EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Health and Food Safety Directorate General

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Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed
Section *Phytopharmaceuticals - Residues*
23 - 24 June 2025

CIRCABC Link: *https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/95a86e0e-0cfe-4354-8d9f-c447c6e85c1b/library/2b794c70-b016-4386-a86d-1214eba4e03c?p=1*

SUMMARY REPORT

Section A Information and/or discussion

A.01 Art. 12 and Art. 10 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 procedures:

1. Confirmatory data Art. 12 follow-up

   a. Cases where EFSA RO has been published

The Commission proposed possible risk management options to address the recent conclusions of EFSA on confirmatory data under Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005[1] for meptyldinocap[2]. For this active substance, the Commission proposed to establish permanent maximum residue levels (MRLs) and delete the concerned footnotes requiring additional information for those commodities for which the data gaps have been satisfactorily addressed.

Member States were invited to submit comments by 15 August 2025.

2. Non-approved substances for follow-up

The Commission shared an updated table of non-approved substances with the Committee which included a new category “on hold” listing non approved active substances that will be reviewed after the impact assessment announced in the Vision for Agriculture and Food[3].

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1 Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 February 2005 on maximum residue levels of pesticides in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin and amending Council Directive 91/414/EEC, OJ L 70, 16.3.2005, p. 1–16, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2005/396/oj

2 EFSA, Evaluation of the confirmatory data following the Article 12 MRL review for meptyldinocap (DE-126) and modification of the existing maximum residue levels in table and wine grapes. EFSA Journal 2025, 23(3), e9309, https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2025.9309

3 Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. A Vision for Agriculture and Food. COM(2025) 75 final

A.02 Feedback from the section PPP Legislation of this Committee:

1. General issues

The Commission provided an overview of the main outcome of the two meetings of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (PAFF Committee), section Phytopharmaceuticals – Legislation held on 11-12 March 2025 and on 14-15 May 2025. It gave an overview of active substances approved, of active substances for which the approval had been renewed, for which grace periods had expired or will expire soon, and for which follow-up action is therefore needed.

A.03 Specific substances:

1. Guazatine

The Commission received a question on the correct enforcement of the MRLs for the non-approved active substance guazatine following detection of high residue levels in citrus fruits imported from Türkiye and commercialised in Romania. Guazatine is a polymorphic compound with four main components: Guazatine- GGG (~31%), Guazatine- GG (~30), Guazatine- GN (~10%) and Guazatine- GGN (~8%). "G" stands for guanidine groups within the related component and "N" stands for amino groups, all present as acetate salts. The European Union Reference Laboratories (EURLs) highlighted the need for a residue definition covering specified marker compounds and pointed out that analytical standards and analytical methodology were lacking. The analytical standard for the most prominent component - GGG - is currently not available. Analysis is challenging for official laboratories as these compounds tend to interact with surfaces. Isotope labelled internal standards could help method development, but even non-labelled standards are hard to obtain. A Member State and the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) pointed out that guazatine is a highly toxic substance. Therefore, to facilitate international trade it would be helpful to include guazatine in the priority list of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR). EFSA highlighted that in the CCPR planning for 2025, guazatine is scheduled for toxicological review and indicated that in 2014 the EFSA assessment of an import tolerance application of guazatine in citrus fruits[4] was inconclusive as the available data were not sufficient to demonstrate the safety of the proposed MRLs.Member States were invited to send their comments by 1 July 2025.

2. Matrine

The Commission informed the Committee that, a mandate to EFSA to provide a scientific opinion on the risk for public health due to the presence of matrine and oxymatrine in food had been issued on 12 May 2025. EFSA included matrine to their annual call for continuous collection of chemical contaminants occurrence data in food and feed inviting stakeholders to submit relevant data by 30 June 2025 and established the CONTAM Working Group on matrine and oxymatrine in food. EFSA will work on the exposure assessment and hazard characterisation and the establishment of Health based Guidance values (HBGVs), or, if that is not possible, use a margin of exposure approach. The first meeting of the working group took place on 16 June 2025. The deadline for EFSA to deliver the scientific opinion is 31 December 2026.

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[4] EFSA, Reasoned opinion on the modification of the existing MRL for guazatine in citrus fruits. EFSA Journal 2014;12(8):3818, https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2014.3818

3. Glufosinate

The Commission informed the Committee that, as part of the mandate to EFSA to conduct a toxicological review and an updated risk assessment of the MRLs for glufosinate, EFSA had conducted a call for data inviting stakeholders to submit relevant data by 10 April 2025. Data has been submitted to EFSA. The Rapporteur Member State is now working on assessing the studies and drafting an Evaluation Report. The current deadline of the mandate to EFSA is 15 June 2026.

4. Glyphosate

The Commission informed the Committee that the Commission, EFSA and the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) have been made aware of a recent publication on glyphosate by the Ramazzini Institute, as part of their Global Glyphosate Study 'GGS'[5] . The Commission called on the Ramazzini Institute to make available the primary data of the study to ECHA and EFSA without delay, as it is routinely done for all regulatory studies considered during the risk assessment of active substances, so that the Agencies can carry out an independent and thorough review of the data. The Commission asked EFSA and ECHA to evaluate whether the newly available information, when considered together with all the other available information, changes their previous conclusions concerning the hazard or risk assessment conducted for glyphosate. If, in the light of a review of the new data, ECHA or EFSA would confirm that glyphosate no longer meets the approval criteria or that the conditions of approval must be amended, the Commission will act immediately to amend or withdraw the approval, as appropriate. With regards to MRLs, the Commission has asked EFSA to keep the current mandate to review the MRLs on hold and to resume the work once the assessment of the study has been finalised, which will be in approximately two years, taking into account its conclusions.

