Maximum residue level for mepiquat

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EU to increase mepiquat MRL in honey from early 2027

Draft Commission Regulation 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 cycloxydim, ethofumesate, folpet, mepiquat and quinmerac in or on certain products

Draft Annex IIIA [PLAN/2026/1732]

Update

The European Union (EU) will increase the maximum residue level (MRL) for mepiquat in honey from 0.05 to 1.5 mg/kg.

Impacted products

Honey and other apiculture products

What is changing?

The EU will increase the maximum residue level (MRL) for mepiquat in honey from 0.05 (the limit of determination, LOD) to 1.5 mg/kg. (The LOD is the lowest level that can be detected using the most modern and reliable analytical methods.)

Why?

Following an application for a change of MRL by the producer of mepiquat, the European Food Safety Authority evaluated the requested change and concluded that increasing the MRL would not pose a risk for consumers (EFSA 2026).

Timeline

The new MRL for mepiquat in honey is expected to apply from early 2027.

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Background

In June 2025 the EU raised the MRL for mepiquat on grapes from 0.02 mg/kg (LOD) to 5 mg/kg (Regulation 2025/1164), in line with the Codex Alimentarius MRL (CXL), as it was not considered to be a concern for human safety.

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

CAC (2024) Report of the 55th Session of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues, Chengdu, Sichuan Province, P.R. China, 3–8 June 2024. Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, Codex Alimentarius Commission.

Commission Regulation (EU) 2025/1164 of 13 June 2025 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 cyantraniliprole, cyflumetofen, deltamethrin, mefentrifluconazole, mepiquat and oxathiapiprolin in or on certain products

EFSA (2026) Modification of the existing maximum residue level for mepiquat chloride in honey. EFSA Journal, 24(7): e10225.

Sources

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