

# Maximum residue levels for copper compounds

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Draft Commission Regulation as regards maximum residue levels for copper compounds in or on certain products

Draft Annex II (PLAN/2025/350 draft v3)

## What is changing and why?

The European Union (EU) will amend the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for copper compounds on certain products, as summarised in Table 1. This is based on updated scientific assessments by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), which reviewed all sources of exposure including use as a pesticide, as well as natural presence in the environment.

## Actions


For other products not listed in Table 1, EFSA will be evaluating the possibility of lowering MRLs taking into account the natural presence of copper in those foods. There is an opportunity to submit data to EFSA in support of this evaluation until 2028 (see Full report for details).

## Timeline

The Regulation is expected to be published and to apply from April 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.

## Tables & Figures

Table 1 Changes to maximum residue levels related to copper			
Food category	Products	Old MRL: for copper compounds (mg/kg)	New MRL: for total copper (mg/kg)
Tree nuts	Almonds, Brazil nuts, chestnuts, hazelnuts/cobnuts, macadamias, pecans, pine nut kernels, pistachios, walnuts	30	40
Pome fruits	Apples, pears, quinces, medlars, loquats/Japanese medlars	5	6
Stone fruits	Cherries	5	10
	Peaches	5	8
Berries and small fruits	Table grapes, wine grapes	50	100
	Strawberries, blueberries, cranberries, currants (black, red, white), gooseberries (green, red, yellow), rose hips, mulberries (black and white), azaroles/Mediterranean medlars, elderberries	5	15
Miscellaneous fruit	Kiwi fruits (green, red, yellow)	20	30
Root and tuber vegetables	Potatoes	5	7
	Horseradishes	5	6
Bulb vegetables	Spring onions/green onions and Welsh onions	5	70
Fruiting vegetables	Tomatoes, aubergines/eggplants, melons, pumpkins, watermelons	5	10
	Sweet peppers/bell peppers	5	20
Brassica vegetables	Chinese cabbages/pe-tsai, kales	20	30
Leaf vegetables, herbs and edible flowers	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 (including brassica species)	100	150
	Spinaches, purslanes, chards/beet leaves, watercresses, chervil, chives, parsley, sage, rosemary, thyme, basil and edible flowers, laurel/bay leaves, tarragon	20	150
	Grape leaves and similar species	20	30
	Celery leaves	50	150
Stem vegetables	Leeks	20	70
	Globe artichokes	20	30
Cereals	Buckwheat and other pseudocereals, sorghum	10	20
Hops		1,000	1,500
Products of animal origin:			
Swine	Liver	30	60
Cattle, sheep, poultry, other farmed terrestrial animals	Liver	30	300
Goat	Liver	30	150
Goat	Muscle	5	6
Honey and other apiculture products		–	1.5
Amphibians and reptiles		–	6
Terrestrial vertebrate animals		–	6
Wild terrestrial invertebrate animals		–	70
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Source: based on [PLAN/2025/350 draft v3](#)

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