



Pesticide Monitoring



For each active substance, the relevant export promotion bodies have been mentioned for their action on analyzing 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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Metribuzin is a herbicide used to control grasses and broad leaf weeds in crops like soybeans, potatoes, tomatoes, and sugar cane. EFSA's extensive research has found that metribuzin can cause endocrine-disrupting properties in humans, as well as a high risk of exposure of this effect to bystanders and residents. Therefore the approval of this herbicide will not be extended. [Action: APEDA](#)

Fenpyrazamine is a fungicide used to control gray mold and stem rot in fruits and vegetables such as grapes, strawberries, and lettuce. EFSA's contact with applicants has confirmed that they no longer support this pesticide for a renewal of approval. Since there is no request for renewal the approval of Fenpyrazamin will not be extended. [Action APEDA](#)

Flumetralin is a plant growth regulator used primarily on tobacco to inhibit side bud growth and improve leaf quality. EFSA's contact with applicants has confirmed that they no longer support this pesticide for a renewal of approval. Since there is no request for renewal the approval of Flumetralin will not be extended.

[Action APEDA, Tobacco Board](#)

II. 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.

Allium fistulosum commonly known as Welsh onion, can be used as a Plant-derived substance for use as a bactericide in soil treatment before sowing tomatoes in fields and greenhouses. EFSA's comprehensive review of allium fistulosum has determined no reason for this plant-derived substance to not be given a renewal of an approval. [Action: APEDA](#)

Expiration of approval: 8 November 2039

I. *Non-renewal of approval

The European Commission (EC) has published its decision not to renew approval for the active substance(s) listed below. Active substances are either not reapproved, or are withdrawn or restricted; the EC usually also lowers or removes MRLs. These are typically set at the limit of determination (LOD) or default level of 0.01 mg/kg. Decisions on active substances serve as an early indication of upcoming MRL changes and the need to adapt agricultural practices for produce exported to the EU.

Tritosulfuron is a herbicide used to control broad-leaved weeds in cereals such as wheat and barley, as well as in maize. EFSA's review has found that due to missing information being identified as required by the regulatory framework and due to little to no request from organisation or companies for extension, Tritosulfuron's approval will not be extended. [Action: APEDA](#)

III. Non-approval of a basic substance

The European Commission (EC) has published its decision not to approve the active substance(s) listed below. Active substances are either not approved, or are withdrawn or restricted; the EC usually also lowers or removes MRLs. These are typically set at the limit of determination (LOD) or default level of 0.01 mg/kg. Decisions on active substances serve as an early indication of upcoming MRL changes and the need to adapt agricultural practices for produce exported to the EU.

1,3,7-trimethylxanthine commonly known as caffeine, was proposed as a basic substance for use as an insecticide in crops like cabbage and potatoes, and as a molluscicide for various edible and non-edible crops. An review of ESPA has confirmed that it should not be approved due to concerns about its adverse effect to humans. Namely side effects of this insecticide are dehydration, sleep deprivation, adverse effects on the nervous system and lastly cause birth-weight related issues in pregnant woman. Therefore this insecticide will not be approved as basic substance. [Action: APEDA](#)

IV. 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 8-hydroxyquinoline, aminopyralid, azoxystrobin, *Candida oleophila* strain O, chlorantraniliprole, fluroxypyr, imazalil, kresoxim-methyl, metobromuron, oxyfluorfen, *Paecilomyces fumosoroseus* strain FE 9901, tefluthrin and terbuthylazine.

