# Maximum residue level for difenoconazole

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Updated EU MRLs for difenoconazole will apply from 5 May 2027 with a particular impact on watercresses and certain fruits, roots, herbal infusions and spices

Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/2299 of 15 October 2026 amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for difenoconazole in or on certain products

## Update

The European Union (EU) has updated the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for difenoconazole. For some products where there is not enough data available to rule out risks to consumers, the MRLs have been lowered to the limit of determination (LOD). (The LOD is the lowest level that can be detected using the most modern and reliable analytical methods.)

For other products, MRLs based on Codex Amimentarius MRLs have been set following an evaluation that raised no consumer safety concerns.


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## Impacted products

Almonds, Brazil nuts, cashew nuts, chestnuts, coconuts, hazelnuts/cobnuts, macadamias, pecans, pine kernels, pistachios, walnuts, apples, pears, quinces, medlars, loquats/Japanese medlars, cherries (sweet), plums, cranberries, azaroles/Mediterranean medlars, currants, dewberries, elderberries, gooseberries, rose hips, mulberries, American persimmons/Virginia kaki, carambolas, dates, figs, jambuls/jambolans, litchis/lychees, star apples/cainitos, kaki/Japanese persimmons, mangoes, papayas, breadfruits, cherimoyas, durians, granate apples/pomegranates, pineapples, soursops/guanabanas, guavas, passionfruits/maracujas, potatoes, sweet potatoes, cassava roots/manioc, yams, arrowroots, garlic, onions, shallots, aubergines/eggplants, sweetcorn, broccoli, cauliflowers, Chinese cabbages/pe-tsai, kales, kohlrabies, Roman rocket/rucola, spinaches, purslanes, chards/beet leaves, grape leaves, watercresses, witloofs/Belgian endives, celery leaves, chervil, parsley, basil and edible flowers, beans and peas, lentils, asparagus, cardoons, celeries, bamboo shoots, palm hearts, fungi, mosses and lichens, algae and prokaryotes, lentils, lupins/lupini beans, linseeds, mustard seeds, castor beans, hemp seeds, peanuts/groundnuts, pumpkin seeds, sesame seeds, soyabeans, cotton seeds, borage seeds, oil palm kernels, oil palm fruits, kapok, buckwheat and other pseudocereals, common millet/proso millet, maize/corn, sorghum, rye, wheat, oats, teas, valerian, ginseng, anise/aniseed, black caraway/black cumin, celery, coriander, cumin, dill, fennel, fenugreek, nutmeg, allspice/pimento, Sichuan pepper, caraway, cardamom, juniper berry, peppercorn, vanilla, tamarind, capers, cinnamon, cloves, mace, saffron, liquorice, turmeric/curcuma, sugar canes, beetroots, carrots, horseradishes, Jerusalem artichokes, parsnips, parsley roots/Hamburg root parsley, radishes, salsifies, swedes/rutabagas, turnips, other roots/tubers, celeriac/turnip rooted celeries

## What is changing?

The EU has updated the MRLs for difenoconazole as summarised in Table 1.

For many of the products listed in Table 1 with MRLs above the LOD, the EU plans a further review within 2 years, as the available data on these products is currently limited.

## Why?

A series of assessments of difenoconazole residues were undertaken by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA 2024, 2025).

MRLs were amended for the following reasons:

- MRLs were maintained or lowered where there was sufficient supporting data on good agricultural practices and no risk for consumers was identified


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- MRLs were set on the basis of Codex Alimentarius MRLs (CXLs) where no risk for consumers was identified
- when no information was available to allow risk assessment, MRLs were reduced to the LOD.

## Timeline

The new MRLs apply from **5 May 2027**.

## Recommended Actions

Exporters of all products should review their current use of difenoconazole to see whether agricultural practices need to be adjusted to comply with the updated MRLs. Where MRLs have been reduced to the LOD, exporters need to look for alternative solutions.

## Background

MRLs are set in accordance with the rules set out in Regulation 396/2005. For information on current MRLs for other substances, please consult the EU Pesticide Residues database.

## Resources

EFSA (2024) Review of the existing maximum residue levels for difenoconazole according to Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No396/2005. EFSA Journal, 22(8): e8987.

EFSA (2025) Setting of import tolerances for difenoconazole in various crops. EFSA Journal, 23:(6) e9472.

Regulation (EU) 2024/2612 as regards maximum residue levels for chitosan, clopyralid, difenoconazole, fat distillation residues, flonicamid, hydrolysed proteins, and lavandulyl senecioate in or on certain products, and Corrigendum.

## Sources

Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/2299 amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 as regards maximum residue levels for difenoconazole in or on certain products


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# Tables & Figures

## Table 1: Changes to maximum residue levels for difenoconazole

| Food category | Products | Difenoconazole[1] (mg/kg) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Old MRL | New MRL |
| Tree nuts | Almonds, Brazil nuts, cashew nuts, chestnuts, coconuts, hazelnuts/cobnuts, macadamias, pecans, pine kernels, pistachios, walnuts | 0.05* | 0.03 |
| Pome fruits | Apples, pears, quinces, medlars | 0.8 | 0.4 |
| | Loquats/Japanese medlars | 0.8 | 0.6 |
| Stone fruits | Cherries (sweet) | 0.3 | 0.4 |
| | Plums | 0.5 | 0.4 |
| Berries and small fruits | Cranberries | 0.1 | 0.6 |
| | Azaroles/Mediterranean medlars | 0.8 | {0.01*} |
| | Currants | 0.2 | {0.01*} |
| | Dewberries, elderberries, gooseberries, rose hips, mulberries | 0.1 | {0.01*} |
| Miscellaneous fruit | American persimmons/Virginia kaki, carambolas, dates, figs, jambuls/jambolans,kiwi fruits, litchis/lychees, star apples/ cainitos | 0.1 | {0.01*} |
| | Kaki/Japanese persimmons | 0.8 | {0.01*} |
| | Mangoes | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| | Papayas | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| | Breadfruits, cherimoyas, durians, granate apples/ pomegranates, pineapples, soursops/guanabanas | 0.1 | {0.01*} |
| | Guavas | 0.1 | 0.15 |
| | Passionfruits/maracujas | 0.1 | 0.05 |


