Maximum residue levels for fenamiphos

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EU reduces MRLs for fenamiphos on all products to the limit of determination with impacts on grapes, tomatoes, sweet peppers, aubergines and sugar beet roots from August 2023

Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/128 of 18 January 2023 amending Annexes II, III and V to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for benalaxyl, bromoxynil, chlorsulfuron, epoxiconazole and fenamiphos in or on certain products

Update

The EU has reduced the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for fenamiphos to the limit of determination (LOD), with implications for suppliers of grapes, tomatoes, sweet peppers, aubergines and sugar beet roots.

Impacted products

grapes, tomatoes, sweet peppers, aubergines, sugar beet

What is changing?

The changes to MRLs are set out in Table 1.

In addition, the LOD is reduced from 0.05 to 0.01 mg/kg on the majority of products, but not on teas, hops and spices.

Why?

The active substance fenamiphos was not renewed for use in the EU for public health reasons (EFSA 2019). The MRLs related to authorised uses (tomatoes, sweet peppers/ bell peppers, aubergines/ eggplants and sugar beet roots) are therefore revoked. The import tolerances previously established for grapes also could not be maintained due to incomplete genotoxicity data and a lack of certainty regarding consumer risk. All MRLs are therefore withdrawn and set at the LOD.

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Timeline

The new MRLs will apply from 8 August 2023.

Recommended Actions

Suppliers of grapes, tomatoes, sweet peppers, aubergines and sugar beet roots should review the use of fenamiphos on these products, and seek alternative solutions with a view to ensuring a transition away from fenamiphos before August 2023.

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 (2019) Peer review of the pesticide risk assessment of the active substance fenamiphos. EFSA Journal, 17(1): 5557.

Sources

Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/128

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Tables & Figures

Table 1
Maximum residue levels for fenamiphos

Food category	Products	Fenamiphos (mg/kg)	
		Old MRL	New MRL
Berries, small fruits	Table grapes/ wine grapes	0.03	0.01*
Fruiting vegetables	Tomatoes, sweet peppers/ bell peppers, aubergines/ eggplants	0.04	0.01*
Sugar plants	Sugar beet roots	0.1	0.01*

* Limit of determination.
Source: based on SANTE/10176/2022 rev.2

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