXX tonnes in 2020 to about XXXX tonnes in 2021. Though some XXXX was witnessed in 2021, the export volume was still at a XXXX level compared with that in 2017 and 2018.

Regarding metolachlor price in China, in 2017–2020, though the annual average ex-works price of 97% metolachlor technical in 2018 XXXX, prices of both metolachlor technical and metolachlor formulations were on a general XXXX. Specifically, the annual average ex-works price of 97% metolachlor technical XXXX from XXXX in 2019 to XXXX in 2020, the XXXX annual price in 2017–2022. In 2020–2022, and then saw a XXXX to XXXX in 2022.

In China, metolachlor technical is applied on crops through single formulations of 720g/L EC and 960g/L EC and mixtures of the product with bensulfuron-methyl, atrazine and mefenacet. And metolachlor is mainly applied to corn, vegetables, soybean and some other cash crops in China. In 2022, the consumption volume of metolachlor technical in China XXXX for the first time since 2017, XXXX year on year to XXXX tonnes, and the consumption of metolachlor technical in corn and vegetables accounted for more than XXXX of the total consumption in China.

Because of draconian environmental inspection at home and increasing production costs, the supply of metolachlor technical in China has been relatively XXXX in 2022. Thanks to increasing demand abroad, it is predicted that the output of metolachlor technical in China will increase in 2023–2025 and then decrease in 2026–2027. But it's unlikely to see too much increase in both supply and demand in China during 2023–2027.

4. What's in this report?

Note: Key data/information in this sample page is hidden, while in the report it is not.

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3.2 Production of metolachlor in China, 2017–2022

During 2017–2022, the capacity of metolachlor technical in China enjoyed XXXX first, then basically XXXX. The capacity increased from XXXX t/a in 2017 to XXXX t/a in 2018, yet XXXX to XXXX t/a during 2019–2020 and XXXX slightly to XXXX t/a in 2021–2022. The output of metolachlor technical XXXX overall from XXXX tonnes in 2017 to XXXX tonnes in 2021, while it XXXX to XXXX tonnes in 2022, mainly due to the XXXX demand from abroad.

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Table 3.2-1 Capacity and output of major metolachlor technical producers in China, 2017–2022

No.	Producer	Location	Status, as of March 2022	2022		2021		2020		2019		2018		2017	
				Capacity, t/a	Output, tonne	Capacity, t/a	Output, tonne	Capacity, t/a	Output, tonne	Capacity, t/a	Output, tonne	Capacity, t/a	Output, tonne	Capacity, t/a	Output, tonne
1	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX
2	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX
3	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX
4	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX
5	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX

Source: CCM

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5 Consumption, 2017–2022

In 2022, the consumption volume of metolachlor technical in China XXXX for the first time since 2017, dropping by XXXX year on year to XXXX tonnes.

As a substitute for acetochlor in crop planting, metolachlor is becoming popular in China at present due to its relatively safer properties. That has driven up the domestic consumption of metolachlor technical in China from 2017 to 2021. XXXX in 2022, the domestic consumption of metolachlor technical XXXX. It's worth noting that there is a strong competitive product for metolachlor, namely S-metolachlor. Though the price of S-metolachlor technical is higher, it has better performance than metolachlor.

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Table 5-1 Application of metolachlor technical in China by crop, 2022

Crops	Consumption volume, tonne
XXXX	XXXX
XXXX	XXXX
XXXX	XXXX
XXXX	XXXX
XXXX	XXXX
XXXX	XXXX
Total	XXXX

Source: CCM

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