

MRL removed for 17 β -oestradiol in food of animal origin

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Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) [2024/860](#) as regards the substance 17 β -oestradiol

What is changing and why?

The European Union has removed the maximum residue limit (MRL) for 17 β -oestradiol, including for therapeutic and zootechnical use in mammals.

Regulation [37/2010](#) sets the MRLs of pharmacologically active substances accepted in foods of animal origin. 17 β -oestradiol was allowed in mammals only for therapeutic and zootechnical (to improve the genetics of breeding animals) purposes. That authorisation has now been removed.

Directive [96/22](#) bans the use of 17 β -oestradiol in food-producing animals.

Actions

Food from mammals exported to the EU must not contain 17 β -oestradiol. Competent authorities and producers in non-EU countries where 17 β -oestradiol may be used for therapeutic and zootechnical purposes should ensure that alternative treatment is given using permitted substances (see [Official controls of veterinary drug residues in products of animal origin](#)).

Timeline

Applies from **8 April 2024**.

For more information see the [full record](#) on the AGRINFO website – where you can also view the latest [AGRINFO Update](#) newsletters and [search](#) the database.

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