Maximum residue levels for flonicamid

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EU raises MRLs for flonicamid on certain products

Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/2612 of 7 October 2024 amending Annexes II, III and IV to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for chitosan, clopyralid, difenoconazole, fat distillation residues, flonicamid, hydrolysed proteins, and lavandulyl senecioate in or on certain products

Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/1078 of 15 April 2024 amending Annexes II and IV to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for azoxystrobin, flonicamid, isofetamid, mefentrifluconazole, metazachlor, pyrimethanil and quartz sand in or on certain products

Update

The EU has raised the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for flonicamid on several products. This follows MRL increases for flonicamid on Chinese cabbages, kales, and kohlrabies.

Impacted products

Potatoes, 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 (including brassica species), spinaches, purslanes, chards/beet leaves, beans (without pods), cardoons, celeries, Florence fennels, rhubarbs, Chinese cabbages, kales, kohlrabies

What is changing?

The EU has amended the MRLs for flonicamid as summarised in Table 1.

This follows increases to MRLs for flonicamid introduced on 6 May 2024 for leafy brassicas (Chinese cabbages and kales) from 0.03 to 0.5 mg/kg, and on kohlrabies from 0.03 to 0.15 mg/kg.

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Why?

Following an application to modify the MRL, the EU agreed that data from residue trials on kales could be extrapolated to set MRLs on other leafy brassicas. No safety evaluation by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) was required.

Following a new application to modify flonicamid MRLs on potatoes, lettuces and salad plants, spinaches and similar leaves, beans (without pods), cardoons, celeries, Florence fennels, and rhubarbs, EFSA (2024) concluded that all data requirements were met and the modifications were acceptable for consumer safety.

Timeline

The new MRLs in Table 1 apply from **28 October 2024**.

The MRLs on Chines cabbages, kales, and kohlrabies apply since 6 May 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 (2024) Modification of the existing maximum residue levels for flonicamid in various crops. EFSA Journal, 22: e8545.

Sources

Regulation (EU) 2024/2612 as regards maximum residue levels for chitosan, clopyralid, difenoconazole, fat distillation residues, flonicamid, hydrolysed proteins, and lavandulyl senecioate in or on certain products

Regulation 2024/1078 as regards maximum residue levels for azoxystrobin, flonicamid, isofetamid, mefentrifluconazole, metazachlor, pyrimethanil and quartz sand in or on certain products

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Tables & Figures

Table 1
Changes to maximum residue levels for flonicamid

Food category	Products	Flonicamid (mg/kg)	
		Old MRL	New MRL
Root and tuber vegetables	Potatoes	0.09	0.2
Leaf vegetables, herbs and edible flowers	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 (including brassica species)	0.07	0.6
	Spinaches, purslanes, chards/beet leaves	0.03*	0.6
Legume vegetables	Beans (without pods)	0.03*	0.7
Stem vegetables	Cardoons, celeries, Florence fennels, rhubarbs	0.03*	0.3

* Limit of determination.

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Source: Regulation (EU) 2024/2612

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