Maximum residue levels for isopyrazam

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Proposal to amend MRLs for isopyrazam, impacting fruit and vegetables on hold

Draft Commission Regulation amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for isopyrazam in or on certain products

Update

The European Commission informed the World Trade Organization Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO SPS) Committee in June 2024 that it intends to amend the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for isopyrazam, with possible impacts on fruits and vegetables (G/SPS/N/EU/762).

Adoption of this proposal was originally foreseen for 2025. However, the Regulation is currently put on hold pending ongoing discussions within the Commission (**European Commission 2025a**).

Impacted products

Apples, pears, quinces, medlars, loquats/ Japanese medlars, peaches, bananas, beetroots, celeriacs/ turnip rooted celeries, horseradishes, Jerusalem artichokes, parsnips, parsley roots/ Hamburg rooted parsley, radishes, salsifies, swedes/ rutabagas, turnips, carrots, tomatoes, aubergines/ eggplants, cucumbers, gherkins, courgettes, melons, pumpkins, watermelons, chervil, chives, celery leaves, parsley, sage, rosemary, thyme, basil and edible flowers, laurel/ bay leaves, tarragon, linseeds, poppy seeds, mustard seeds, rapeseeds/ canola seeds, oat, rye, wheat, tea, coffee beans, herbal infusions (chamomile, hibiscus, rose, jasmine, lime/ linden, strawberry, rooibos, maté, valerian, ginseng), cocoa beans, carobs/ Saint John's breads, hops, anise/ aniseed, black caraway/ black cumin, celery, coriander, cumin, dill, fennel, fenugreek, nutmeg, allspice/ pimento, Sichuan pepper, caraway, cardamom, juniper berry, peppercorn, vanilla, tamarind, cinnamon, liquorice, ginger, turmeric/ curcuma, horseradish, cloves, capers, saffron, mace

What is changing?

The EU proposes to amend the MRLs for isopyrazam as summarised in Table 1.

Why?

The active substance isopyrazam is no longer approved in the EU because it has been classified as carcinogenic and toxic for reproduction (ECHA 2020). Therefore the EU proposes to reduce the MRLs for this substance to the limit of determination (LOD, the lowest level that can be detected using the most modern and reliable analytical methods). This will apply to all products except those for which MRLs are based on Codex MRLs (CXLs) or import tolerances, which have been reviewed by EFSA (2021) and found to present no health risks for the consumer.

Timeline

Adoption of this proposal was originally foreseen for 2025. However, the Regulation is currently put on hold pending ongoing discussions within the Commission (**European Commission 2025a**).

Recommended Actions

Suppliers of products affected should review their current use of isopyrazam and look for possible alternative solutions in anticipation of these MRL changes.

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

ECHA (2020) Opinion proposing harmonised classification and labelling at EU level of isopyrazam. European Chemicals Agency, Committee for Risk Assessment.

EFSA (2021) Review of the existing maximum residue levels for isopyrazam according to Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. EFSA Journal, 19(7): 6684.

Sources

Draft Commission Regulation as regards maximum residue levels for isopyrazam in or on certain products

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Table & Figures

Table 1
Changes to maximum residue levels for isopyrazam

Food category	Products	Isopyrazam (mg/kg)	
		Old MRL	New MRL
Pome fruits	Apples, pears, quinces, medlars, loquats/ Japanese medlars	0.7	0.4
Stone fruits	Peaches	1.5	0.01*
Miscellaneous fruits	Bananas	0.05	0.06
Root and tuber vegetables	Beetroots, celeriacs/turnip rooted celeries, horseradishes, Jerusalem artichokes, parsnips, parsley roots/ Hamburg rooted parsley, radishes, salsifies, swedes/rutabagas, turnips	0.2	0.01*
	Carrots	0.2	0.15
Fruiting vegetables	Tomatoes, aubergines/eggplants	0.5	0.4
	Cucumbers	0.4	0.06
	Gherkins, courgettes	0.4	0.01*
	Melons	0.3	0.15
	Pumpkins, watermelons	0.3	0.01*
Herbs and edible flowers	Chervil, chives, celery leaves, parsley, sage, rosemary, thyme, basil and edible flowers, laurel/ bay leaves, tarragon	0.01*	0.02*
Oilseeds	Linseeds, poppy seeds, mustard seeds	0.4	0.01*
	Rapeseeds/canola seeds	0.4	0.2
Cereals	Oat	0.6	0.01*
	Rye, wheat	0.2	0.03
Teas, coffee, herbal infusions, cocoa and carobs	Tea, coffee beans, herbal infusions (chamomile, hibiscus, rose, jasmine, lime/linden, strawberry, rooibos, maté, valerian, ginseng), cocoa beans, carobs/Saint John's breads	0.01*	0.05*
Hops	Hops	0.01*	0.05*
Spices	Anise/aniseed, black caraway/black cumin, celery, coriander, cumin, dill, fennel, fenugreek, nutmeg, allspice/pimento, Sichuan pepper, caraway, cardamom, juniper berry, peppercorn, vanilla, tamarind, cinnamon, liquorice, ginger, turmeric/curcuma, horseradish, cloves, capers, saffron, mace	0.01*	0.05*

* Limit of determination.

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Source: based on PLAN/2023/2927

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