Active substance	Commodities	Approval period extended till
8-hydroxyquinoline (fungicide)	Vines; Tomatoes; Hops Action: APEDA	31/12/2025
Aminopyralid (herbicide)	Rangeland; Permanent grass; Non-cropped areas including paths; roadways Action: APEDA	31/05/2027
Azoxystrobin (fungicide)	Wheat; Fruit including grapes, citrus, strawberries, peaches; Sunflowers; Vegetables including onions, brassicas and cucurbits; Potatoes; Cotton; Pecans; Canola; Soybeans; Peanuts; Tomato; Turf; Ornamentals Action: APEDA, Texprocil IOPEPC	31/05/2027
<i>Candida oleophila</i> strain O (biofungicide)	Apples, pears, bananas and other citrus fruits Action: APEDA	31/05/2027
Chlorantraniliprole (insecticide)	Potatoes; Grapes; Cotton; Vegetables including artichoke, asparagus, bulb vegetables, corn, herbs, legumes, roots and tubers Action: APEDA, Texprocil, Spices Board, Tea Board	31/05/2027
Fluroxypyr (herbicide)	Rangeland; Permanent pasture; Non-crop areas; Cereals including wheat, corn; Orchards; Vineyards Action: APEDA, Wineboard	15/02/2027
Imazalil (fungicide)	Fruit including citrus, apples, pears, bananas; Cucumbers; Roses; Barley; Wheat Action: APEDA	31/05/2027
Kresoxim-methyl (fungicide)	Sugarbeet; Fruit including apples, grapes, pears; Curcubit vegetables; Pecans Action: APEDA	31/05/2027
Metobromuron (herbicide)	Sunflowers; Potatoes; Tomatoes; Soybeans; Tobacco Action: APEDA, Tobacco board	31/05/2027
Oxyfluorfen (herbicide)	Sugarcane; Vegetables including alliums, peas, cabbage; Fruit; Nuts including almonds; Cotton; Ornamentals; non-crop areas including landscapes, residential and amenity sites Action: APEDA, Texprocil	31/05/2027
<i>Paecilomyces fumosoroseus</i> strain FE 9901 (insecticide)	greenhouse ornamentals Action: APEDA	31/05/2027
Tefluthrin (insecticide)	Sugarbeet; Fodder beet; Cotton; Field corn; Popcorn Action: APEDA, Texprocil	31/05/2027
Terbuthylazine (herbicide)	Maize; Sorghum; Apples; Citrus; Bush vines; Non-crop sites including roads, railways, industrial sites Action: APEDA IEC	31/05/2027

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
Trichoderma atroviride strain I-1237 (Pesticides Peer Review- AIR)	28/01/2025
Helicoverpa armigera nucleopolyhedrovirus (Pesticides Peer Review- AIR)	08/02/2025
Beflubutamid (Pesticides Peer Review - AIR)	14/02/2025
Pyraflufen-ethyl (Pesticides Peer Review - AIR)	29/01/2025
Spodoptera littoralis nucleopolyhedrovirus (Pesticides Peer Review- AIR)	10/03/2025
Cymoxanil (Pesticides Peer Review - AIR)	18/02/2025
Verticillium nonalfalfae strain Vert56 (Pesticides Peer Review - NAS)	24/01/2025
Beauveria bassiana GHA (Pesticides Peer Review - AIR)	21/03/2025
Potassium Phosphonates (Pesticides MRL)	11/02/2025

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
Fenpicoxamid	11/10/2025
Cypermethrin	31/01/2026
Florpyrauxifen	24/07/2026
Flutianil	14/04/2026
Mefentrifluconazole	20/03/2026

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
Metaflumizone	31/12/2024
Chromafenozide	31/03/2025
Gamma-cyhalothrin	31/03/2025
Meptyldinocap	31/03/2025
Terpenoid blend QRD-460	10/08/2025

C. EU News Corner

I. EU agricultural commissioner advocates for stronger regulations on EU food imports²³

EU Agriculture Commissioner Christophe Hansen has reiterated the necessity for more stringent regulations on EU food imports, indicating a potential shift in the Commission’s trade policy. Hansen received commendation in Dublin after addressing the issue of food production standards in non-EU countries. He asserted that it is inequitable for food imports from third countries to contain pesticide residues that are prohibited within the EU, as reported by Irish media. The Commissioner articulated these views during a meeting with the Irish Farmers Association, which advocated for reciprocity in food trade and less rigorous environmental regulations. The EU executive has historically proposed maintaining maximum residue levels (MRLs) for certain substances in imported food products, citing specific conditions in non-EU countries.

However, the European Parliament has opposed these proposals, advocating for a zero-tolerance policy. On Monday, Hansen acknowledged the “concerns” regarding the potential impact of stricter controls but nonetheless aligned more closely with the Parliament’s position.

