

Triclopyr: non-renewal of EU approval

Published by AGRINFO on 19 Oct 2026

EU proposes not to renew approval of triclopyr, impacting exporters of some fruits, rice, and animal products – give feedback until 12 December

Draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the non-renewal of approval of the active substance triclopyr, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and amending Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 540/2011

Update

The European Commission has informed the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO TBT) Committee that it does not intend to renew approval of the active substance triclopyr ([G/TBT/N/EU/1247](#)). This is due to concerns about risks to “residential children” (children who live near agricultural areas where plant protection products are applied), mammals, and non-target arthropods. EU Member States will have to withdraw authorisations for products containing triclopyr. It is likely that the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for triclopyr will be reduced to the limit of determination (LOD, the lowest level that can be detected using the most modern and reliable analytical methods) in 2027. There will be potential impacts on exporters of citrus fruits, apples, pears, apricots and peaches, kiwi fruits, rice, and products of animal origin.

Impacted products

Oranges, lemons, mandarins, apples, pears, apricots and peaches, kiwi fruits, rice, and products of animal origin.

What is changing?

The European Commission does not intend to renew its approval for the active substance triclopyr. European farmers will no longer be able to use products containing this substance.

Why?

Following an application to renew the approval of triclopyr, the European Food Safety Authority identified concerns about high acute and long-term risk to mammals, a high risk to non-target arthropods, and a risk to “residential children” ([EFSA 2024](#)). The European Commission therefore proposes not to renew this substance.

Timeline

The withdrawal of approval for triclopyr is likely to be in the first quarter of 2027. EU Member States will have to withdraw authorisation of products containing triclopyr within the following 6 months.

EU producers will be allowed to use existing stocks of products containing triclopyr until the first quarter of 2028.

It is likely that the European Commission will revise the MRLs for triclopyr in 2027.

What are the major implications for exporting countries?

EU decisions not to renew, or to withdraw, approvals for pesticide active substances primarily affect EU producers.

Where active substances are not reapproved, or are withdrawn or restricted, the European Commission is likely to lower or remove the MRLs, usually setting them at the LOD or default level of 0.01 mg/kg. Non-EU exporters should be aware of upcoming MRL changes, and may need to adapt agricultural practices for produce exported to the EU. There could be impacts on exporters of several fruits, rice, and products of animal origin.

Recommended Actions

Comments or concerns about potential impacts can be submitted, via the [EU TBT Enquiry Point](#) before **12 December 2026**.

Suppliers of oranges, lemons, mandarins, apples, pears, apricots and peaches, kiwi fruits, rice, and products of animal origin currently using triclopyr, should review current agricultural practices and seek alternative solutions as the MRLs are likely to change.

Background

This draft Regulation proposes to update the list of active substances approved for use in the EU, established by Regulation [540/2011](#). This list can be consulted via the [EU database of active substances, safeners and synergists](#).

Resources

EFSA (2024) [Peer review of the pesticide risk assessment of the active substance triclopyr \(variant triclopyr-butotyl\)](#). EFSA Journal, 22: e8177.

Sources

[Draft](#) Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the non-renewal of approval of the active substance triclopyr

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