5. Folpet

The Commission shared the feedback received form several Member States regarding the residue definition for enforcement of folpet. The Commission proposed to maintain the current residue definition as 'folpet (sum of folpet and phthalimide, expressed as folpet)'. Most of the Member States who intervened in the discussion advocated for keeping the current residue definition acknowledging that some false positive results may occur. As phthalimide can be formed during heating processes of tea and herbal infusions, the Commission proposed to report positive results only when the parent compound (folpet) is detected in the analysed sample of tea or herbal infusions. This will reduce false positive results in these commodities. A Member State stressed the importance of keeping the metabolite 'phthalimide' in the residue definition as the parent compound 'folpet' is very unstable. The importance of good manufacturing practices was also underlined to reduce levels of 'phthalimide' as phthalimide is also an environmental contaminant. Both proposals from the Commission were supported by the majority of the Member States. The Commission clarified that any eventual change to the residue definition for enforcement should be dealt with via a new legislative act.

Member States were invited to send their comments by 15 August 2025.

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[5] Panzacchi, S., Tibaldi, E., De Angelis, L. *et al.* Carcinogenic effects of long-term exposure from prenatal life to glyphosate and glyphosate-based herbicides in Sprague–Dawley rats. *Environ Health* **24**, 36 (2025). https://doi.org/10.1186/s12940-025-01187-2

6. Biphenyl

The Commission updated the Committee about a possible upcoming application for a temporary MRL of biphenyl in chili peppers under Article 16 to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. This follows the reported cases of MRL exceedances for biphenyl in chipotle powder. The Committee was informed that such an application can be done outside the International Uniform ChemicaL Information Database (IUCLID), as confirmed by EFSA. The Commission reminded the Committee that in accordance with the technical guidelines SANTE/2015/10595 Rev. 6.1[6] the increase of temporary MRL is not justified unless it is proven that biphenyl residues on chili peppers are the consequence of the use of the active substance as a plant protection product (PPP), so the applicant should provide data from field residue trials. Member States were invited to send their comments by 15 August 2025.

7. Bromide

The Commission informed the Committee that it had drafted a follow-up mandate for a review of the MRLs on bromide. In January 2025, EFSA published a scientific opinion concerning the risks to human and animal health from bromide ion[7] . The draft mandate is currently under discussion with EFSA.

A.04 News from and files related to the European Food Safety Authority:

1. Progress under Article 6-10 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005

EFSA reported that outputs addressing nine processes had been approved since the last meeting of this Committee on 17-18 February 2025. Currently, outputs addressing 36 processes are at different stages of the procedure. Out of these, 12 are under scientific assessment (seven under Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 and five under Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009[8]) and 24 under clock-stop, as additional data had been requested (22 under Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 and two under Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009).

EFSA shared a proposal for an Interactive Pesticide Residues Platform (IPREP). The aim of this platform is to share knowledge, reach consensus and build capacity for the community of risk assessors on pesticide residues of Member States and EFSA. A Member State requested EFSA to arrange additional access to the current two accounts per Member Sate.

2. Progress under Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005

Since the previous meeting[9] of this Committee, data are pending in the case of four active substances, the review of 18 active substances is on hold and the assessment of seven active substances is ongoing.

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6 Technical Guidelines. MRL setting procedure in accordance with Articles 6 to 11 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 and Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2006, SANTE/2015/10595 Rev. 6.1

7 EFSA, Risks to human and animal health from the presence of bromide in food and feed. EFSA Journal 23(1) e9121, https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2025.9121

8 EFSA, Risks to human and animal health from the presence of bromide in food and feed. EFSA Journal 23(1) e9121, https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2025.9121

9 Summary report of Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed Section Phytopharmaceuticals –Pesticide Residues 17-18 February 2025, agenda item A 04. https://food.ec.europa.eu/document/download/0d2941fe-29e0-4f9d-a72b-5190ed8f1220_en?filename=sc_phyto_20250217_ppr_sum.pdf

3. Update on other mandates (Articles 29 and 31 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002, and Article 43 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005)

There are two mandates under negotiation, two mandates on hold, 11 assessments ongoing and eight assessments approved since previous meeting of this Committee.

4. Other issues

a. Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR) 2025 mandate The full 2024 FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) report has not been published yet. Therefore, consultation with Rapporteur Member States and the publication of the EFSA report is delayed.

b. IUCLID MRL Report GeneratorEFSA provided information on how to generate a report from a dataset or a dossier in the IUCLID MRL Report Generator.

A.05 Alignment of certain MRLs for multiple-use substances

The Commission informed the Committee about a recent request received from ECHA asking to raise the temporary MRLs for Quaternary Ammonium Compounds (QUACs), concretely for Benzalkonium chloride (BAC) and Didecyldimethylammonium chloride (DDAC). ECHA indicated that on some of the ongoing evaluations of QUACs products for biocidal use there are MRL exceedances. The Commission informed ECHA that Regulation (EU) No 2023/377[10] recently reviewed the temporary MRLs for QUACs based on monitoring data. The next revision is foreseen in 2029. The Commission has asked EFSA to provide the most recent monitoring data, covering 2020-2023 period, in order to confirm the level of MRL compliance for QUACs. A Member State enquired about the newly agreed approach for biocidal products and called for its publication in the Commission's website.

