Maximum residue levels for diazinon

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EU proposes reducing MRLs for diazinon on various products

Draft Commission Regulation amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for diazinon in or on certain products

Draft Annex II v2

Update

The European Union (EU) has notified the World Trade Organization Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO SPS) Committee of a new draft proposal to reduce the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for diazinon on various products to the limit of determination (LOD) (G/SPS/N/EU/963). (The LOD is the lowest level that can be detected using the most modern and reliable analytical methods.) This could have particular impacts on exports of almonds, cranberries, pineapples, radishes, onions, sweet peppers, sweet corn, Chinese cabbage, kohlrabies, hops, seed spices, root and rhizome spices, and sugar beet roots.

What is changing?

The European Commission initially proposed to reduce the MRLs for diazinon on certain products to the LOD of 0.01 mg/kg. This new draft Regulation considers maintaining the MRLs for certain animal products due to the presence of diazinon in authorised veterinary medicinal products. The MRLs for liver and kidney of swine, sheep, and goats are lowered from 0.03 to 0.02 mg/kg.

The proposed changes are summarised in Table 1.

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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 (EFSA) has concluded that the existing MRLs are not substantiated (EFSA 2023). This new proposal also takes into account the presence of this substance in veterinary medicinal products.

The MRLs for liver and kidney of swine, sheep, and goats are lowered to align with Regulation 37/2010.

Timeline

The Regulation is expected to be published on 1 March 2027, and will apply 6 months after publication.

Recommended Actions

Suppliers of **almonds, cranberries, pineapples, radishes, onions, sweet peppers, sweet corn, Chinese cabbage, kohlrabies, hops, seed spices, root and rhizome spices**, and **sugar beet roots** should explore chemical and non-chemical solutions as an alternative to the use of diazinon.

The WTO consultation on this proposal closed on 8 September 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.

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): e08426.

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European Commission (2025) Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed, Section Phytopharmaceuticals – Residues, 24–25 November 2025.

Regulation (EU) No 37/2010 on pharmacologically active substances and their classification regarding maximum residue limits in foodstuffs of animal origin

Sources

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

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Tables & Figures

Table 1
Proposed changes to maximum residue levels for diazinon

Food category	Products	Diazinon (mg/kg)	
		Current 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 fruit	Pineapples	0.3	0.01*
Root and tuber vegetables	Radishes	0.1	0.01*
Bulb vegetables	Onions	0.05	0.01*
	Garlic, shallots, spring onions/green onions and Welsh onions, other bulb vegetables	0.02*	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, 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, other oilseeds	0.02*	0.01*
Oil fruits	Olives for oil production, oil palm kernels, oil palm fruits, kapok, other oil fruits	0.02*	0.01*
Hops		0.5	0.05*
Seed spices	Anise/aniseed, black caraway/black cumin, celery, coriander, cumin, dill, fennel, fenugreek, nutmeg, other seed spices	5	0.05*
Fruit spices	Allspice/pimento, Sichuan pepper, caraway, cardamom, juniper berry, peppercorn (black, green, white), vanilla, tamarind, other fruit spices	0.1*	0.05*
Root and rhizome spices	Liquorice, turmeric/curcuma, other root/rhizome spices	0.5	0.05*
Sugar plants	Sugar beet roots	0.1	0.01*
Products of animal origin:			
Swine	Fat	0.7	0.01*
	Liver, kidney	0.03	0.02
Cattle, sheep, goats	Liver, kidney	0.03	0.02
Poultry	Muscle, edible offals (other than liver and kidney)	0.02	0.01*
Milk	Cattle, horse	0.02	0.01*
Honey and other apiculture products		0.01*	0.05*

* Limit of determination (LOD).

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