Maximum residue levels for deltamethrin

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Deltamethrin MRLs for kiwis, melons, and watermelons will increase from 5 November 2026

Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/2289 of 15 October 2026 amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for acequinocyl, deltamethrin, dodine, maleic hydrazide, pinoxaden and prothioconazole in or on certain products

Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/876 of 21 April 2026 amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for acetamiprid, aclonifen, deltamethrin, oxathiapiprolin and potassium phosphonates in or on certain products

Update

The European Union (EU) has increased the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for deltamethrin on kiwi fruits, melons, and watermelons. In May 2026 the MRL was increased for cherries.

Impacted products

Kiwi fruits, melons, watermelons

What is changing?

The EU has increased the MRLs for deltamethrin as listed in Table 1.

Other recent MRL changes

- In May 2026, the EU increased the MRL for deltamethrin on cherries from 0.1 to 0.15 mg/kg.
- In July 2025, the EU raised the MRL for deltamethrin on papayas from 0.1 to 0.2 mg/kg.

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Why?

The European Food Safety Authority analysed an application from the producer of deltamethrin to increase the MRLs on kiwis, melons, and watermelons, and concluded that this change poses no risks to consumers (EFSA 2026).

Timeline

The new MRLs for kiwis, melons, and watermelons apply from **5 November 2026**.

The new MRL for cherries applies from **12 May 2026**.

Background

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.

The increased MRL for cherries in May 2026 followed an evaluation by EFSA (2025). In June 2025, the EU raised the MRL for deltamethrin on papayas from 0.1 to 0.2 mg/kg in line with the Codex MRL (CXL) adopted in 2024.

Resources

Commission Regulation (EU) 2025/1164 as regards maximum residue levels for cyantraniliprole, cyflumetofen, deltamethrin, mefentrifluconazole, mepiquat and oxathiapiprolin in or on certain products

EFSA (2025) Modification of the existing maximum residue level for deltamethrin in cherries. EFSA Journal, 23(3): e9314.

EFSA (2026) Modification of the existing maximum residue levels for deltamethrin in kiwi, melons and watermelons. EFSA Journal, 24(1): e9818.

Sources

Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/2289 as regards maximum residue levels for acequinocyl, deltamethrin, dodine, maleic hydrazide, pinoxaden and prothioconazole in or on certain products

Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/876 as regards maximum residue levels for acetamiprid, aclonifen, deltamethrin, oxathiapiprolin and potassium phosphonates in or on certain products

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Tables & Figures

Table 1: Changes to maximum residue levels for deltamethrin

Food category	Products	Deltamethrin(mg/kg)	
		Current MRL	Proposed MRL
Miscellaneous fruit	Kiwi fruits (green, red, yellow)	0.01*	0.15
Fruiting vegetables	Melons, watermelons	0.01*	0.03

* Limit of determination (LOD).

Source: based on Regulation 2026/2289

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