MRLs for flutriafol

Published by AGRINFO on 27 Jul 2023; Revised 25 Jan 2024

EU lowers MRLs for flutriafol on beetroots, mustard/gold of pleasure seeds, rice, rye, and sugar beet roots

Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/341 of 22 January 2024 amending Annexes II and V to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for diethofencarb, fenoxycarb, flutriafol and pencycuron in or on certain products

Update

The EU has set the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for flutriafol to the limit of determination (LOD, the lowest level that can be detected using the most modern and reliable analytical methods). This will apply to all products except those for which MRLs are based on Codex MRLs (CXLs) or import tolerances, which are considered safe. There will be potential impacts on exporters of beetroots, mustard/ gold of pleasure seeds, rice, rye, and sugar beet roots.

Impacted products

beetroots, mustard seeds, gold of pleasure seeds, rye, rice, sugar beet roots

What is changing?

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

Why?

The approval for flutriafol has not been renewed as the manufacturer did not support its application for approval. Therefore flutriafol is no longer authorised in the EU and all MRLs are set at the LOD.

However, EFSA has concluded that some products present no health risks for the consumer (EFSA 2014, 2016a, 2016b, 2016c, 2017, 2020). In these cases import tolerances or CXLs are maintained.

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Timeline

The new MRLs will apply from 12 August 2024. Products exported before 12 August 2024 that comply with the old MRLs will not be removed from the EU market after 12 August, even if they do not comply with the new MRLs.

Recommended Actions

Exporters of beetroots, mustard/ gold of pleasure seeds, rice, rye, and sugar beet roots should review their current use of flutriafol and evaluate possible alternative solutions.

Background

MRLs are set in accordance with the rules set out in Regulation EC (No) 396/2005. For information on current MRLs for other substances, please consult the EU Pesticide Residues database.

Resources

EFSA (2014) Reasoned opinion on the review of the existing maximum residue levels (MRLs) for flutriafol according to Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. EFSA Journal, 12(5): 3687.

EFSA (2016a) Scientific support for preparing an EU position in the 48th Session of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR). EFSA Journal, 14(8): 4571.

EFSA (2016b) Setting of import tolerance for flutriafol in strawberries. EFSA Journal, 14(3): 4427.

EFSA (2016c) Setting of import tolerance for flutriafol in cucurbits with edible peel. EFSA Journal, 14(9): 4577.

EFSA (2017) Setting of import tolerance for flutriafol in hops. EFSA Journal, 15(7): 4875.

EFSA (2020) Evaluation of confirmatory data following the Article 12 MRL review and setting of an import tolerance for flutriafol in cucurbits (inedible peel). EFSA Journal, 18(12): 6315.

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Sources

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Visit the AGRINFO website to view the latest AGRINFO Update newsletters and search the database.

Tables & Figures

Table 1
Changes to maximum residue levels for flutriafol

Food category	Products	Flutriafol (mg/kg)	
		Old MRL	New MRL
Root and tuber vegetables	Beetroots	0.06	0.01*
Oilseeds	Mustard seeds, gold of pleasure seeds	0.5	0.02*
Cereals	Rye	0.15	0.01*
	Rice	1	0.01*
Sugar plants	Sugar beet roots	0.06	0.02

* Limit of determination.

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Source: based on Regulation 2024/341

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