Maximum residue levels for diazinon

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EU discusses reduction of diazinon MRLs to 0.01 mg/kg

Draft Commission Regulation amending Annexes II, III and V to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for azocyclotin, chlorfenapyr, cyhexatin, diazinon, dicofol, endosulfan, fenarimol, fenpropathrin and profenofos in or on certain products

Draft Annex

Update

The European Union (EU) is discussing reducing the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for diazinon on certain products to the limit of determination (LOD) of 0.01 mg/kg. (The LOD is the lowest level that can be detected using the most modern and reliable analytical methods.) There will be particular impacts on **cranberries, pineapples, radishes, kohlrabies, hops, spices, sugar beet roots,** and **animal products**. A reduction in current LODs on some other products is also proposed.

Impacted products

Almonds, Brazil nuts, cashew nuts, chestnuts, coconuts, hazelnuts/cobnuts, macadamias, pecans, pine nut kernels, pistachios, walnuts, cranberries, pineapples, radishes, garlic, onions, shallots, spring onions/green onions, Welsh onions, sweet peppers/bell peppers, sweet corn, Chinese cabbages/pe-tsai, kohlrabies, linseeds, peanuts/groundnuts, poppy seeds, sesame seeds, sunflower seeds, rapeseed/canola seeds, soybeans, mustard seeds, cotton seeds, pumpkin seeds, safflower seeds, borage seed, gold of pleasure seeds, hemp seeds, castor beans, olives for oil production, oil palm kernels, oil palm fruits, kapok, hops, 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, liquorice, turmeric/curcuma, sugar beet roots, muscle (swine, cattle, sheep, goat, poultry), fat (swine, cattle, sheep, goat), liver, kidney (swine, cattle, sheep, goat), edible offals (poultry), milk (cattle, sheep, goat, horse), bird eggs (chicken, duck, geese, quail), honey and other apiculture products

What is changing?

The EU is discussing the reduction of MRLs for diazinon as summarised in Table 1.

Why?

The MRLs for diazinon that have been in place since the adoption of Regulation 396/2005 have never been reviewed. Following a series of evaluations and a stakeholder consultation (see EFSA invites submission of data to support review of certain MRLs), the European Food Safety Authority has concluded that the existing MRLs are not substantiated (EFSA 2023).

Timeline

This Regulation is still under discussion. It is expected to be adopted in 2026, with new MRLs applying from late 2026 or early 2027.

Recommended Actions

Suppliers to the EU market of cranberries, pineapples, radishes, kohlrabies, hops, spices, sugar beet roots, and animal products should review their existing use of diazinon and start to seek alternative (chemical or non-chemical) solutions in anticipation of the MRL reductions.

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.

For further information on the EU's process and principles for setting MRLs, see Regulation of pesticide residues in the EU - Questions and Answers.

Resources

EFSA (2023) Targeted review of maximum residue levels (MRLs) for diazinon. EFSA Journal, 21(11): e8426.

Sources

Draft Commission Regulation as regards maximum residue levels for azocyclotin, chlorfenapyr, cyhexatin, diazinon, dicofol, endosulfan, fenarimol, fenpropathrin and profenofos in or on certain products

Draft Annex

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Table & Figures

Table 1
Changes under discussion for diazinon maximum residue levels[1]

Food category	Products	Diazinon (mg/kg)	
		Existing MRL	Proposed MRL
Tree nuts	Almonds	0.05	0.01*
	Brazil nuts, cashew nuts, chestnuts, coconuts, hazelnuts/cobnuts, macadamias, pecans, pine nut kernels, pistachios, walnuts	0.02*	0.01*
Berries and small fruits	Cranberries	0.2	0.01*
Miscellaneous fruits	Pineapples	0.3	0.01*
Root and tuber vegetables	Radishes	0.1	0.01*
Bulb vegetables	Garlic, shallots, spring onions/green onions and Welsh onions	0.02*	0.01*
	Onions	0.05	0.01*
Fruiting vegetables	Sweet peppers/bell peppers	0.05	0.01*
	Sweet corn	0.02	0.01*
Brassica vegetables	Chinese cabbages/pe-tsai	0.05	0.01*
	Kohlrabies	0.2	0.01*
Oilseeds	Linseeds, peanuts/groundnuts, soybeans, castor beans, seeds of poppy, sesame, sunflower, rapeseed/canola, mustard, cotton, pumpkin, safflower, borage, gold of pleasure, hemp	0.02*	0.01*
Oil fruits	Olives for oil production, oil palmskernels and fruits, kapok	0.02*	0.01*
Hops	Hops	0.5	0.05*
Spices	Anise/aniseed, black caraway/black cumin, celery, coriander, cumin, dill, fennel, fenugreek, nutmeg	5	0.05*
	Allspice/pimento, Sichuan pepper, caraway, cardamom, juniper berry, peppercorn (black, green, white), vanilla, tamarind	0.1*	0.05*
	Liquorice, turmeric/curcuma	0.5	0.05*
Sugar plants	Sugar beet roots	0.1	0.01*
Products of animal origin	Muscle (swine, cattle, sheep, goats, poultry)	0.02	0.01*
	Fat (swine, cattle, sheep, goats)	0.7	0.01*
	Liver, kidney (swine, cattle, sheep, goats)	0.03	0.01*
	Edible offals (poultry)	0.02	0.01*
	Milk (cattle, sheep, goats, horse)	0.02	0.01*
	Bird eggs (chicken, ducks, geese, quails)	0.02*	0.01*
	Honey and other apiculture products	0.01*	0.05*

1. For products not listed here, no changes are proposed.
* Limit of determination (LOD).

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Source: based on PLAN/2025/1425 Rev0

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