A.06 Screening exercise on temporary MRLs in Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 that expire in 2024-2025:

1. General overview

The Commission informed that there is nothing to report under this agenda item.

A.07 International Matters:

A Member State informed the Committee a new work is planned by the OECD regarding the revision of the OECD Test Guideline 508 on Magnitude of the Pesticide Residues in Processed Commodities (adopted 3 October 2008) and the revision of the OECD Guidance Document on Magnitude of Pesticide Residues in Processed Commodities (adopted 29 July 2008, Series of Testing and Assessment No 96). Both documents were uploaded on CIRCA BC.

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[10] Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/377 of 15 February 2023 amending Annexes II, III, IV and V to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for benzalkonium chloride (BAC), chlorpropham, didecyldimethylammonium chloride (DDAC), flutriafol, metazachlor, nicotine, profenofos, quizalofop-P, sodium aluminium silicate, thiabendazole and triadimenol in or on certain products, OJ L 55, 22.2.2023, p. 1–84; ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/377/oj

1. OECD Guidance document on the residue definition for risk assessment

The Commission informed the Committee that an updated draft and the responses to comments will be presented in the next meeting of the WG planned on 24 June.

A final discussion on very few outstanding points will take place in the WG and members will be given some days to screen the new version before the launch of a combined consultation period with all organisations and the OECD Working Party on Pesticides (WPP).

2. OECD Honey Guidelines

Regarding the Honey Guidance, a Member State explained that it is currently under review by the Residue Chemistry Expert Group (RCEG). Comments could be submitted until 11 July 2025 and the document is planned to be finalised by the end of summer.

3. OECD Guidance on Stability of Pesticide Residues in Stored Commodities

A Member State explained that the final meeting of the drafting Group for the revision of TG 506 (Storage Stability) had been held on 15 April 2025. A new version was sent to OECD after incorporating all comments from WPP and the Working Party of the National Coordinators of the Test Guidelines Programme (WNT) comments on 25 April 2025.

The updated Test Guideline 506 was approved at the WNT-37 in May 2025. The document is now foreseen for country-by-country (CBC) approval and declassification by 20 June 2025.

4. OECD Guidance Document on Pesticide Residue Analytical Methods

A Member State explained that the commenting period for the Residue Chemistry Expert Group (RCEG) on the Guidance Document on Pesticide Residue Analytical Methods ended on 17 February 2025. In total, 150 comments had been received. The comments focused on extraction efficiency, (non)-isotopically labelled internal standards, stereoisomers and stability investigations. Discussion and integration of the comments into the guidance and a new draft is expected to be finalised by the end of the second quarter of 2025.

5. Codex Alimentarius/JMPR issues

a. Forthcoming meeting of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

The Commission informed the Committee on the upcoming meeting of the CCPR that had been rescheduled from 8 to 13 September 2025 in Santiago del Chile. The Council Working Parties in preparation of the meeting have been rescheduled to 20 August (virtual) and 1 September (in person) and will be announced by the Council. The full summary report of the 2024 Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) is still not published, making the preparation of EU positions on Codex MRLs (CXLs) challenging. The Commission's mandate to EFSA has been updated taking into account the change of deadlines. The PAFF Committee meeting on pesticide residues planned for 23-24 September 2025 will be rescheduled to beginning October 2025[11].

[11] Post-meeting note: the PAFF Committee on Pesticide Residues, originally scheduled for 22-23 September, has been moved to **2-3 October.** This meeting will be conducted entirely virtually.

A.08 Presentation of the 2023 Annual Report on Pesticides Residues

EFSA provided an overview of its annual monitoring report[12]. A data visualisation tool[13] of both the EU multi-annual control programme (EU MACP) and the National Control Programmes (MANCP)(s) is also available. In the reporting year 2023, 96.3% of the overall 132,793 samples analysed were below MRL, 3.7% exceeded this level, of which 2.0% were non-compliant. For the EU MACP subset, 13,246 samples were analysed of which 1.0% were non-compliant. Dietary risk to consumers was estimated providing the probabilities for exceedances of the health-based guidance values for the pesticides in food by the different EU subpopulations, concluding that the dietary risk for consumers was very low.

In their report EFSA made a number of recommendations to the reporting Member States. Commission and EFSA stressed the importance of reporting the country of origin of the product sampled.

A.09 Cumulative Risk Assessment (CRA)

The Commission provided a short summary of the Cumulative Risk Assessment working group meeting held on 24 June 2025. The Commission shared a letter from CropLife Europe concerning the consultation process. The Commission updated the Committee on the training sessions organised by ANSES, EFSA and RIVM which were held on the 16 of April and 23 of May 2025. The Commission thanked the organisers for the valuable and informative sessions which were attended by over 100 participants.

A.10 Other approaches for risk assessment (IESTI, PRIMO)

The Commission shared the feedback received form several Member States regarding the EFSA ongoing revision of the International Estimate Short-Term Intake (IESTI) methodology and informed about the ongoing work with EFSA to define the protocol to conclude the last Term of Reference.

The Commission informed the Committee that the deadline for the EFSA technical report on the impact of the change from PRIMO 3.1 to PRIMO 4 has been extended. The extension will allow EFSA to finalise the deep analysis which is considered essential to understand the potential limitations of PRIMO. The draft report will be accompanied by a list of risk management questions and will be shared for the next meeting of this Committee.

