



# Pesticide Monitoring



## A. EU Updates on Pesticides

### I. Non renewable of the active substances

- **Dimoxystrobin<sup>1</sup>** – Dimoxystrobin is a fungicide for disease control in cereals and some other crops. The non-renewal will require farmers to transition to alternative pest management strategies or replacement products in coming growing seasons.

- ◇ **Transitional measures** – January 31, 2024.
- ◇ **Grace Period** - July 31, 2024.
- ◇ **Reason for non-approval** - Identified a high risk of groundwater contamination by toxic dimoxystrobin metabolites across all geo-climatic conditions.

- **Clofentezine<sup>2</sup>** - Clofentezine is a selective insecticide used to control mites. A reduction in the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for clofentezine to the limit of determination (LOD, the lowest level that can be detected using the most modern and reliable analytical methods) is expected in 2025, with potential impacts on exporters of fruit.

- ◇ **Transitional measures** – 11 May 2024.
- ◇ **Grace period** – 11 November 2024
- ◇ **Reason for non-approval** – concerns about adverse effects on human health due to presence of Endocrine disrupting properties, and high long-term environmental risks to birds and wild mammals.

### II. Withdrawal of the active substance

- **Ipconazole<sup>3</sup>** – Ipconazole is a fungicide applied as a

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seed treatment before planting outdoors, on a wide range of crops, including root and leafy vegetables. Due to its unacceptable level of risk to humans and the environment, it has led to an immediate ban on the substance.

- ◇ **Transitional measures** – 31 August 2023
- ◇ **Grace period** - 29 Feb 2024
- ◇ **Reason for non-approval** - Damages the development of unborn children and classified it as presumed toxic to reproduction (Cat. 1B). The properties are so toxic that any exposure to the substance poses an unacceptable level of risk to humans and the environment.

1 EU Regulation (2023/1436) dated on 10 July 2023 [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg\\_impl/2023/1436/oj](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2023/1436/oj)  
 2 EU Regulation (2023/ 2456) dated 8 November 2024 [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg\\_impl/2023/2456/oj](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2023/2456/oj) & <https://agrinfo.eu/book-of-reports/clofentezine-approval-not-renewed-by-eu/>  
 3 EU Regulation (2023/ 939) dated 10 May 2023 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32023R0939>

