Maximum residue levels for penconazole

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EU amends penconazole MRLs, with impacts on apricots, peaches, and grapes

Commission Regulation (EU) 2025/195 of 3 February 2025 amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for fenbuconazole and penconazole in or on certain products

Update

The European Union has amended the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for penconazole. The most significant impacts will potentially be on exports of apricots, peaches, and grapes.

Impacted products

Apples, pears, quinces, medlars, loquats/ Japanese medlars, apricots, peaches, plums, table grapes, wine grapes, blackberries, raspberries (red and yellow)

What is changing?

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

Why?

The MRLs for penconazole were re-evaluated and adjusted after new trials addressed data gaps identified by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA 2017). EFSA (2023) concluded that higher MRLs on pome fruits, plums, blackberries, and raspberries are safe, and that the MRLs for this substance can be maintained on cherries, gooseberries, tomatoes, aubergines, pumpkins, and watermelons, with no risk to consumers.

On certain other products, including apricots, peaches, and table and wine grapes, EFSA has recommended lower MRLs.

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Timeline

The new MRLs apply from **24 August 2025**.

Products imported before 24 August 2025 that comply with the old MRLs will not be removed from the EU market after that date, even if they do not comply with the new MRLs.

Recommended Actions

Suppliers of apricots, peaches, and grapes should review their use of penconazole and assess whether any changes will be needed to existing good agricultural practices (GAP).

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 (2017) Review of the existing maximum residue levels for penconazole according to Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. EFSA Journal, 15(6): 4853.

EFSA (2023) Evaluation of confirmatory data following the Article 12 MRL review and modification of the existing maximum residue levels for penconazole in various crops. EFSA Journal, 21(3): 7889.

Sources

Commission Regulation (EU) 2025/195 as regards maximum residue levels for fenbuconazole and penconazole in or on certain products

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Tables & Figures

Table 1
Changes to maximum residue levels for penconazole

Food category	Products	Penconazole (mg/kg)	
		Old MRL	New MRL
Pome fruits	Apples, pears, quinces, medlars	0.15	0.3
	Loquats/Japanese medlars	0.07	0.3
Stone fruits	Apricots	0.08	0.07
	Peaches	0.15	0.07
	Plums	0.09	0.15
Berries and small fruits	Table grapes, wine grapes	0.5	0.4
	Blackberries, raspberries (red and yellow)	0.1	0.4

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Source: based on Regulation 2025/195

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