A.11 Notifications under Article 18(4) to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005

A Member State informed the Committee about the granting of a temporary authorisation regarding an emergency use of deltamethrin on kiwi fruits in accordance with Article 53 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 on 13 June 2025 with a national temporary MRL of 0.15 mg/kg.

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[12] EFSA, The 2023 European Union report on pesticide residues in food. EFSA Journal. 2025;23:e9398, https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2025.9398

[13] EU MACP results, Results by reporting country, https://multimedia.efsa.europa.eu/pesticides-report-2023/

A.12 Designation of Member States for MRL applications

The Rapporteur Member State for oxathiapiprolin under Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 received and accepted an import tolerance request from a company to set MRLs for potatoes under Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005.

A.13 Forthcoming draft Regulations (indicative only):

1. Phosphine and phosphide salts

The revision of MRLs for phosphane and phosphide salts has been put on hold pending the decision by the PAFF Committee Phytopharmaceuticals-Legislation on the potential genotoxicity of phosphine. That Committee will next discuss phosphine in July 2025.

2. Basic and low risk substances: Vitis vinifera L. seed extract (grape seed), Onobrychis viciifolia (sainfoin) dried pellets, Allium fistulosum, processed, Magnesium hydroxide and Lysate of Willaertia magna C2c Maky

The Commission informed the Committee that the mentioned basic and low-risk substances have been found to meet at least one criterion for possible inclusion in Annex IV to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. Regarding this, a draft measure will be presented in the near future.

A.14 MRLs for milk and for infant formula and follow-on formula

The Commission presented the draft Regulations amending Regulations (EU) 2016/127 and (EU) 2016/128 to align the MRLs for 13 substances established by those two Regulations with those established for milk by Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. Difenoconazole was initially listed but was taken out as it will be dealt with by the draft Regulation implementing the Article 12 review (PLAN/2024/2476), see point C.04). /2-amino-4-methoxy-6-(trifluormethyl)-1,3,5-triazine (AMTT) was included based on a proposal from a Member State to lower the MRL for infant formula, as the current default MRL of 0.01 mg/kg does not provide a sufficient margin of safety in view of the Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI)[14]. Two Member States noted that stakeholders had notified the need for a deferred application date due to lack of suitable and sufficiently sensitive analytical methods. The two draft Regulations are expected to be adopted by the end of 2025.

Member States were invited to send their comments by 8 July 2025.

A.15 Issues related to Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005

The Commission thanked those Member States involved in the working group for their preparatory work on footnote 1 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. The Commission will prepare a paper outlining possible next steps, which will be shared with the Member States. Member States, wishing to express their views before the paper is shared, were invited to submit comments by 8 July 2025. At the next PAFF meeting, there will be a tour de table to gather views from all Member States based on that paper.

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[14] EFSA,Peer review of the pesticide risk assessment of the active substance tritosulfuron. EFSA Journal, 21(8), 1–37. https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2023.8142

A.16 New proposals for extrapolations: revised Table 3 of the extrapolation Guidelines (SANTE/2019/12752 Rev02) – for endorsement by Member States

The Commission presented version 2 of the updated Technical Guidelines on Data Requirements for Setting Maximum Residue Levels, Comparability of Residue Trials, and Extrapolation of Residue Data on Products from Plant and Animal Origin (SANTE/2019/12752 Rev02) to the Committee for endorsement. The Commission thanked Member States and EFSA for their contribution and comments. Although MRLs for straw and hay are not yet included in Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 396/2006, and hence extrapolation suggestions reading those commodities were not considered, the Commission noted the potential for extrapolation from cereal straw to hay, as well as between various cereal straws. Since there was no consensus to include extrapolations from citrus fruits to avocados, this was not included in the current update. Future improvements could consider new entries. Additionally, the Commission emphasised that this document serves as guidance and allows for case-by-case decisions in view of evaluations carried out by Member States and EFSA.

Member States endorsed the updated Guidelines.

A.17 EFSA Guidance on pesticide residues in rotational crops: Action plan

The Commission presented an updated Action Plan in a new table format addressing also comments from two Member States submitted prior to the meeting. Contribution from Member States were sought regarding the recommendation 13 on criteria to be elaborated and recommendation 19 on how to deal with data gaps identified in the framework of MRL reviews related to rotational crop studies. There is a need to clarify whether these data gaps related to a critical use in a primary crop should be also linked to all individual annual crops for which the setting of specific or combined MRLs as outlined in Sections 6.4.5.1 and 6.4.5.2 of the Guidance may be necessary.

Member States were invited to send their comments by 8 July 2025.

A.18 Vision for Agriculture

The Commission briefly presented the announcements made in the Vision for Agriculture and Food[15] as regards pesticides. It highlighted that, in order to implement them, and in line with the Commission's overall efforts to reduce administrative burden, a proposal for simplification with targeted amendments to Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 on placing on the market of PPPs is currently under internal discussion. Targeted amendments to Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 on biocidal products are also being discussed. The Vision for Agriculture and Food also includes "a principle that the most hazardous pesticides banned in the EU for health and environmental reasons are not allowed back to the EU through imported products. To advance on this, the Commission will launch this year an Impact Assessment that will consider the impacts on the EU's competitive position and the international implications and, if appropriate, propose amendments to the applicable legal framework."

