Maximum residue levels for endosulfan

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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 V

What is changing and why?

The European Union (EU) proposes to reduce the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for endosulfan on several products, with the most significant impacts on tea, soyabeans, cotton seeds, and certain spices (see Table 1). This is because the European Food Safety Authority was unable to complete a risk assessment due to a lack of relevant data.

Actions

Suppliers to the EU market of tea, soybeans, cotton seeds, and the spices listed in Table 1 should review their existing use of endosulfan and start to look for alternative solutions.

The World Trade Organization consultation on this proposal closed on 25 August 2026.

Timeline

The proposed new MRLs are expected to apply from September 2027.

For more information see the full record on the AGRINFO website – where you can also view the latest AGRINFO Update newsletters and search the database.

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Tables & Figures

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

Food category	Products	Endosulfan (mg/kg)	
		Existing MRL	Proposed MRL
Citrus fruits	Grapefruits, oranges, lemons, limes, mandarins	0.05*	0.03*
Tree nuts	Almonds, Brazil nuts, cashew nuts, chestnuts, coconuts, hazelnuts/cobnuts, macadamias, pecans, pine nut kernels, pistachios, walnuts	0.1*	0.03*
Pome fruits	Apples, pears quinces, medlars, loquats/ Japanese medlars	0.05*	0.03*
Stone fruits	Apricots, cherries (sweet), peaches, plums	0.05*	0.03*
Berries and small fruits	Table grapes, wine grapes, strawberries, blackberries, dewberries, raspberries (red, yellow), blueberries, cranberries, currants (black, red, white), gooseberries (green, red, yellow), rose hips, mulberries (black, white), azaroles/Mediterranean medlars, elderberries	0.05*	0.03*
Miscellaneous fruit	Dates, figs, table olives, kumquats, carambolas, kaki/Japanese persimmons, jambuls/jambolans, kiwi fruits, litchis/ lychees, passionfruits/maracujas, prickly pears/cactus fruits, star apples/cainitos, American persimmons/Virginia kaki, avocados, bananas, mangoes, papayas, granate apples/pomegranates, cherimoyas, guavas, pineapples, breadfruits, durians, soursops/guanabanas	0.05*	0.03*
Root and tuber vegetables	Potatoes, cassava roots/manioc, sweet potatoes, yams, arrowroots, beetroots, carrots, celeriac/turnip rooted celeries, horseradishes, Jerusalem artichokes , parsnips, parsley roots/Hamburg roots parsley, radishes, salsifies, swedes/ rutabagas, turnips	0.05*	0.03*
Bulb vegetables	Garlic, onions, shallots, spring onions/green onions and Welsh onions	0.1*	0.03*
Fruiting vegetables	Tomatoes, sweet peppers/bell peppers, aubergine/eggplants, okra/lady's fingers, cucumbers, gherkins, courgettes, melons, pumpkins, watermelons, sweetcorn	0.05*	0.03*
Brassica vegetables	Broccoli, cauliflowers, Brussels sprouts, head cabbages, Chinese cabbages/pe-tsai, kales, kohlrabis	0.05*	0.03*
Leaf vegetables	Lamb's lettuces/corn salads, lettuces, escaroles/broad-leaved endives, cresses and other sprouts and shoots, land cresses, Roman rocket/rucola, red mustards, baby leaf crops, spinaches, purslanes, chards/ beet leaves, grape leaves, watercresses, witloofs/Belgian endives	0.05*	0.03*

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Table 1
Continued

Food category	Products	Endosulfan (mg/kg)	
		Existing MRL	Proposed MRL
Herbs and edible flowers	Chervil, chives, celery leaves, parsley, sage, rosemary, thyme, basil and edible flowers, laurel/bay leaves, tarragon	0.05*	0.06*
Legume vegetables	Beans (with pods), beans (without pods), peas (with pods), peas (without pods), lentils	0.05*	0.03*
Stem vegetables	Asparagus, cardoons, celeries, Florence fennels, globe artichokes, leeks, rhubarbs, bamboo shoots, palm hearts	0.05*	0.03*
Fungi, mosses, and lichens	Cultivated fungi, wild fungi, mosses and lichens	0.05*	0.03*
Algae and prokaryotes		0.05*	0.03*
Pulses	Beans, lentils, lupins/lupini beans	0.05*	0.03*
Oilseeds	Linseeds, peanut/groundnuts, castor beans, seeds of: poppy, sesame, sunflower, canola, mustard, pumpkin, safflower, borage, gold of pleasure, hemp	0.1*	0.03*
	Soyabeans	0.5	0.03*
	Cotton seeds	0.3	0.03*
Oil fruits	Olives for oil production	0.05*	0.03*
	Oil palm kernels and fruits, kapok	0.1*	0.03*
Cereals	Barley, buckwheat and other pseudocereals, maize/corn, common millet/proso millet, oats, rice, rye, sorghum, wheat	0.05*	0.03*
Teas		30	0.03*
Spices	Anise/aniseed, black caraway/black cumin, celery, coriander, cumin, dill, fennel, fenugreek, nutmeg	1	0.1*
	Allspice/pimento, Sichuan pepper, caraway, cardamom, juniper berry, peppercorn (black, green, white), vanilla, tamarind	5	0.1*
	Liquorice, turmeric/curcuma	0.5	0.1*
Sugar plants	Sugar beet roots, sugar canes, chicory roots	0.05*	0.03*
Products of animal origin	Swine, cattle, sheep, goats, horses, poultry, other farmed terrestrial animals	0.05*	0.03*
	Milk (cattle, sheep, goat, horse)	0.05*	0.03*
	Bird eggs (chicken, duck, geese, quail)	0.05*	0.03*
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 Draft Annex V

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