



Embassy of India

Belgium, Luxembourg & the European Union

Pesticide Monitoring

Newsletter

May-June 2026

For each active substance, the relevant export promotion bodies have been mentioned for their action on analysing the implications of the new MRL's and dissemination of these MRL's to relevant stakeholders such as farmers, traders, exporters, private companies etc.

A. EU updates on Pesticides

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scale insects, aphids, thrips, and mites (including European red mite, Honeylocust mite, and spruce spider mite), and is commonly applied to fruit crops, vineyards, orchards, fruiting vegetables, potatoes, citrus, and ornamental plants. EFSA's review confirmed its use as an acaricide and insecticide based on its physical mode of action. Representative uses on fruit crops, citrus, vegetables, potatoes, ornamentals, and protected crops were evaluated. They identified specific data requirements and risk mitigation measures, particularly for environmental compartments and non-target organisms, while providing regulatory endpoints for risk assessment.

Action: APEDA, DoC, EIC

Metalaxyl-M² is a systemic phenylamide fungicide primarily used to manage destructive fungal and oomycete diseases caused by both air- and soil-borne pathogens. It provides target control against serious agricultural threats such as foliar and tuber late blight (*Phytophthora infestans*), blue mold (*Peronospora tabacina*) and various downy mildews (*Pseudoperonospora humuli* in hops and *Plasmopara halstedii* in sunflowers). It is widely applied across a range of high-value agricultural and horticultural crops, including potatoes, tomatoes, hops, lettuce, vegetables, tobacco, sunflower, spinach, grapes, sugar beet, fodder beet, peas and peaches. EFSA's review highlighted specific areas requiring risk mitigation or further data, such as potential risks to aquatic organisms, specific relevant impurities, and the toxicological profiling of certain soil and plant metabolites. Previously, under Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/617, seeds treated with metalaxyl-M were restricted to greenhouse use only due to concerns regarding acute and long-term toxicity risks to wild birds and mammals outdoors. The amended regulation (EU) 2026/1353 removes this restriction, permitting outdoor sowing of treated seeds under refined Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) Action: APEDA, DoC, EIC, Tobacco Board

I. Renewal of the approval of the active substance

The renewal of approval of an active substance refers to the regulatory process by which authorities review and decide whether to extend the approval of a chemical substance for another period of time.

Paraffin Oil (CAS No. 8042-47-5)¹ is a highly refined mineral oil used as an acaricide, insecticide, and miticide to control sucking and chewing insects in field and greenhouse crops. It works by forming a thin film over insects and mites, blocking their breathing pores (spiracles) and causing death by suffocation. This physical mode of action minimizes the risk of resistance development. It is effective against pests such as

II. Change in MRL of Active Substances

MRLs refer to the highest levels of pesticide residues legally allowed in or on food and feed products, based on what is considered safe for human consumption. Changes in MRLs can happen for various reasons, and these adjustments can impact agricultural practices, food imports and exports. The changes in MRLs for active substances follow a structured regulatory review process, led by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

In May 2026, the European Commission adopted updates to EU pesticide Maximum Residue Levels (MRL's) under Regulation(EU) No 390/2005. The key changes was Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/840 of 5 May 2026 regards MRLs for Total copper in or on certain product.

In June 2026, . The key changes was Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/1314 From 04/01/2027 regards MRLs for - 1,4-dimethylnaphthalene (R),(F), Chlormequat, Metribuzin, Terbutylazine (R),(F), Triclopyr, metribuzin-DADK in or on certain products.

III. Extension of the approval

The European Commission has extended the approval periods for several active substances used in plant protection products. This extension ensures the continued availability of these substances while their safety and environmental impact assessments are updated.

