Maximum residue levels for benfluralin

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Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/147 as regards maximum residue levels for benfluralin, benthiavalicarb and penflufen in or on certain products

What is changing and why?

The European Union (EU) has lowered the maximum residue level (MRL) of benfluralin for salsifies to the limit of determination (LOD): from 0.05 to 0.01 mg/kg. (The LOD is the lowest level that can be detected using the most modern and reliable analytical methods.) For all other foods, the MRL was already set at the LOD, but these LODs are also lowered to reflect the development of more sensitive analytical methods (see Table 1).

Actions

Exporters of salsifies should review their current use of benfluralin and evaluate possible alternative solutions.

Timeline

The new MRLs apply from **12 August 2026**.

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
Changes to benfluralin maximum residue levels

Food category	Products	Benfluralin (mg/kg)	
		Former MRL	New MRL
Citrus fruits	Grapefruits, oranges, lemons, limes, mandarins	0.02*	0.01*
Tree nuts	Almonds, Brazil nuts, cashew nuts, chestnuts, coconuts, hazelnuts/cobnuts, macadamias, pecans, pine nut kernels, pistachios, walnuts	0.02*	0.01*
Pome fruits	Apples, pears, quinces, medlars, loquats/Japanese medlars	0.02*	0.01*
Stone fruits	Apricots, cherries (sweet), peaches, plums	0.02*	0.01*
Berries and small fruits	Table grapes, wine grapes, strawberries, 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	0.02*	0.01*
Miscellaneous fruit	Dates, figs, table olives, kumquats, carambolas, kaki/Japanese persimmons, jambuls/jambolans, kiwi fruits (green, red, yellow), 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, durians, soursops/guanabanas	0.02*	0.01*
Root and tuber vegetables	Potatoes, cassava roots/manioc, sweet potatoes, yams, arrowroots, beetroots, carrots, celeriac/turnip rooted celeries, horseradishes, Jerusalem artichokes, parsnips, parsley roots/Hamburg root parsley, radishes, swedes/rutabagas, turnips	0.02*	0.01*
	Salsifies	0.05	0.01*
Bulb vegetables	Garlic, onions, shallots, spring onions/green onions and Welsh onions	0.02*	0.01*
Fruiting vegetables	Tomatoes, sweet peppers/bell peppers, aubergines/eggplants, okra/lady's fingers, cucumbers, gherkins, courgettes, melons, pumpkins, watermelons, sweet corn	0.02*	0.01*
Brassica vegetables	Broccoli, cauliflowers, Brussels sprouts, head cabbages, Chinese cabbages/pe-tsai, kales, kohlrabis	0.02*	0.01*
Leaf vegetables	Lamb's lettuces/corn salads, lettuces, escaroles/broad-leaved endives, cresses and other sprouts and shoots, land cresses, Roman rocket/rucola, red mustards, baby leaf crops, spinaches, purslanes, chards/beet leaves, grape leaves, watercresses, witloofs/Belgian endives	0.02*	0.01*
Herbs and edible flowers	Chervil, chives, celery leaves, parsley, sage, rosemary, thyme, basil and edible flowers, laurel/bay leaves, tarragon	0.05*	0.01*

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Table 1
Continued

Food category	Products	Benfluralin (mg/kg)	
		Existing MRL	Proposed MRL
Legume vegetables	Beans (with pods), beans (without pods), peas (with pods), peas (without pods), lentils	0.02*	0.01*
Stem vegetables	Asparagus, cardoons, celeries, Florence fennels, globe artichokes, leeks, rhubarbs, bamboo shoots, palm hearts	0.02*	0.01*
Fungi, mosses, lichens	Cultivated fungi, wild fungi, mosses and lichens	0.02*	0.01*
Algae and prokaryotes	Algae and prokaryotes	0.02*	0.01*
Pulses	Beans, lentils, peas, lupins/lupini beans	0.05*	0.01*
Oilseeds	Linseeds, peanuts/groundnuts, poppy seeds, sesame seeds, sunflower seeds, rapeseeds/canola seeds, soyabeans, mustard seeds, cotton seeds, pumpkin seeds, safflower seeds, borage seeds, gold of pleasure seeds, hemp seeds, castor beans	0.02*	0.01*
Oil fruits	Olives for oil production, oil palm kernels, oil palm fruits, kapok	0.02*	0.01*
Cereals	Barley, buckwheat and other pseudocereals, maize/corn, common millet/proso millet, oats, rice, rye, sorghum, wheat	0.02*	0.01*
Teas		0.1*	0.05*
Coffee beans		0.1*	0.05*
Herbal infusions	Chamomile, hibiscus/roselle, rose, jasmine, lime/linden, strawberry, rooibos, mate/maté, valerian, ginseng	0.1*	0.05*
Cocoa beans		0.1*	0.05*
Carobs/Saint John's breads		0.1*	0.05*
Hops		0.1*	0.05*
Spices	Anise/aniseed, black caraway/black cumin, celery, coriander, cumin, dill, fennel, fenugreek, nutmeg, allspice/pimento, Sichuan pepper, caraway, cardamom, juniper berry, peppercorn (black, green, white), vanilla, tamarind, cinnamon, liquorice, ginger, turmeric/curcuma, horseradish, cloves, capers, saffron, mace	0.1*	0.05*
Sugar plants	Sugar beet roots, sugar canes, chicory roots	0.02*	0.01*
Products of animal origin (swine, cattle, sheep, goat, horse, poultry, other farmed terrestrial animals)	Muscle, fat, liver, kidney, edible offals (other than liver and kidney)	0.02*	0.01*
Milk	Cattle, sheep, goat, horse	0.02*	0.01*
Bird eggs	Chicken, duck, geese, quail	0.02*	0.01*
Amphibians and reptiles		0.02*	0.01*
Terrestrial vertebrate animals		0.02*	0.01*
Wild terrestrial vertebrate animals		0.02*	0.01*

* Limit of determination (LOD).

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