### III. Change in MRL of active substances

- **Cyantranilprolein<sup>4</sup>** - A broad spectrum insecticide for a wide range of crops that is effective against many key chewing and sucking pests. An application for import tolerances (IT) was submitted by Canada and in the United States on certain products and an assessment was conducted based on the most recent data on the toxicological properties of the substance. The new MRLs (mg/kg) are Potatoes, tropical root and tuber vegetables (0.15), Cucurbits with inedible peel (0.4), other fruiting vegetables (0.01), leafy brassica – Chinese cabbages/pe-tsai (30), lettuces and salad plants (15), Purslanes, Chards/beet leaves, Parsley (20), Linseeds, Poppy seeds, Sesame seeds, Mustard seeds, Pumpkin seeds, Safflower seeds, Borage seeds, Castor beans, Gold of pleasure seeds, Hemp seeds (1.5), Apricots (0.7).
  - ◇ **Effective Date** - 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023
- **Denatonium benzoate & Diuron<sup>5</sup>** - Denatonium benzoate is a bittering agent with a range of uses in the manufacture of cleaners and Diuron is a pre-emergence residual herbicide. The approval of both substances expired in the year 2020 and no application for renewal had been submitted. All existing authorisations for plant protection products containing that active substance have been revoked. The MRLs of Fruits & Vegetables, fresh or frozen, pulses, oil seeds, cereals has been set at 0.01 mg/kg.
  - ◇ **Effective date** - 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024
- **Etoxazole<sup>6</sup>** - Etoxazole is a commonly used insecticide which is low aqueous solubility, a low volatility and is not be expected to leach to groundwater. MRLs for etoxazole on all products is being set at the product specific LODs . The MRLs for Teas, Coffee, Herbal Infusion, Cocoa and Carobs , HOPS has been changed to 0.05 mg/kg, herbs and edible flowers 0.02 mg/kg.
  - ◇ **Effective date** - 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024
- **Methomyl<sup>7</sup>** - An insecticide used to control a wide range of foliar and soil-borne insects and a pesticide transformation product as well. The approval in the year 2019 and hence the EU MRLs are established at the LOD with an exception in Tea,Coffee, herbal infusion, Cocoa, Carobs, HOPs, SPICES etc has been changed to 0.05 mg/kg, Kumquats and Gherkins has been maintained at 1mg/kg and 0.1 mg/kg respectively.
  - ◇ **Effective date**- 8th April 2024
- **Teflubenzuron<sup>8</sup>** - An insecticide used to control a range of pests mainly on greenhouse crops and tree fruit. The approval expired in 2019 as no application for renewal had been submitted. The MRLs on grapefruits and mandarins are based on import tolerance requests from Brazil which are maintained at 0.7 mg/kg and 0.5 mg/kg. Most of product category including tree nuts, pome fruits, Stone fruits, Root and tuber vegetables, Sweet peppers/bell peppers, Aubergines/eggplants, Okra/lady's fingers, etc have been lowered to 0.01 mg/kg.
  - ◇ **Effective date** - 8th April 2024
- **Pyriproxyfen<sup>9</sup>** - An insecticide used to control public health insect pests. The EC lowered the existing MRLs on many products including swine/bovine/goat/horse muscle, fat, liver and kidney to the 'LOD' in line with the principle of setting MRLs at levels as low as reasonably achievable and based on sufficient supporting data for the current EUs good agricultural practices ('GAPs'). The new MRLs (mg/kg) are tree nuts (0.01) , pome fruits (except for Apples), grapes, cane fruits, other small fruits and berries, Avocados, Granate apples/pomegranates (0.01), apples (0.05), cherries (sweet) (1.5), kumquats (0.5), mangoes, herbs and edible flowers (0.02), tomatoes, citrus fruits (0.7), sweet peppers/bell peppers, Aubergines/eggplants (0.6), cucurbits with edible peel (0.04).
  - ◇ **Effective date** – 2 April 2024

4 EU Regulation (2023/ 1068) dated 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/1068/oj>

5 EU Regulation (2023/1783) dated 15 September 2023 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1783>

6 EU Regulation (2023/1783) dated 15 September 2023 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1783>

7 EU Regulation (2023/1783) dated 15 September 2023 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1783>

8 EU Regulation (2023/1783) dated 15 September 2023 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1783>

9 EU Regulation (2023/ 1753) dated 11 September 2023 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/1753/oj>

## B. EU Active Substance Renewal Monitor

### I. 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 is open for public consultation:-

Active substance	Deadline
Emamectin benzoate <sup>10</sup>	22/01/2024
Valifenalate <sup>11</sup>	05/02/2024
Clethodim <sup>12</sup>	09/02/2024
Metarhizium brunneum strain Cb15-III <sup>13</sup>	16/02/2024
Prosulfuron <sup>14</sup>	19/02/2024

### 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	Expiration of Approval w.e.f
Oxathiapiprolin	03/03/2024
Beauveria bassiana strain 147	06/06/2024
Beauveria bassiana strain NPP111B005	07/07/2024

### III. Active substances due for renewal – expected to expire

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

Active Substance	Deadline for submitting renewal application
Spirotetramat	30/04/2024
Ascorbic acid (or L-ascorbic acid)	30/06/2024
Spinetoram	30/06/2024
Flubendiamide	31/08/2024

## C. EU News Corner

### I. Glyphosate gets approved for 10 years<sup>15</sup>

- On 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023, published the Implementing Regulation renewing the approval of Glyphosate in the EU for a period of 10 years (until 15 December 2033).
- The reapproval of glyphosate is done with certain restrictions mentioned below :-
  - Desiccation, as a pre-harvest use, is to be considered against Article 55 of the Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 and shall not be authorized.
  - Minimize/prohibit use in sensitive areas such as public parks, gardens, sports and recreational grounds, school and playgrounds, close vicinity of healthcare facilities.
  - Member States to pay special attention to following:- 1) Co-formulants 2) Consumer exposure assessment for succeeding crops

3) Risk to small herbivore mammals, 4) Contact exposure via spray drift 5) Indirect impact on Biodiversity via trophic interactions 6) Non-professional uses 7) Additional monitoring of parent and metabolite in surface waters, 8) Maximum rates to not exceed the following (unless the risk assessment shows no unacceptable effects to small herbivores): 1.44kg/hectare/year for use in agriculture, 1.8kg/hectare/year to control invasive species, 3.6kg/hectare/year for use in non agriculture.