[15] COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS, A Vision for Agriculture and Food Shaping together an attractive farming and agri-food sector for future generations, eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0075

A.19 Other Information points:

1. MRLs applicable to variants and metabolites

The Commission informed the Committee regarding the prepared internal note on MRLs applicable to variants and metabolites. The Commission expressed appreciation for the feedback received from Member States. The Commission stated that the internal note provides general guidance and may not cover every unique situation. The Commission and the Committee agreed to keep this version as the final version for the moment.

2. Corrigendum to Commission Regulation (EU) 2025/581

The Commission shared the feedback from its internal consultation process concerning the amendment of the application date of Regulation (EC) No 2025/581[16]. The new application date of this Regulation should be 1st May 2025 instead of currently 17 April 2025. This correction is needed to avoid that its proposed MRLs are overwritten by Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/2619[17] (on 'phosphonic acid and its salts', applicable from 29 April 2025) and Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/2640[18] (on 'flupyradifurone', applicable from 30 April 2025). The correction shall be formalised via a correcting act instead of a corrigendum, therefore, a draft correcting act will be presented at the next meeting of this Committee The Commission confirmed that the correct MRL values for 'phosphonic acid and its salts' and for 'flupyradifurone' are those compiled in Regulation (EC) No 2025/581.

3. Update on court case T-247-23

The Commission informed the Committee that the applicant, Maud Tea & Seed Co. Ltd, has appealed the decision of the General Court[19].

4. Issues related to processing factors

The Commission informed the Committee that comments regarding processing factors for parboiled rice and cumin seeds powder raised by Member States at the previous meeting[20] of this Committee had been shared on CIRCA BC.

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16 Commission Regulation (EU) 2025/581 of 27 March 2025 amending Annexes II and IV to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for cycloxydim, dichlorprop-P, flupyradifurone, methyl nonyl ketone, plant oils/citronella oil, potassium sorbate and potassium phosphonate in or on certain products. OJ L, 2025/581, 28.3.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2025/581/oj

17 Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/2619 of 8 October 2024 amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for fosetyl, potassium phosphonates and disodium phosphonate in or on certain products. *OJ L, 2024/2619, 9.10.2024*, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2619/oj

18 Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/2640 of 9 October 2024 amending and correcting Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for 1,4-dimethylnaphthalene, difluoroacetic acid (DFA), fluopyram and flupyradifurone in or on certain products. OJ L, 2024/2640, 10.10.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2640/oj

19 Order of the General Court of 30 January 2025 – Maud Tea & Seed v Commission (Case T-247/23) https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:C_202502396

20 Summary report of Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed Section Phytopharmaceuticals – Pesticide Residues 17-18 February 2025, agenda item A 18 5. https://food.ec.europa.eu/document/download/0d2941fe-29e0-4f9d-a72b-5190ed8f1220_en?filename=sc_phyto_20250217_ppr_sum.pdf

5. Submitting Member States' control plans and results of pesticide residues of food of animal origin to the UK

The Commission provided information on EU Member States' obligations to submit their control plans to the UK authorities for pharmacologically active substances, pesticide residues and contaminants in food of animal origin and the results of these control plans. It is based on an agreement between the Commission and the UK on the possibility for Member States to send the control plans and results in the same format as for the EU under the current applicable EU legislation. The UK authorities will assess the plans and results and only those EU Member States that the UK approves based on the assessment of the plans and results will be able to continue exporting the food of animal origin concerned to the UK. The Commission and the UK authorities had agreed that EU Member States may send the plans and results as prepared for EU purposes, i.e. plans for pesticide residues as prepared following requirements in Regulation (EU) 2021/1355 and Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. The results can be sent in excel (xls) file as prepared for the submission to EFSA. Member States expressed their concerns on the additional administrative burden and their wish to provide an EU common reply to the UK rather than supplying information by individual Member States.

6. Working document "Nature of pesticide residues in Fish (SANTE/10254/2021)"

The Commission shared the enquiry received from a stakeholder via one Member State to update the Commission Working Document Nature of pesticide residues in fish' SANTE/10254/2021[21]. The data requirements for a metabolism study on fish (nature of residues study) were introduced by Commission Regulation (EU) 283/2013[22], therefore, some companies have performed fish metabolism studies or are in discussions with rapporteur Member States to carry out such studies. A stakeholder asked for a review of the Commission Working document to clarify certain issues. They proposed that an EFSA expert consultation could be arranged, including groups such as contract research organisations who have conducted good laboratory practice (GLP) studies and universities conducting similar non-GLP studies.

Member States were invited to send their comments by 8 July 2025.

7. Edible collagen casings: classification and chlorate results

The Commission shared the enquiry received from a Member State concerning the classification of edible collagen casings and the chlorate monitoring results of this commodity. The concerned Member State proposed to classify edible collagen casings as "other" products of animal origin in category 10 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. The enquirer Member State informed the Committee that they have found levels of chlorate in edible collagen casings above the current temporary MRL for muscle and asked the other Member States if similar findings were reported in their national territories.

Member States were invited to send their comments by 15 August 2025.

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21 https://food.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-10/pesticides_mrl_guidelines_app-j-10254-2021_en.pdf

22 OJ L 93, 3.4.2013, p. 1–84, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2013/283/oj

8. Member State questions regarding RASFF notifications and substances not in the EU pesticide database

A Member State presented several questions regarding RASFF notifications and substances not listed in the EU pesticide database seeking advice from other Member States.