Extension of the approval periods of the active substances:

Active substance	Commodities	Approval period extended till
Quinolin-8-ol	It functions as a fungicide and bactericide used to combat soil-borne pathogens such as Pythium, Rhizoctonia, and Fusarium. Under current EU approvals, its authorized target crops are restricted to vegetables, primarily tomatoes, grown in permanent greenhouses via drip irrigation systems. Action: AEDA, DoC, EIC	30 June 2032
1-naphthylacetamide	It is a synthetic auxin-based plant growth regulator. It is primarily used to prevent premature fruit drop and promoting root initiation on plant cuttings. Its target crops include apples and pears and ornamental plants. Action: AEDA, DoC, EIC	30 November 2029
1-naphthylacetic acid	It is a synthetic auxin active substance that acts as a plant growth regulator. It is applied to inhibit unwanted sprouting, reduce pre-harvest fruit drop and stimulate root development. Target crops include pome fruits (apples, pears), stone fruits (plums, cherries), potatoes, and ornamental cuttings. Action: AEDA, DoC, EIC	30 November 2029
Maleic hydrazide	It is a systemic plant growth regulator and sprout inhibitor. It is used to prevent post-harvest sprouting during storage and to suppress unwanted sucker growth. Its main application crops are potatoes, onions, garlic, shallots and tobacco. Action: AEDA, Tobacco Board, DoC, EIC	31 October 2032
Maltodextrin	It functions as a contact insecticide and acaricide by physically coating and suffocating soft-bodied arthropods like spider mites, whiteflies, aphids, and thrips. It is applied across a wide range of protected and outdoor crops, including tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, strawberries, tree fruits and ornamentals. Action: AEDA, DoC, EIC	03 March 2041

B. EU Active Substance Renewal Monitor

I. The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) open public consultation

EFSA regularly carries out public consultations on its scientific outputs. The stakeholders and other interested parties are encouraged to share their insights, data and other feedback on draft versions of the scientific assessments. The following active substances are open for public consultation;

Active substance	Deadline
Methyl anthranilate	17/08/2026
Triclopyr-butotyl in honey and rice	11/08/2026
Cyflumetofen in tea	10/08/2026
Amisulbrom in various crops	27/07/2026
Difenoconazole in various crops	27/07/2026
Paclobutrazol	04/09/2026
Chlorantraniliprole	28/08/2026
Fluopyram	07/08/2026
Imazalil	01/08/2026

II. Up next for review

Under the EU pesticide review program, active ingredients need to reapply for renewal three years before its expiration date. Substances listed below have upcoming deadlines for the submission of the renewal dossier;

Active substance	Date
Cyantraniliprole	14/09/2026
Bacillus amyloliquefaciens strain MBI 600	16/09/2026
Clomazone	30/09/2026
Phenmedipham	30/09/2026

III. Active substances expected to expire

For the below active ingredients, applications for renewal of approval were not submitted or applications have been withdrawn.

Active substance	Date
Dimethachlor	15/10/2026
Acclonifen	31/10/2026
Beflubutamid	31/10/2026
Cyprodinil	31/10/2026
Dichlorprop-P	31/10/2026
Fosetyl	31/10/2026

C. News corner/ NTB measures

1. Update on certain shelf-stable composite products containing dairy and/or egg products³

Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2026/1052 adopted 12 May 2026 and published 23 July 2026 - revises the rules on dairy, egg, and composite products under Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692, the EU's animal health framework for imports of animals, germinal products, and animal-origin products.

For shelf-stable composite products containing dairy and/or egg components, the amendment clarifies sourcing and treatment requirements, updates the annexed risk mitigating treatment tables for dairy and egg products and aligns these provisions more closely with related EU food-safety legislation. In practice, this means clearer rules on which risk-mitigating treatments qualify a dairy or egg component for use in composite products and how those treatment requirements map onto existing food-safety standards.

