EU withdraws approval of acibenzolar-S-methyl

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Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2024/1696 withdrawing the approval of the active substance acibenzolar-S-methyl

What is changing and why?

The EU has withdrawn its approval of the pesticide acibenzolar-S-methyl. An applicant (manufacturer) was asked to supply additional data, but has discontinued further studies and self-classified the substance as toxic for reproduction.

Actions

The maximum residue levels (MRLs) for acibenzolar-S-methyl are likely to be reduced to the limit of determination (LOD, the lowest level that can be detected using the most modern and reliable analytical methods). Suppliers of agri-food products currently using acibenzolar-S-methyl on crops for export to the EU should review their current good agricultural practices (GAP) and start to look for alternative solutions.

Timeline

This Regulation applies from **20 July 2024**. EU producers will be permitted to use stocks of products containing acibenzolar-S-methyl until 10 July 2025.

A revision of acibenzolar-S-methyl MRLs is expected in 2026. Any changes to MRLs will be notified to the World Trade Organization Sanitary and Phytosanitary (WTO SPS) Committee, and details will be provided on the AGRINFO website.

For more information see the full record on the AGRINFO website – where you can also view the latest AGRINFO Update newsletters and search the database.

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