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| Food category | Products | Difenoconazole[1] (mg/kg) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Root and tuber vegetables | Potatoes, sweet potatoes | 0.1 | 0.07 |
| | Cassava roots/manioc, yams, arrowroots | 0.1 | {0.01*} |
| | Beetroots, carrots, horseradishes, Jerusalem artichokes, parsnips, parsley roots/Hamburg root parsley, radishes, salsifies, swedes/rutabagas, turnips, other roots/tubers | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| | Celeriac/turnip rooted celeries | 2 | 0.5 |
| Bulb vegetables | Garlic, onions, shallots | 0.5 | 0.2 |
| Fruiting vegetables | Aubergines/eggplants | 0.6 | 0.5 |
| | Sweet corn | 0.05* | 0.01* |
| Brassica vegetables | Broccoli | 1 | 0.7 |
| | Cauliflowers | 0.2 | 0.15 |
| | Chinese cabbages/pe-tsai | 2 | 3 |
| | Kales | 2 | 1.5 |
| | Kohlrabies | 0.05* | 0.02 |
| Leaf vegetables, herbs, and edible flowers | Roman rocket/rucola, spinaches | 3 | 4 |
| | Purslanes | 3 | 2 |
| | Chards/beet leaves | 4 | 3 |
| | Grape leaves and similar species | 0.05* | 0.01* |
| | Watercresses | 0.5 | {0.01*} |
| | Witloofs/Belgian endives | 4 | 0.08 |
| | Celery leaves, chervil, parsley | 10 | 15 |
| | Basil and edible flowers | 10 | 4 |
| Legume vegetables | Beans and peas (with pods) | 1 | 0.7 |
| | Beans and peas (without pods) | 1 | 0.6 |
| | Lentils | 0.05* | 0.01* |


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| Food category | Products | Difenoconazole[1] (mg/kg) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Stem vegetables | Asparagus | 0.05* | 0.03 |
| | Cardoons, celeries | 7 | 5 |
| | Bamboo shoots, palm hearts | 0.05* | 0.01* |
| Fungi, mosses, and lichens | | 0.05* | 0.01* |
| Algae and prokaryotic organisms | | 0.05* | 0.01* |
| Pulses | Beans | 0.06 | 0.05 |
| | Lentils, lupins/lupini beans | 0.06 | 0.04 |
| Oilseeds | Linseeds, mustard seeds | 0.2 | 0.5 |
| | Castor beans, hemp seeds, peanuts/groundnuts, pumpkin seeds, sesame seeds | 0.05* | 0.01* |
| | Soyabeans | 0.1 | 0.15 |
| | Cotton seeds | 0.05* | 0.4 |
| | Borage seeds | 0.05* | 0.5 |
| Oil fruits | Oil palm kernels, oil palm fruits, kapok | 0.05* | 0.01* |
| Cereals | Buckwheat and other pseudocereals, common millet/proso millet, maize/corn, sorghum | 0.05* | 0.01* |
| | Oats | 0.05* | 0.02 |
| Teas | | 0.05* | 20 |
| Herbal infusions | Valerian, ginseng | 20 | 4 |
| | Any parts of the plant except flowers, leaves, herbs, roots | 20 | {0.05*} |


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| Food category | Products | Difenoconazole[1] (mg/kg) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Spices | Anise/aniseed, black caraway/black cumin, celery, coriander, cumin, dill, fennel, fenugreek, nutmeg, allspice/pimento, Sichuan pepper, caraway, cardamom, juniper berry, peppercorn, vanilla, tamarind | 0.3 | 0.15 |
| | Capers, cinnamon, cloves, mace, saffron | 0.3 | {0.05*} |
| | Liquorice, turmeric/curcuma | 3 | 1.5 |
| Sugar plants | Sugar canes | 0.05* | 0.01* |
| Products of animal origin | Muscle of pigs, cattle, sheep, goats, and horses | 0.05 | 0.08 |
| | Fat of pigs, cattle, sheep, goats, and horses | 0.05 | 0.2 |
| | Muscle of other farmed terrestrial animals | 0.1 | 0.08 |
| | Fat of other farmed terrestrial animals | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| | Liver, kidney, and edible offals of pigs, cattle, sheep, goats, horses, and other farmed terrestrial animals | 0.2 | 1.5 |
| | Poultry muscle, fat, liver, and edible offals | 0.1 | {0.01*} |
| | Milk (cattle, sheep, goat, horse) | 0.005* | 0.02 |
| | Bird eggs (chicken, duck, geese, quail) | 0.05* | 0.03 |
| | Amphibians and reptiles, terrestrial invertebrates, and wild terrestrial vertebrates | 0.05* | 0.01* |

* Limit of determination. MRLs reduced to the limit of determination (LOD), shown in brackets, are the ones most likely to cause trade disruptions. Operators should pay attention to all changes to MRLs as adaptions to good agricultural practices may be required.
[1] Difenoconazole (sum of constituent isomers) (R) (F)

Source: Regulation 2026/2299


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