- In July 2023, EFSA presented its conclusion that glyphosate did not meet the “cut off” criteria to be classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic, or toxic for reproduction (EFSA 2023).
- No impact on existing Glyphosate MRLs and therefore no immediate implications for exporting countries.

<sup>10</sup> <https://connect.efsa.europa.eu/RM/s/publicconsultation2/a0lTk0000001DeL/pc0731>

<sup>11</sup> <https://connect.efsa.europa.eu/RM/s/publicconsultation2/a0lTk00000021fx/pc0749>

<sup>12</sup> <https://connect.efsa.europa.eu/RM/s/publicconsultation2/a0lTk0000001osP/pc0740>

<sup>13</sup> <https://connect.efsa.europa.eu/RM/s/publicconsultation2/a0lTk00000029gj/pc0755>

<sup>14</sup> <https://connect.efsa.europa.eu/RM/s/publicconsultation2/a0lTk0000002c1B/pc0763>

<sup>15</sup> EU Regulation (2023/2660) dated 28 Nov 2023 [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L\\_202302660#ntr\\*1-L\\_202302660EN.001001-E0002](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L_202302660#ntr*1-L_202302660EN.001001-E0002)

- ◇ The decision to use Glyphosate at the national level remains in the hands of each individual government / EU country. Austria, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany have rolled out partial bans by prohibiting its use in certain areas or by households.

## II. EU Reviews its own Food Irradiation Process <sup>16</sup>

- Commission published a report on “food and food ingredients treated with ionising radiation for the years 2020-2021” in October 2023<sup>17</sup>. This report reviewed the rules and practices of food irradiation in EU. Food irradiation is the process of killing pathogenic bacteria that can cause food poisoning (such as *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, and *Escherichia coli*), through a radiant energy known as ionising radiation.
- Directive 1999/2/EC sets the basic rules for the use of irradiation on foods and it also provides the lists of approved food categories, currently only dried aromatic herbs, spices, and vegetable seasonings may be irradiated and sold across the EU.
- Some EU Member States allow the irradiation of other categories of food, including frogs legs, poultry, fish, and vegetables. However, these products can only be sold on the domestic market of the Member State that has authorised irradiation, and cannot be sold across the EU. The EU has published a list of these Member State authorisations.
- Any irradiated food ingredient sold in the EU, or food products containing an irradiated ingredient, must be labelled with the words “irradiated” or “treated with ionising radiation”.
- Only 10 non-EU irradiation facilities are approved, located in South Africa (3 facilities), India (3), Thailand (2), Switzerland (1), and Turkey (1).

- **Implication for exporting countries on food irradiation processes** - The prohibition of food irradiation can complicate trade to the EU as it limits the options that can be used by non-EU suppliers to combat bacteria.

## III. European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) issues updated opinion on BPA<sup>18</sup>

- Bisphenol A (BPA) is a chemical substance used in combination with other chemicals to manufacture certain plastics and resins. The main reason for using BPA is that it enhances durability and heat resistance for a wide range of plastic products.
- On April 19, 2023, the EFSA published an updated scientific opinion<sup>19</sup> that deemed BPA a consumer health risk. EFSA set a TDI for BPA at 0.2 ng/kg/day, which is 20,000 times lower than the temporary TDI set in 2015. The European Commission is now evaluating EFSA's conclusions. A potential EU-wide BPA ban is possibility and concerns have been noted by some third countries.
- It is important to note that some EU countries have developed their own national regulations related on the restrictions of BPA. For example, France bans the use of BPA in food packaging intended to be used by consumers of all ages. Other EU member states, such as Sweden, Denmark, or Belgium, ban BPA in certain food contact materials intended for young children.

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<sup>16</sup> <https://agrinfo.eu/book-of-reports/food-irradiation-explained/>

<sup>17</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A31999L0002&qid=1698759003450>

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/topics/topic/bisphenol>

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/topics/topic/bisphenol>