

# Maximum residue levels for dithianon on apples and pears

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## EU reduces MRLs for dithianon on apples and pears

Commission Regulation (EU) [2024/1314](#) of 15 May 2024 amending Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for dithianon in or on certain products

### Update

The European Commission has decided to reduce the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for dithianon on apples and pears.

### Impacted products

Apples, pears

### What is changing?

The EU has reduced the MRLs for dithianon on apples and pears from 3 to 1.5 mg/kg.

### Why?

The European Food Safety Authority ([EFSA 2023](#)) identified that the acute reference dose (ARfD) of dithianon on apples and pears was exceeded with the current MRL, indicating a potential risk to consumers. Alternative good agricultural practices (GAP) were proposed which would allow a lowering of the MRLs to levels that do not pose a risk for consumers.

[EFSA \(2020\)](#) noted that the mutagenicity potential of the metabolite 1,4-naphthoquinone (a chemical intermediate for dithianon) remains uncertain. Therefore the acceptable daily intake (ADI) and ARfD values for 1,4-naphthoquinone are considered provisional.

## Timeline

The new MRLs will apply from **5 December 2024**.

## Recommended Actions

Suppliers of apples and pears to the EU market should review their current GAP to ensure that they will meet the new reduced MRLs by December 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) [Review of the existing maximum residue levels for dithianon according to Article 12 of Regulation \(EC\) No 396/2005](#). EFSA Journal, 21(1): 7731.

EFSA (2020) [Conclusion on the updated peer review of the pesticide risk assessment for the active substance dithianon in light of confirmatory data submitted](#). EFSA Journal, 18(9): 6189.

## Sources

Commission Regulation (EU) [2024/1314](#) as regards maximum residue levels for dithianon in or on certain products

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