

Maximum residue levels for cypermethrins

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Draft Commission Regulation as regards maximum residue levels for cypermethrins in or on certain products [original Commission proposal, now under review]

Annex II

What is changing and why?

The European Commission is rethinking how it sets maximum residue levels (MRLs) for cypermethrins. At the end of 2023, it suggested lowering MRLs on several products to the lowest limit possible, based on the most accurate testing methods available. However, after hearing concerns from other countries and actors, the EU is now considering a different approach. Instead of lowering MRLs for cypermethrins (defined as the sum of isomers), the EU intends to set separate new MRLs for **alpha-cypermethrin**, which is known to be particularly toxic. If this approach is taken, the MRLs for cypermethrins as a group would not be lowered.

Timeline

To enforce the new limits, authorities and businesses need reliable ways to test for alpha-cypermethrin. The EU plans to finish confirming these testing methods by the end of 2025, and the new limits for alpha-cypermethrin are expected to take effect in 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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