Latest pesticide non-renewals, withdrawals, restrictions, and non-approvals (2024)

Published by AGRINFO on 28 Feb 2024; Revised 03 Dec 2024

Commission Implementing Regulations:

- 2024/20 concerning non-renewal of the approval of the active substance S-metolachlor
- 2024/425 concerning non-approval of the active substance asulam-sodium
- 2024/1207 concerning the non-renewal of the approval of the active substance dimethomorph
- 2024/1696 withdrawing the approval of the active substance acibenzolar-S-methyl
- 2024/2197 concerning the non-approval of eggshell powder as a basic substance
- 2024/2766 concerning the non-approval of 1,3,7-trimethylxanthine (caffeine) as a basic substance
- 2024/2777 concerning the non-renewal of approval of the active substance tritosulfuron
- 2024/2806 concerning the non-renewal of the approval of the active substance metribuzin
- 2024/2848 as regards the approval periods of the active substances fenpyrazamine and flumetralin

What is changing and why?

The EU systematically reviews the status of all pesticide active substances that are approved for use within the European Union. Recent withdrawals of approvals are summarised in Table 1.

In addition to the withdrawals and non-renewals in Table 1, the EU has recently decided not to approve 1,3,7-trimethylxanthine (caffeine) as a basic substance. Previously the EU decided not to approve eggshell powder as a basic substance due to concerns about neurodevelopment effects associated with its lead content, and eggshell powder as a basic substance due to concerns about neurodevelopment effects associated with its lead content. Previously the EU decided not to approve the active substance asulam-sodium because the approval criteria of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) could not be satisfied, and the applicant ultimately withdrew its application. These decisions do not prevent the submission of a further application for approval of these active substances.

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Actions

Export sectors affected should start looking for alternative crop protection solutions to metribuzin, acibenzolar-S-methyl, and dimethomorph, or assess possible adaptations of good agricultural practices (GAP). Exporting countries can also request EU import tolerances (for guidelines see European Commission 2021). See Pesticide residue import tolerance MRLs explained.

Timeline

The pesticides listed in Table 1 can no longer be used in the EU after the expiry dates shown.

For each substance, the European Commission is expected to follow up with proposals to reduce or remove the MRLs. Suppliers in non-EU countries may need to adjust agricultural practices to meet reduced MRLs. Any changes to MRLs are notified to the World Trade Organization Sanitary and Phytosanitary (WTO SPS) Committee. 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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Tables & Figures

Table 1
Latest pesticide non-renewals, withdrawals, and restrictions (2024)

Active substance	Date of expiry/ authorisation/ withdrawal	Legal basis	Status
Acibenzolar-S-methyl	20 Jul 2024	Implementing Reg. (EU) 2024/1696	Withdrawal: insufficient data to evaluate endocrine-disrupting properties; applicant self-classified it as toxic for reproduction
Dimethomorph	20 May 2024	Implementing Reg. (EU) 2024/1207	Non-renewal: concerns about toxicity to reproduction and endocrine disruption in humans and mammals
Fenpyrazamine	15 Jan 2025	Implementing Reg. (EU) 2024/2848	Expiration of approval: manufacturer no longer supports the application for renewal
Flumetralin	15 Jan 2025	Implementing Reg. (EU) 2024/2848	Expiration of approval: manufacturer no longer supports the application for renewal
Metribuzin	24 Nov 2024	Implementing Reg. (EU) 2024/2806	Non-renewal: endocrine-disrupting properties and high risk to bees
S-metolachlor	23 Jan 2024	Implementing Reg. (EU) 2024/20	Non-renewal: unacceptable risk to mammals and of groundwater contamination
Tritosulfuron	7 Nov 2024	Implementing Reg. (EU) 2024/2777	Non-renewal: withdrawal of application for renewal of approval by manufacturer

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Source: based on Regulations 2024/20, 2024/1207, 2024/1696, 2024/2777, 2024/2806, 2024/2848

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