This change is one part of a broader set of amendments and corrections to Regulation 2020/692 made by the same act, the other amendments include:

- Excludes gelatine, collagen and highly refined animal products from the regulation's scope, as their processing eliminates disease risk;
- Reorganizes the exemption for captive birds under conservation programmes into a formal derogation which is now extended to hatching eggs;
- Adds a new Article 10a confirming that country-specific conditions or additional health guarantees may apply on top of baseline disease-freedom requirements;
- Tightens equine entry conditions tied to recent outbreaks of diseases such as African horse sickness, glanders, and dourine, with exemptions for disease-free countries;
- Updates the avian influenza vaccination annex and the list of species susceptible to certain aquatic diseases, based on recent EFSA opinions (adding *Crassostrea virginica* as a mollusc-disease vector).

Separately, Article 2 makes corrective edits such as renaming Article 12's title to properly reflect its content on equine residency-period derogations, fixing a cross-reference error in Article 3 and removing an incorrect reference to breeding equine animals from the Glanders surveillance provisions in Annex IV. The regulation enters into force 20 days after publication and applies directly in all Member States, without need for national transposition. **Action: DAHD, APEDA, DoC, EIC**

2. Recent European Commission Measures on the Implementation of the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR)⁴

The European Commission adopted two key measures, namely a Delegated Act and an Implementing Act on 13 July 2026 to support the implementation of the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), following the simplification package announced in May 2026. The European Commission has also released updated Guidance Documents on 20 July 2026.

The Delegated Act updates Annex I of the EUDR by simplifying the product scope. It removes certain products including cattle hides, re-treaded tyres and vulcanised rubber while adding soluble coffee, specific palm oil derivatives and frozen cattle tongues with the new additions becoming applicable from 30 December 2027. The Act also clarifies that samples and products used for analysis, examination and testing are outside the scope of the Regulation. Furthermore, it introduces targeted exemptions for specific categories of products, including waste, used and second-hand products, packaging materials, and products used in the manufacture of medicinal products.

The Delegated Act will now be submitted to the European Parliament and the Council of the EU for scrutiny before entering into force. During this period, the Parliament and the Council may raise objections within the stipulated time frame. Delegated Acts enable the European Commission to supplement or amend non-essential elements of existing legislation by providing technical details.

In parallel, the Implementing Act establishes technical rules for the EUDR Information System, including simplified declaration procedures for micro and small primary operators and updated API specifications. These updates will support the company training sessions scheduled to commence in late July 2026. Implementing Acts ensure uniform application of EU legislation across Member States and cannot modify the substantive provisions of the Regulation.

Together with the updated Guidance Document released on 20 July 2026, these measures aim to facilitate smoother compliance by operators while maintaining the EUDR's primary objective of preventing deforestation linked to commodities covered under the Regulation, namely cattle, cocoa, coffee, palm oil, rubber, soy, and wood.

The EUDR will apply to large and medium-sized operators from 30 December 2026 and to micro and small operators from 30 June 2027.

The package includes:

- Delegated regulation;⁵
- Implementation regulation;⁶
- An updated guidance document.⁷

Action: Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, EPCH, Coffee Board, Rubber Board, CLE, DoC, EIC

3. Update on the European Commission Regulation on mineral oil aromatic hydrocarbons in food.⁸

On 13 May 2026, the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed favorably voted on a Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2023/915⁹ to set maximum levels for Mineral Oil Aromatic Hydrocarbons (MOAH) in food, which will apply from 1 January 2027 for most levels, with some deferred to 1 January 2028 or 2030. It is because certain limits of quantification in the original 21 April 2022 Joint Statement on MOAH (clarified 19 October 2022)¹⁰ are stricter than the new maximum levels and EU Member State representatives agreed that as of 13 May 2026, the new Regulation's maximum levels will be used as the enforcement basis under Article 14 of Regulation (EC) 178/2002. Once the new levels take effect for a given food, the 2022 Joint Statement no longer applies to it, though it remains in force for any foods that lack an established maximum level under the new Regulation. For foods, for which no maximum level is established, the statement from 2022 will remain applicable.

Action: APEDA, MPEDA, CAPEXIL, DoC, Spice Board, Tea Board, EIC

References

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