Member States were invited to send their comments by 15 August 2025.

9. Feedback from the AGRIFISH Council meeting

The Commission informed the Committee about an AOB item for the meeting of the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council on 23 and 24 June 2025 on the "Alignment of production standards applied to imported products in terms of pesticide MRLs"[23]

10. Member State comment on Commission Regulation (EU) 2025/158[24]

A Member State explained that the recent Commission Regulation (EU) 2025/158 lowering some MRLs for acetamiprid causes challenges for the banana growing sector. The Commission explained that no safe fall-back Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) had been reported at the time of the review of the MRLs so that the MRL was lowered to the limit of quantification (LOQ). However, if a safe use exists, an MRL application can be submitted under Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005.

Section B Draft(s) presented for an opinion

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation (EU) …/… amending Annexes II and III Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for acequinocyl, chlormequat, metalaxyl-M, pyraclostrobin, sulfoxaflor and trifloxystrobin in or on certain products

(PLAN/ 2025/785)

The Commission presented version 5 of the draft Regulation and gave an overview of the comments received from the Member States ahead of the meeting. Regarding the MRL application for pyraclostrobin in edible fish, the Commission reminded that, as indicated by footnote (8) of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005, no MRLs are currently set for fish, fish products and any other marine and freshwater food products. One Member State noted exposure exceedances for pyraclostrobin in lettuce and wine grapes, commodities not falling under the remit of the current draft Regulation. The Commission informed the Committee that these exceedances will be addressed in a separate draft measure. Regarding trifloxystrobin in herbal infusions from flowers and in herbal infusions from leaves and herbs, one Member State was concerned that EFSA did not consider two field trials related to two food commodities as independent from each other according to the extrapolation Guidelines (SANTE/2019/12752), leading to a rejection of the MRL application. Since it was considered that the spatial and

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23 https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-9995-2025-INIT/en/pdf

24 Commission Regulation (EU) 2025/158 of 29 January 2025 amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for acetamiprid in or on certain products. OJ L, 2025/158, 30.1.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2025/158/oj

temporally separation were present to a reasonable extent and since the proposed use of trifloxystrobin in the crops under assessment will not represent a consumer health risk, the Commission considered it appropriate to consider the two field trials as independent and proposed to establish the MRL for herbal infusions from flowers and for herbal infusions from leaves and herbs proposed by the applicant. Regarding chlormequat, one Member State was concerned by the levels of this active substance in straw and its possible impact on residues levels in cultivated fungi. The Commission informed that this is already tackled by the draft measure presented for discussion under agenda point Pt. C.05 (PLAN/2025/1086)

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation (EU) amending Annex IV to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for *Betabaculovirus phoperculellae*, elemental iron and rape seed oil in or on certain products

(PLAN/2025/985)

The Commission presented version 2 of the draft Regulation amending Annex IV to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 to include *Betabaculovirus phoperculellae*, elemental iron and rape seed oil in Annex IV. There are five assessment criteria according to the Commission guidance for potential inclusion in Annex IV of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005[25]. Namely, approval as basic substance (criterion I), being listed in Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 (criterion II), having no identified hazardous properties (criterion III), natural exposure being higher than the one linked to the use as a plant protection product (criterion IV), and consumer exposure not being expected considering the representative uses (criterion V). Regarding *Betabaculovirus phoperculellae*, an approved low-risk substance[26], EFSA concluded that criterion III was considered to be met, because there were no indications of known health risks for consumers[27]. In addition, the corresponding Review Report states that given its lack of significant infectivity or pathogenicity in humans and its inability to produce any concerning metabolites, there is no need to establish health-based reference values for this substance. Hence no MRLs are deemed necessary for *Betabaculovirus phoperculellae*. In the case of elemental iron, an approved low-risk substance[28], EFSA noted that natural exposure is higher than the one linked to the use as plant protection product (hence meeting criterion IV)[29]. In addition, the corresponding Review Report

25 SANCO/11188/2013 Rev. 2 – Guidance document on criteria for the inclusion of active substances into Annex IV of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. https://food.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2016-10/pesticides_mrl_guidelines_sanco-2013-11188.pdf

26 Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/103 of 22 January 2025 approving the active substance Betabaculovirus phoperculellae as a low-risk active substance 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 (OJ L, 2025/103, 23.1.2025, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2025/103/oj).

27 EFSA, Peer review of the pesticide risk assessment of the active substance Phthorimaea operculella granulovirus. EFSA Journal 2024;22(8): e9194. https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2024.8976.

28 Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/845 of 5 May 2025 approving the active substance elemental iron as a low-risk active substance 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 (OJ L, 2025/845, 6.5.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2025/845/oj).

