Maximum residue levels for quizalofop

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EU to lower quizalofop MRLs on salads and herbal infusions, and to increase MRLs on sunflower seeds and soyabeans

Draft Commission Regulation 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 carbofuran, imazalil, mandipropamid, propaquizafop, quizalofop-P-ethyl and quizalofop-P-tefuryl in or on certain products

Draft Annex (PLAN/2025/2832)

Update

The European Union (EU) will reduce the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for quizalofop on various salads and herbal infusions, and increase the MRLs on sunflower seeds and soyabeans. The MRLs will be reduced to the limit of determination (LOD, the lowest level that can be detected using the most modern and reliable analytical methods). This may have an impact on trade in chards/beet leaves and herbal infusions.

Impacted products

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, other lettuces, spinaches, chards/beet leaves, sunflower seeds, soyabeans, herbal infusions: chamomile, hibiscus/roselle, rose, jasmine, lime/linden, other flower infusions, strawberry, rooibos, mate/maté, other leaves/herb infusions, valerian, ginseng, other root infusions

What is changing?

The EU will change the MRLs for quizalofop as summarised in Table 1.

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Why?

The European Food Safety Authority concluded that there was insufficient information for various products to maintain the current MRLs (EFSA 2017). Following a review of data submitted to address those data gaps, and a request to modify certain products, EFSA (2024) supported new MRLs for sunflower seeds and soyabeans. Missing data for lettuces, salads, and spinaches was not addressed, so revised MRLs are proposed on the basis of good agricultural practices (GAPs). For chards/beet leaves and herbal infusions, missing data concerning storage stability and analytical methods was not addressed, so MRLs at the LOD are recommended.

Timeline

The new MRLs are expected to apply from **July 2027**.

Recommended Actions

To ensure compliance with the new MRLs, suppliers of chards/beet leaves, herbal infusions, and salads should review their use of quizalofop and assess if changes will be needed to existing GAPs, or whether alternative chemical and non-chemical solutions to the use of quizalofop are needed.

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) Reasoned opinion: Review of the existing maximum residue levels for quizalofop-P-ethyl, quizalofop-P-tefuryl and propaquizafop according to article 12 of regulation (EC) No 396/2005. EFSA Journal, 15(12): e05050.

EFSA (2024) Reasoned opinion: Evaluation of confirmatory data following the Article 12 MRL review for quizalofop-P-ethyl, quizalofop-P-tefuryl and propaquizafop and modification of the existing maximum residue levels for quizalofop-P-tefuryl. EFSA Journal, 22(2): e8560.

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Sources

Draft Commission Regulation as regards maximum residue levels for carbofuran, imazalil, mandipropamid, propaquizafop, quizalofop-P-ethyl and quizalofop-P-tefuryl in or on certain products

Draft Annex (PLAN/2025/2832)

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Tables & Figures

Table 1: Changes to maximum residue levels for quizalofop

Food category	Products	Quizalofop[1](mg/kg)	
		Current MRL	New MRL
Leaf vegetables	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, other lettuces, spinaches	0.2	0.15
	Chards/beet leaves	0.04	0.01*
Oilseeds	Sunflower seeds	0.8	1.5
	Soyabeans	0.2	0.3
Herbal infusions	Chamomile, hibiscus/roselle, rose, jasmine, lime/ linden, other flower infusions, strawberry, rooibos, mate/maté, other leaves/herb infusions, valerian, ginseng, other root infusions	0.8	0.05*

* Limit of determination (LOD).
1. Sum of quizalofop, its salts, its esters (including propaquizafop), and its conjugates, expressed as quizalofop (any ratio of constituent isomers).

Source: based on Draft Annex (PLAN/2025/2832)

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