Maximum residue levels for isoxaben

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Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/466

Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/1719

What is changing and why?

Changes to the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for isoxaben, including new MRLs for beans and peas (without pods), are shown in Table 1.

- The existing MRL for courgettes remains at 0.05 mg/kg.
- The MRL for gherkins was initially reduced to 0.01 mg/kg, but in September 2023 was revised to 0.05 mg/kg (the same as courgettes).
- The MRL for dried beans and peas was initially reduced to 0.01 mg/kg, but in July 2025 was revised to 0.02 mg/kg (the same as beans without pods).

For all fruits and vegetables not listed in Table 1, oilseeds and sugar plants, the limit of determination (LOD) is decreased from 0.02 to 0.01 mg/kg. The LOD on teas, coffees, infusions and spices is increased from 0.02 to 0.05 mg/kg. (The LOD is the lowest level that can be detected using the most modern and reliable analytical methods.)

Actions

Suppliers to the EU market of fruit, vegetables, cereals, and hops (with the exception of courgettes, gherkins, and beans/peas without pods) should check for current use of isoxaben on these products and seek alternative solutions to isoxaben. Suppliers of strawberries should verify whether existing agricultural practices are compatible with the reduced MRL of 0.01 mg/kg.

Timeline

The lowered MRLs apply from **26 September 2023**.

The 0.05 mg/kg MRL for gherkins applies from **27 September 2023**.

The 0.02 mg/kg MRLs for dried beans and peas apply from **23 July 2025**.

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Tables & Figures

Table 1
Maximum residue levels for isoxaben

Food category	Products	Isoxaben (mg/kg)	
		Old MRL	New MRL
Tree nuts	Almonds, chestnuts, hazelnuts/cobnuts, walnuts	0.05	0.01*
Pome fruits	Apples, pears, quinces, medlars, loquats/Japanese medlars	0.05	0.01*
Stone fruits	Cherries, plums	0.05	0.01*
Berries and small fruits	Table grapes, wine grapes, blackberries, dewberries raspberries, blueberries, cranberries, currants, gooseberries, rosehips, mulberries, azaroles/Mediterranean medlars, elderberries	0.05	0.01*
	Strawberries	0.05	0.01
Root and tuber vegetables	Carrots, horseradishes, parsnips, parsley roots	0.05	0.01*
Fruiting vegetables	Cucumbers, melons, pumpkins, watermelons	0.05	0.01*
	Gherkins	0.01*	0.05
Leaf vegetables	Chervil, chives, celery leaves, parsley, sage, rosemary, thyme, basil and edible flowers, laurel/bay leaves, tarragon	0.05	0.01*
Legume vegetables	Peas (without pods)	0.05	0.02
	Beans (without pods)	0.02*	0.02
Stem vegetables	Asparagus	0.05	0.01*
Cereals	Barley, buckwheat and other pseudo-cereals, maize/corn, common millet/proso millet, oats, rice, rye, sorghum, wheat	0.1	0.01*
Hops		0.05	0.01*
Pulses	Beans, peas	0.01*	0.02

* Limit of determination.

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