Maximum residue levels for triclopyr

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EU amends triclopyr MRLs on certain products, with particular impact on citrus fruits

Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/1314 of 15 June 2026 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 1,4-dimethylnaphthalene, chlormequat, metribuzin, metribuzin-desamino-diketo (metribuzin-DADK), terbuthylazine and triclopyr in or on certain products

Update

The European Union has amended the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for triclopyr on citrus fruits and animal products.

Impacted products

Grapefruits, oranges, lemons, mandarins, animal products

What is changing?

The European Union (EU) has amended the MRLs for triclopyr on certain products as summarised in Table 1.

Why?

The MRLs for triclopyr were reviewed following assessments by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA 2022, 2024), which concluded that data for citrus fruits were still missing. The EU proposed to adjust the MRLs either to alternative safe levels proposed by EFSA, or to the product-specific limits of determination.

Data gaps identified in earlier evaluations were resolved for apples, pears, and peaches, allowing the existing MRLs to be maintained. For apricots, the current MRL can be maintained by extrapolation from cherries. For rice, new data have been submitted and the current MRL is maintained until the data can be assessed.

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In addition, new MRLs are set for certain animal products. This follows an application by the producer of triclopyr and EFSA's updated risk assessment confirming that residue levels for the intended uses on grassland are unlikely to present a risk to consumer health (EFSA 2023).

Timeline

The new MRLs will apply from **6 January 2027**.

Recommended Actions

Exporters of citrus fruits should should review triclopyr residue levels and the possible alternative (chemical or non-chemical) solutions available in anticipation of the 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.

For further information on the EU's process and principles for setting MRL, see Regulation of pesticide residues in the EU – Questions and Answers.

Resources

EFSA (2022) Modification of the existing maximum residue levels for triclopyr in oranges, lemons and mandarins. EFSA Journal, 20(8): e07545.

EFSA (2023) Modification of the existing maximum residue levels for triclopyr in animal commodities. EFSA Journal, 21(5): e08007.

EFSA (2024) Statement on the confirmatory data following the Article 12 MRL review for triclopyr. EFSA Journal, 22: e9176.

Sources

Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/1314 as regards maximum residue levels for 1,4-dimethylnaphthalene, chlormequat, metribuzin, metribuzin-desamino-diketo (metribuzin-DADK), terbuthylazine and triclopyr in or on certain products

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Tables & Figures

Table 1
Changes to maximum residue levels for triclopyr

Food category	Products	Triclopyr (mg/kg)	
		Old MRL	New MRL
Citrus fruits	Grapefruits	0.1	0.01*
	Oranges, lemons, mandarins	0.1	0.07
Products of animal origin	Muscle (swine)	0.01*	0.015
	Fat (swine)	0.01*	0.07
	Liver (swine)	0.01*	0.03
	Kidney and edible offals (swine)	0.01*	1.5
	Muscle (cattle)	0.06	0.05
	Fat (cattle)	0.06	0.3
	Liver (cattle)	0.06	0.1
	Kidney and edible offals (cattle)	0.08	4
	Fat (sheep, goats)	0.06	0.4
	Liver (sheep, goats)	0.06	0.15
	Kidney and edible offals (sheep, goats)	0.08	5
	Milk (sheep, goats)	0.01*	0.015

* Limit of determination (LOD).

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Source: based on Regulation 2026/1314

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