While Hansen is garnering support from farmers by highlighting food production standards, Luxembourg is preparing to advance a similar agenda in Brussels. Luxembourg’s Minister of Agriculture, Martine Hansen, who is also the Commissioner’s cousin, is set to present a proposal to the Agriculture and Fisheries Council this Monday, calling for stricter MRLs, according to diplomatic sources. Luxembourg intends to address the issue of food trade reciprocity and express concerns about the allocation of funds to Latin American countries under the EU-Mercosur trade agreement.

II. Regulation (EU) 2024/3012: Union Certification Framework for Carbon Removals²⁴

Regulation (EU) 2024/3012²⁵ establishes a voluntary EU framework to certify permanent carbon removals, carbon farming, and carbon storage in products. It aims to promote high-quality carbon removal efforts aligned with the EU’s climate neutrality target by 2050 and the Paris Agreement objectives.

The regulation covers three key activities: permanent carbon removals, which ensure carbon remains stored for centuries; carbon farming, which involves temporary carbon storage or soil emission reductions in terrestrial or coastal environments; and carbon storage in products, which embeds carbon in durable products for at least 35 years.

A rigorous certification system ensures accurate quantification, monitoring, and liability mechanisms to address potential carbon release. Certified activities must meet criteria for transparency, additionally, and sustainability, avoiding green-washing while promoting biodiversity and environmental integrity.

To foster innovation, the framework supports research and reduces barriers for small operators like farmers. Participation is voluntary, with certified activities recorded in a Union registry to ensure traceability and prevent fraud. This framework scales up carbon removal efforts, balancing environmental impact and trust.

Next to the Carbon Removals and Carbon Farming Regulation (CRCF), Verified Carbon Standard (VCS), and Gold Standard are also able to help Global Goals and are key frameworks overseeing global carbon offset and climate-related projects.

CRCF (EU): which is managed by the European Commission, CRCF focuses on carbon farming, removals, and storage within the EU and aligned countries. It employs the “**QU.A.L.I.TY**” framework for quantification,

additionality, long-term storage, and sustainability. Verification is done by independent bodies using standardized tools. Key stakeholders include EU Member States, third-party verifiers, and farmers.

Verra (VCS)²⁶: A non-profit based in Washington, D.C., Verra certifies projects globally, including renewable energy and forestry. It relies on robust Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) principles, with third-party validators ensuring compliance. Verra is suitable for large-scale industrial and land-use projects, ensuring additionality and carbon permanence.

Gold Standard²⁷: Managed by the Gold Standard Foundation in Geneva, it certifies projects worldwide with a focus on social and environmental benefits aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It emphasizes strong sustainability, with independent verification and stringent additional criteria. This standard is ideal for community-oriented initiatives.

This regulation gives an European alternative next to the already existing international ones, and increased the chances the EU is able to meet its 2050 climate goals.

III. EU-Mercosur FTA

The EU-Mercosur Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the Mercosur countries—Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay—and the EU has reached an agreement. The political agreement was reached on 6 December 2024.

The conclusion of negotiations is the first step, followed by legal scrubbing, translation into all official EU languages, and submission to the Council and Parliament. The EU believes that this FTA could open up trade and investment opportunities while ensuring sustainable access to raw materials. This agreement will help the EU to secure and diversify supply chains, remove prohibitive tariffs on EU exports to Mercosur—saving EU businesses an estimated €4 billion per year—and establish trade preferences in strategic net-zero industry sectors. Additionally, this deal will support EU's small and medium-sized enterprises by cutting red tape and ensuring a stable flow of raw materials critical for the global green transition.

The agreement is expected to increase agri-food trade between the EU and Mercosur. In 2023, the EU exported €3.2 billion worth of agri-food products to Mercosur, while importing €22.98 billion worth from Mercosur in the same period. EU exports to Mercosur accounted for 1.4% of the bloc's total agri-food trade, whereas imports from Mercosur represented 14.5%. Over the decade from 2013 to 2023, the annual growth rate of EU agri-food exports to Mercosur was 6.6%, compared to a 2.1% annual growth rate for imports from Mercosur.

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Compiled and Edited by :

Dr. Venkatesh Palani Samy
Adviser (Agri. & Marine Products)

Mr. Oliver Trusgnach
Trade Analyst & Marketing Strategist

Mr Jochem Scholte
Marketing Assistant