Maximum residue levels for diethofencarb

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EU reduces MRLs for diethofencarb on pears, wine grapes, tomatoes, and aubergines

Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/341 of 22 January 2024 amending Annexes II and V to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for diethofencarb, fenoxycarb, flutriafol and pencycuron in or on certain products

Update

The EU has reduced the MRLs for diethofencarb to the limit of determination (LOD, the lowest level that can be detected using the most modern and reliable analytical methods) for all products except bananas. There will be potential impacts on exporters of pears, wine grapes, tomatoes, and aubergines.

Impacted products

pears, wine grapes, tomatoes, aubergines, eggplants

What is changing?

The EU has reduced the MRLs for diethofencarb as summarised in Table 1.

Why?

Diethofencarb is no longer authorised in the EU because the manufacturer did not submit a new application for approval. Therefore all MRLs are set to the LOD.

Specifically for bananas, a previous import tolerance for diethofencarb was considered safe for consumers (EFSA 2016) and is therefore maintained.

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Timeline

The new MRLs will apply from **12 August 2024**. Products exported to the EU before 12 August 2024 that comply with the old MRLs will not be removed from the EU market after 12 August, even if they do not comply with the new MRLs.

Recommended Actions

Exporters of pears, wine grapes, tomatoes, and aubergines should review their current use of diethofencarb and evaluate possible alternative solutions.

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.

Resources

EFSA (2016) Setting of an import tolerance for diethofencarb in bananas. EFSA Journal, 14(9): 4576.

Sources

Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/341 as regards maximum residue levels for diethofencarb, fenoxycarb, flutriafol and pencycuron in or on certain products

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Tables & Figures

Table 1
Changes to maximum residue levels for diethofencarb

Food category	Products	Diethofencarb (mg/kg)	
		Old MRL	New MRL
Pome fruits	Pears	0.8	0.01*
Berries and small fruits	Wine grapes	0.9	0.01*
Fruiting vegetables	Tomatoes, aubergines/ eggplants	0.7	0.01*

* Limit of determination.

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Source: based on Regulation (EU) 2024/341

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