

THE LATEST ON EU AGRI-FOOD POLICIES IMPACTING LOW-INCOME & MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

Flufenacet: non-renewal of approval

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EU proposes not to renew approval of the active substance flufenacet

<u>Draft</u> Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the non-renewal of the approval of the active substance flufenacet, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and amending Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 540/2011 and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/408

Update

The European Commission has informed the World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee that it does not intend to renew approval of the active substance flufenacet (G/TBT/N/EU/1105). This is due to concerns about the substance's endocrine-disrupting properties for humans and non-target organisms. This will oblige European Union (EU) Member States to withdraw authorisations for products containing flufenacet. The non-renewal is also expected to lead to a reduction in flufenacet maximum residue levels (MRLs) to the default level (0.01 mg/kg) or the limit of determination (LOD, the lowest level that can be detected using the most modern and reliable analytical methods) on all products, which could have impacts on exports of potatoes, barley, and wheat.

Impacted products

Potatoes, barley, wheat

What is changing?

The European Commission does not intend to renew its approval for the active substance flufenacet. EU farmers will therefore no longer be able to use products containing this active substance.

Why?

The EU proposes not to renew the approval for flufenacet due to concerns about its endocrine-disrupting properties (<u>EFSA 2024</u>).







Timeline

Expected date of entry into force: May 2025.

EU producers will be permitted to use stocks of products containing flufenacet until approximately the end of 2025.

Recommended Actions

As the EU MRLs for flufenacet are likely to be reduced following this decision, suppliers of **potatoes**, **barley**, and **wheat** currently using flufenacet on crops for export to the EU should review their current good agricultural practices (GAP) and start to look for alternative solutions.

Competent authorities of non-EU countries that are WTO members may comment on the EU proposal by emailing the EU TBT Enquiry Point until 9 March 2025 (G/TBT/N/EU/1105).

Background

For further information on recent non-renewals and withdrawal of substances, see <u>Lates</u>t pesticide non-renewals, withdrawals and restrictions.

Resources

EFSA (2024) Peer review of the pesticide risk assessment of the active substance flufenacet. EFSA Journal, 22: e8997.

Sources

<u>Draft</u> Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the non-renewal of the approval of the active substance flufenacet

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