Maximum residue levels for alpha-cypermethrin

Published by AGRINFO on 09 Oct 2025; Revised 23 Mar 2026

Draft Commission Regulation as regards maximum residue levels for alpha-cypermethrin and cypermethrin in or on certain products

Draft Annex

What is changing and why?

The European Union (EU) maximum residue levels (MRLs) for cypermethrin cover the group of isomers: cypermethrin, alpha-cypermethrin, beta-cypermethrin, and zeta-cypermethrin. The European Food Safety Authority has identified potential risks related to the current cypermethrin MRLs for certain products, with particular concerns regarding alpha-cypermethrin, which is more toxic. The EU is therefore discussing setting specific alpha-cypermethrin MRLs (see Table 1) in addition to the general MRL covering all forms of cypermethrin. In parallel, the EU is also reviewing the cypermethrin MRLs (see Maximum residue levels for cypermethrins).

Actions

The opportunity to submit comments on this proposal closed on 1 May 2026.

Suppliers to the EU market of affected products should seek alternative chemical and non-chemical alternatives to the use of alpha-cypermethrin.

Timeline

The Regulation is expected to be published in October 2026, and will apply 6 months after publication.

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
Maximum residue levels under discussion for alpha-cypermethrin

Food category	Products	Alpha-cypermethrin: new MRL (mg/kg)
Citrus fruits	Grapefruits, oranges, lemons, limes, mandarins	0.08
Tree nuts	Almonds, Brazil nuts, cashew nuts, chestnuts, coconuts, hazelnuts/ cobnuts, macadamias, pecans, pine nut kernels, pistachios, walnuts	0.015
Pome fruits	Apples	0.01*
	Pears	0.007*
	Quinces, medlars, loquats/Japanese medlars	0.03*
Stone fruits	Apricots, cherries (sweet), peaches, plums	0.01*
Berries and small fruits	Table grapes, wine grapes	0.03
	Strawberries	0.07
	Blackberries, dewberries, raspberries (red and yellow), blueberries, cranberries, currants (black, red, white), gooseberries (green, red, yellow), rose hips, mulberries (black and white), azaroles/ Mediterranean medlars, elderberries	0.01*
Miscellaneous fruits	Dates, figs, kaki/Japanese persimmons, jambuls/jambolans, kiwi fruits, litchis/lychees, passionfruits/maracujas, prickly pears/cactus fruits, star apples/cainitos, American persimmons/Virginia kaki, avocados, bananas, mangoes, papayas, granate apples/pomegranates, cherimoyas, guavas, pineapples, breadfruits, soursops/guanabanas	0.01*
	Table olives	0.09
	Kumquats	0.07
	Carambolas	0.04
	Durians	0.2
Root and tuber vegetables	Potatoes	0.015
	Cassava roots/manioc, yams, arrowroots	0.01*
	Sweet potatoes	0.01
	Beetroots, carrots, celeriac/turnip-rooted celeries, horseradishes, Jerusalem artichokes, parsnips, parsley roots/Hamburg root parsley, radishes, salsifies, swedes/rutabagas, turnips	0.03
Bulb vegetables	Garlic, onions, shallots	0.02
	Spring onions/green onions, Welsh onions	0.01*
Fruiting vegetables	Tomatoes	0.015
	Sweet peppers/bell peppers	0.01*
	Aubergines/eggplants	0.03
	Okra/lady's fingers	0.15
	Gherkins	0.07
	Courgettes, cucumbers	0.01*
	Melons	0.01
	Pumpkins, watermelons	0.07
	Sweet corn	0.015
Brassica vegetables	Broccoli	0.03
	Cauliflowers	0.01
	Brussels sprouts, head cabbages	0.03
	Chinese cabbages/pe-tsai, kales, kohlrabies	0.01*

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Table 1
Continued

Food category	Products	Alpha-cypermethrin: new MRL (mg/kg)
Leaf vegetables, herbs, and edible flowers	Lettuces, escaroles/broad-leaved endives, spinaches, purslanes, chards/beet leaves, witloofs/Belgian endives	0.01*
	Lamb's lettuces/corn salads, Roman rocket/rucola, red mustards	0.3
	Cresses and other sprouts and shoots, land cresses, watercresses	0.9
	Baby leaf crops (including *Brassica* spp.), chervil, celery leaves, parsley, sage, rosemary, thyme, basil and edible flowers, laurel/bay leaves, tarragon	1
	Grape leaves and similar species	0.015
Legume vegetables	Beans and peas (with pods)	0.04
	Beans and peas (without pods), lentils	0.01*
Stem vegetables	Asparagus	0.09
	Cardoons, celeries, Florence fennels, leeks, rhubarbs, bamboo shoots, palm hearts	0.01*
	Globe artichokes	0.1
Fungi, mosses, lichens	Cultivated fungi, wild fungi, mosses and lichens	0.01*
Algae and prokaryotes		0.01*
Pulses	Beans, lentils, lupins/lupini beans	0.015
Oilseeds	Linseeds, peanuts/groundnuts, poppy seeds, sesame seeds, sunflower seeds, rapeseeds/canola seeds, mustard seeds, cotton seeds, safflower seeds	0.1
	Soyabeans	0.015
	Pumpkin seeds, castor beans	0.01*
	Borage seeds, gold of pleasure seeds, hemp seeds	0.01
Oil fruits	Olives for oil production	0.09
	Oil palm kernels, oil palm fruits, kapok	0.01*
Cereals	Barley, oats	0.09
	Buckwheat and other pseudocereals, maize/corn, common millet/ proso millet	0.3
	Rice	0.05
	Rye	0.02
	Sorghum	0.3
	Wheat	0.04
Teas		0.05*
Coffee beans		0.03
Herbal infusions	Camomile, hibiscus/roselle, rose, jasmine, lime/linden, strawberry, rooibos, maté	0.1*
	Valerian	0.05*
	Ginseng	0.03
Cocoa beans, carobs/St John's breads		0.05*
Hops		0.05*
Spices	Anise/aniseed, black caraway/black cumin, celery, coriander, cumin, dill, fennel, fenugreek, nutmeg, cinnamon, cloves, capers, saffron, mace	0.05*
	Allspice/pimento, Sichuan pepper, caraway, juniper berry, peppercorn (black, green, white), vanilla, tamarind	0.5
	Cardamom	3
	Liquorice, turmeric/curcuma	0.2

Continued …

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Table 1
Continued

Food category	Products	Alpha-cypermethrin: new MRL (mg/kg)
Sugar plants	Sugar beet roots	0.1
	Sugar canes	0.07
	Chicory roots	0.01
Products of animal origin	Muscle (swine, cattle)	0.03
	Muscle (sheep, goats, horse, poultry)	0.05
	Fat (swine)	0.07
	Fat (cattle)	0.2
	Fat (sheep, goats, horse)	2
	Fat (poultry)	0.1
	Liver, kidney, edible offals (other than liver and kidney) (swine, cattle, sheep, goats, horse, poultry)	0.05
	Milk (cattle)	0.015
	Milk (sheep, goats, horse)	0.05
	Bird eggs (chicken, duck, geese, quail)	0.01*
Honey and other apiculture products		0.01*

* Limit of determination.

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Source: based on PLAN/2023/1863 DRAFT V7

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