29 EFSA, Peer review of the pesticide risk assessment of the active substance elemental iron. EFSA Journal 2024;22(10): e9056. https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2024.9056.

supports that consumer exposure to iron residues is unlikely to see a significant increase from its representative use, because the existing background concentration levels of iron in soil and food commodities are anticipated to be much higher than any levels that might result from such applications. Therefore, no MRLs are considered necessary for elemental iron. Regarding rape seed oil, an approved active substance initially included in Annex IV on a temporary basis28, EFSA has assessed that toxicological reference values are not required (hence meeting criterion III), and the exposure from uses as food item and food ingredient is expected to be higher than the one linked to the uses as plant protection product (hence meeting criterion IV)[30]. In addition, the corresponding Review Report states that there are clear indications that it may be expected that rape seed oil does not have any harmful effects on human or animal health. Consequently, no MRLs are deemed necessary for this active substance, and its inclusion in Annex IV will be confirmed permanently by removing the provisional footnote.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation (EU) …/… 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 dimoxystrobin, ethephon and propamocarb in or on certain products

(PLAN/2024/1305)

The Commission presented version 5 of the draft Regulation. Regarding propamocarb, EFSA published a statement under Article 43 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 assessing possible fall-back GAPs in lettuce[31], and recommended an MRL of 30 mg/kg. Regarding ethephon, the Commission shared information from the EURLs on work undertaken to confirm the residue definition and LOQ in cereals. Based on that feedback, the Commission proposes to set the residue definition for enforcement in cereals as "sum of ethephon free and conjugates, expressed as ethephon", with an LOQ at 0.02 mg/kg. The Commission also informed that a typo had been identified in the previous version of the Regulation and that the MRLs for ethephon in tree nuts, except hazelnuts/cobnuts and walnuts, had now been corrected to the LOQ of 0.02 mg/kg, since there are no uses or CXLs for these commodities. Since trading partners had already been consulted under the World Trade Organization Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures (WTO-SPS) agreement, with no comments provided, a corrigendum notification[32] had been sent for notification under the WTO SPS agreement.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

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30 EFSA, Peer review of the pesticide risk assessment of the active substance rape seed oil. EFSA Journal 2022;20(5): e07305. https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2022.7305.

31 EFSA, Statement on the maximum residue level for propamocarb in lettuces. EFSA Journal. 2025;23:e9455.https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2025.9455

32 G/SPS/N/EU/801/Corr.1

B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation (EU) …/… 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 benfluralin, benthiavalicarb and penflufen in or on certain products

(PLAN/2024/1306)

The Commission presented version 3 of the draft Regulation and gave an overview of its contents and the minor amendments made since the previous meeting of this Committee. The Commission informed the Committee that no reply had been received in response to the consultation of trading partners under the WTO-SPS agreement[33].

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

Section C Draft(s) presented for discussion

C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation (EU) amending Annexes II, III and V to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for benomyl, carbendazim and thiophanate-methyl in or on certain products

(PLAN/2024/2763)

The Commission informed Member States that the draft Regulation is currently put on hold, pending ongoing discussions within the Commission.

C.02 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) on methods of sampling and analysis for the control of pesticide residues in and on food and feed of plant and animal origin, and repealing Directive 2002/63/EC

(PLAN/2023/636)

The Commission presented version 12 of the draft Regulation and provided a summary of the comments made by Member States before the meeting.

The main changes to the version presented at the previous meeting of this Committee included that sampling by food/feed business operators was removed from the scope of the Regulation due to uncertainties as regards the legal basis for such provisions in particular as Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 used as a legal basis does not apply to feed business operators. It was specified that the replicate sample shall be taken from the well mixed aggregate sample or from the laboratory or analytical sample. The wording on sampling for multiple purposes has been amended. The most significant amendment was made in Part C of the Annex where, for better clarity, requirements on methods of analysis, measurement uncertainty and interpretation of results have been specified, instead of giving reference to the Analytical Quality Control Guidance[34]. As a next step, stakeholders will be consulted through the feedback mechanism on the 'Have Your Say'[35] portal of the Commission. The consultation will be open for comments for 28

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33 G/SPS/N/EU/843

34 https://food.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-11/pesticides_mrl_guidelines_wrkdoc_2021-11312.pdf

35 https://have-your-say.ec.europa.eu/index_en

calendar days. The proposed application date of the Regulation is 1 January 2027 but subject to further discussion with Member States.

Member States were invited to send their comments by 15 August 2025.

C.03 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation (EU) amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for copper compounds in or on certain products

(PLAN/2025/350)

The Commission presented to the Committee version 1 of a draft Regulation updating MRLs for copper, based on the recent EFSA statement updating the review of MRLs for copper under Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005[36]. This update is necessary for alignment of the outdated MRLs with current authorised uses of copper as a pesticide and background levels of copper coming from the environment or from other uses such as additives or food/feed supplement. In its review, EFSA derived two lists: the levels of copper that are coming from pesticide use, based on residue trials, and the levels of copper that are coming from background levels, based on monitoring data collected by Member States and aggregated at EU level. The MRLs are proposed to be set at the highest level between these two levels. The residue definition for enforcement is proposed to be clarified as "total copper". The Committee also discussed a letter received from a stakeholder.

The Committee discussed the methodology for the consumer safety risk assessment proposed by EFSA to be used in the ongoing renewal of approval procedure, in authorising plant protection products and in MRL applications. The Commission will shortly send a mandate to EFSA to issue a technical report detailing the approach for risk assessment of copper under different PPP frameworks, on which a stakeholder consultation is expected.

Member States were invited to send their comments by 15 July 2025.

C.04 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation (EU) amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for difenoconazole in or on certain products

(PLAN/2024/2476)

The Commission presented version 2 of the draft Regulation and provided a summary of the comments Member States made before the meeting. These comments concerned MRL values and a recital of the draft measure. Member States provided further comments on MRL values, Codex alignment and residue definition at the meeting.

Member States were invited to send their comments by 1 July 2025.

