Maximum residue levels for famoxadone

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EU aligns MRL for famoxadone on hops with Codex standards

Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/2633 of 8 October 2024 amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for azoxystrobin, famoxadone, flutriafol, mandipropamid and mefentrifluconazole in or on certain products

Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/352 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 (Z)-13-hexadecen-11-yn-1-yl acetate, (Z,Z,Z,Z)-7,13,16,19-docosatetraen-1-yl isobutyrate, acrinathrin, azimsulfuron, famoxadone, prochloraz and sodium hypochlorite in or on certain products

Update

The EU has raised the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for famoxadone on hops based on the Codex maximum residue level (CXL) adopted in December 2023, which is considered safe for consumers.

The European Commission has reduced MRLs for famoxadone to the limit of determination on all other products except on wine grapes, potatoes, tomatoes, cucumbers, courgettes, barley, wheat, and animal products where the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) considers CXLs to be safe. (The LOD is the lowest level that can be detected using the most modern and reliable analytical methods.)

This has implications for exporters of table grapes, aubergines/ eggplants, gherkins, other cucurbits, melons, broccoli, cauliflowers, leeks, camomile, hibiscus, roselle, rose, jasmine, lime/ linden, and birds' eggs.

Impacted products

Table grapes, aubergines/ eggplants, gherkins, other cucurbits, melons, broccoli, cauliflowers, leeks, camomile, hibiscus, roselle, rose, jasmine, lime/ linden, birds' eggs (chicken, duck, geese, quail), hops

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What is changing?

The European Commission has raised the MRL for famoxadone on hops from 0.05 to 50 mg/kg.

Lower MRLs for famoxadone, as summarised in Table 1, have been in place since 12 August 2024.

Why?

From 9 September 2021, famoxadone is no longer permitted for use in the EU. The existing MRLs set for famoxadone have therefore been deleted and set to the LOD (in most cases 0.01 mg/kg). Where the detection level of 0.01 mg/kg cannot be met due to technical limitations, the MRL is 0.02 or 0.05 mg/kg.

MRLs for femoxadone on wine grapes, potatoes, tomatoes, cucumbers, courgettes, barley, wheat, and animal products are based on CXLs that are considered safe by EFSA (2023a) and are therefore maintained. The new CXL on hops is also considered safe and is therefore adopted as an EU MRL (EFSA 2023b).

Timeline

The new MRL on hops applies from **29 October 2024**.

The MRLs set out in Table 1 apply from **12 August 2024**.

Recommended Actions

Suppliers to the EU market of table grapes, aubergines/ eggplants, gherkins, melons, broccoli, cauliflowers, leeks, flower infusions (camomile, hibiscus/ roselle, rose, jasmine, lime/ linden), and birds' eggs must find alternative solutions to existing use of famoxadone on these products.

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 (2023a) Targeted risk assessment for famoxadone. EFSA Journal, 21(3): 7932.

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EFSA (2023b) Scienti■c support for preparing an EU position in the 54th Session of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR). EFSA Journal, 21(8): 8111.

Sources

Regulation (EU) 2024/2633 as regards maximum residue levels for azoxystrobin, famoxadone, flutriafol, mandipropamid and mefentrifluconazole in or on certain products

Regulation 2024/352 as regards maximum residue levels for (Z)-13-hexadecen-11-yn-1-yl acetate, (Z,Z,Z,Z)-7,13,16,19-docosatetraen-1-yl isobutyrate, acrinathrin, azimsulfuron, famoxadone, prochloraz and sodium hypochlorite in or on certain products

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Tables & Figures

Table 1
Changes to maximum residue levels for famoxadone

Food category	Products	Famoxadone (mg/kg)	
		Old MRL	New MRL
Berries and small fruits	Table grapes	2	0.01*
Fruiting vegetables	Aubergines/ eggplants	1.5	0.01*
	Gherkins, other cucurbits	0.2	0.01*
	Melons	0.7	0.01*
Brassica vegetables	Broccoli, cauliflowers	0.1	0.01*
Stem vegetables	Leeks	2	0.01*
Herbal infusions	Camomile, hibiscus/ roselle, rose, jasmine, lime/ linden	2	0.05*
Animal products	Bird eggs (chicken, duck, geese, quail)	0.02*	0.01*

* Limit of determination.

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