

Maximum residue levels for difluoroacetic acid

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EU proposes to increase MRLs for difluoroacetic acid on certain products

Draft Commission Regulation amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No. 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for 1,4-dimethylnaphthalene, difluoroacetic acid (DFA), flupyram and flupyradifurone in or on certain products

Annex II

Update

The European Commission has informed the World Trade Organization Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO SPS) Committee that it intends to increase the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for difluoroacetic acid on certain products ([G/SPS/N/EU/701](#)).

Impacted products

lemons, limes, mandarins, macadamias, apricots, peaches, plums, cherries, dewberries, avocados, mangoes, papayas, Chinese cabbages/ pe-tsai, kales, asparagus, sesame seeds, sunflower seeds, maize/ corn, oats, rye, sugar beet roots, chicory roots, fat from pigs, liver from pigs, fat from sheep and goats, fat from poultry

What is changing?

Difluoroacetic acid is not itself a pesticide. It is produced in crops following application of the insecticide [flupyradifurone](#). The EU proposes to increase the MRLs for difluoroacetic acid as summarised in Table 1.

Why?

Following a request to review the MRLs for difluoroacetic acid and to set import tolerances, [EFSA \(2023\)](#) did not identify a consumer health risk. The EU therefore proposes to adopt higher MRLs to avoid trade barriers when importing these crops.

Timeline

Expected date of publication: August 2024.

The new MRLs are expected to apply from early 2025.

Recommended Actions

Feedback on this proposal closed on 10 February 2024.

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 (2023) [Modification of the existing maximum residue levels and setting import tolerances for flupyradifurone and difluoroacetic acid \(DFA\) in various crops](#). EFSA Journal, 21(12): 8423.

Sources


[Draft](#) Commission Regulation as regards maximum residue levels for 1,4-dimethylnaphthalene, difluoroacetic acid (DFA), fluopyram and flupyradifurone in or on certain products

[Annex II](#)

Table & Figures

Table 1 Proposed changes to maximum residue levels for difluoroacetic acid ^[1]			
Food category	Products	Difluoroacetic acid (mg/kg)	
		Old MRL	New MRL
Citrus fruits	Lemons, limes, mandarins	0.05	0.09
Tree nuts	Macadamias	0.04	0.3
Stone fruits	Apricots, peaches, plums	0.02*	0.3
	Cherries	0.02*	0.15
Berries and small fruits	Dewberries	0.02*	0.07
Miscellaneous fruits	Avocados	0.02*	0.15
	Mangoes, papayas	0.02*	0.2
Brassica vegetables	Chinese cabbages/pe-tsai	0.02*	0.7
	Kales	0.6	0.7
Stem vegetables	Asparagus	0.2	0.5
Oilseeds	Sesame seeds	0.05	0.9
	Sunflower seeds	0.05	0.15
Cereals	Maize/corn	0.1	0.15
	Oats	0.3	0.8
	Rye	0.3	1.5
Sugar plants	Sugar beet roots, chicory roots	0.02*	0.09
Products of animal origin	Fat from pigs	0.1	0.2
	Liver from pigs	0.09	0.1
	Fat from sheep and goats	0.15	0.3
	Fat from poultry	0.03	0.04

[1] For products not listed in this table, no changes are proposed.
* Limit of determination.


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Source: based on [PLAN/2023/2305](#)

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