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[36] EFSA, Statement on the update of maximum residue levels (MRLs) for copper compounds in light of the EFSA scientific opinion on the re-evaluation of the health-based guidance values (HBGVs) and exposure assessment from all sources. EFSA Journal 2025;23: e9271. https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2025.9271

C.05 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation (EU) amending Annexes II III and V to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for 1,4-dimethylnaphthalene, chlormequat, metribuzin, terbuthylazine and triclopyr in or on certain products

(PLAN/2025/1086)

The Commission presented to the Committee version 1 of a draft Regulation updating MRLs for 1,4-dimethylnaphthalene chlormequat, deaminodiketometribuzin (DADK-metribuzin), metribuzin, terbuthylazine and triclopyr.

The proposed draft Regulation aims to lower the temporary MRLs for 1,4-dimethylnaphthalene in all food commodities other than potatoes and for chlormequat in cultivated fungi and oyster mushrooms based on monitoring data collected by Member States and industry. The draft Regulation also intends to lower the MRL values for chlormequat in animal commodities (other than in sheep muscle and sheep kidney) based on the dietary burden calculation conducted by EFSA within the with the MRL application of oats[37] and implementing the EFSA scientific report on the assessment of fall-back MRLs for revoked CXLs[38]. For metribuzin and its metabolite, deaminodiketometribuzin (DADK-metribuzin), the draft Regulation aims to lower all MRLs to LOQ following the non-renewal decision set by Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/2806[39] and the absence of Codex maximum limits or import tolerances. For terbuthylazine and triclopyr the draft Regulation is based on EFSA assessments of confirmatory data submitted under Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 [40] [41]; and for triclopyr also on an EFSA assessment of an Article 6 to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 application[42].

Member States were invited to send their comments by 8 July 2025.

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37 EFSA, Modification of the existing maximum residue level for chlormequat in oat. EFSA Journal 2025;23(4): e9385, https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2025.9385

38 EFSA, Assessment of fall-back MRLs for revoked CXLs previously implemented in the EU legislation and review of the JMPR evaluation of the toxicological data related to pyrasulfotole, pyraziflumid, spiropidion and tetraniliprole. EFSA Journal 2024;22(4), 8693. https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2024.8693.

39 Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2024/2806 of 31 October 2024 concerning the non-renewal of the approval of the active substance metribuzin, 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 and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/408. OJ L, 2024/2806, 4.11.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2024/2806/oj

40 EFSA, Review of the existing maximum residue levels for terbuthylazine according to Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. EFSA Journal 2020; 18(1): e05980, https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2020.5980.

41 Review of the existing maximum residue levels for triclopyr according to Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. EFSA Journal 2017; 15(3): e04735. https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2017.4735.

42 Modification of the existing maximum residue levels for triclopyr in animal commodities. EFSA Journal 2023; 21(5): e08007. https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2023.8007.

C.06 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation (EU) amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for alpha-cypermethrin and cypermethrins in or on certain products

(PLAN/2023/1863)

The Commission presented to the Committee version 4 of a draft Regulation setting MRLs for alpha-cypermethrin and updating MRLs for cypermethrins, based on the recent EFSA statement[43].

The previous version of the draft Regulation, discussed at the meeting of this Committee on 1-2 February 2024, had only set MRLs for the whole group of cypermethrins (sum of isomers). EFSA had identified potential health risks for 34 food products in case the quantified residue consists only of alpha-cypermethrin, which is the most toxic of the isomers, and for imported products it is not possible to know if the residues come from a safe use or not. Therefore, the first draft of this Regulation proposed to lower the MRLs for these 34 food products to the LOQ. This approach was considered too conservative, as it would have led to withdrawal of safe authorisations of cypermethrin. As technical progress makes it now analytically feasible to detect alpha-cypermethrin, this new version of the Regulation intends to set separate MRLs for the cypermethrins (sum of isomers) and for alpha-cypermethrin.

The Commission also gave an update on the work by the EURLs to develop validated analytical methods for alpha-cypermethrin.

Member States were invited to send their comments by 8 July 2025.

C.07 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation (EU) amending Annexes II, III and V to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for azocyclotin, chlorfenapyr, cyhexatin, diazinon, dicofol, endosulfan, fenarimol, fenpropathrin and profenofos in or on certain products

(PLAN/2025/1425)

The Commission shared with the Committee the content of a forthcoming draft Regulation which, based on eight EFSA reasoned opinions[44], proposes to lower the MRLs of nine active substances which are no longer approved in the EU for which EFSA concluded that no toxicological reference values could be set, and consumer risk assessments could not be carried out.

On the steps forward, the Commission explained that EURLs will be consulted on the LOQs to ensure that the proposed levels are analytically achievable for official laboratories.

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43 EFSA, Statement on MRLs for alpha-cypermethrin and screening of the existing EU MRLs for cypermethrin. EFSA Journal. 2025;23:e9386, https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2025.9386.

44 EFSA, Targeted review of maximum residue levels (MRLs) for azocyclotin and cyhexatin. EFSA Journal 2023;21(6):8038. https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/8038
EFSA, Targeted review of maximum residue levels (MRLs) for chlorfenapyr. EFSA Journal 2023;21(12):8444. https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/8444
EFSA, Targeted review of maximum residue levels (MRLs) for diazinon. EFSA Journal 2023;21:8426. https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/8426
EFSA, Targeted review of maximum residue levels (MRLs) for dicofol. EFSA Journal 2023;21:8425. https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/8425

Member States were invited to send their comments by 11 July 2025.