



Embassy of India

Belgium, Luxembourg & the European Union

Pesticide Monitoring

Newsletter

May-June 2025

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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A. EU updates on Pesticides

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concern– mammalian toxicology, residues, environmental fate and behaviour, ecotoxicology, and endocrine disruption– and consequently approved elemental iron for use as a molluscicide within the EU. Action: APEDA, DAHD

Expiration of approval: 26 May 2040

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.

Quinolin-8-ol⁵ can be used as both a fungicide and bactericide, it is applied through drip irrigation (applied directly to the plants roots). It is used to protect tomato's against soil-borne diseases such as *Fusarium* and *Verticillium*. EFSA's⁶ peer review, requested by Spain and the Netherlands to renew its approval, found no issues in any of the EU's five areas of concern—mammalian toxicology, residues, environmental fate and behaviour, ecotoxicology, and endocrine disruption—and consequently approved Quinolin-8-ol for use as a fungicide and bactericide solely on tomatoes via drip irrigation. Action: APEDA

Expiration of approval: 30 June 2032

lenacil⁷ is used as a herbicide used to block photosynthesis in weeds, causing them to perish. Lenacil is primarily used on sugar beet and fodder beet to control broadleaved weeds and annual grasses. However it is also used on crops like sugarcane, spinach, turnips, currants, gooseberries, ornamental nursery stock and turf-grass. EFSA's⁸ review, conducted at the request of Belgium and Austria, assessed only its application on sugar beet and fodder beet and confirmed that, when used at medium to low doses, lenacil complies with EU regulatory standards, resulting in the renewal of its approval for those crops. Action: APEDA, DAHD

Expiration of approval: 30 June 2040

I. Approval of the active substance

The approval of an active or basic substance refers to the process by which a substance is evaluated and approved for use within certain regulatory frameworks.

Lysate of *Willaertia magna*¹ is a fungicide used primary to control downy mildew on grapevines and table grapes. EFSA's² peer review risk assessment, conducted at the request of Austria (an EU Member State), found that none of the five areas of concern – mammalian toxicology, residues, environmental fate and behaviour, ecotoxicology, and endocrine disruption – raised any issues, and consequently Lysate of *Willaertia magna* has been approved for use as a fungicide within the EU. Action: APEDA

Expiration of approval: 7 July 2040

Elemental iron³ is a molluscicide used to target slugs and snails. It is used to protect almost all edible crops in fields and greenhouses from slugs and snails, however it is also used on ornamentals plants (flowers) and grassland. EFSA's⁴ extensive peer-review, carried out at Austria's request, found no issues in any of the EU's five areas of

III. Non-renewal of a basic substance

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.

Flufenacet⁹ is a herbicide that inhibits very strong acid synthesis properties, its use prevents seedling growth of targeted weeds. It is used on crops like winter cereals including; wheat, barley, rye, spelt as well as on potatoes. Flufenacet is used as a pre-emergence herbicide, so before planting the crops. EFSA's¹⁰ extensive peer review, requested by Poland and France, identified negative environmental impacts, particularly on surface water and groundwater with potential consequences for human water consumption, as well as risks to birds, bees, and earthworms; consequently, the EU declined to renew approval of Flufenacet as a herbicide within the EU. Action: APEDA

IV. 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).

1-methycyclopropene¹¹ is a cyclopropene derivative used as a post harvest treatment to extend storage life and maintaining quality of mostly tropical fruits. Produces that 1-methycyclopropene get used on are apples, pears, apricots, peaches, nectarines, plums, persimmons, avocados, mangoes, papayas, kiwi, melons, tomatoes. EFSA's¹² review of its pre-harvest spray application on pome fruits identified no risks, prompting the EU to authorize its use pre-harvest as well as post-harvest. Action: APEDA

Cyantraniliprole¹³ is a insecticide used pre-harvest to remove targeted pesticides from crops, it is primarily effective against chewing and sucking insects. It is often mixed in a water spray in order to be applied, however this insecticide is also mixed with other pesticides in order to increase its effectiveness. EFSA's¹⁴ review, based on two reports submitted by the French EMS, confirmed its low toxicity profile and, after evaluating additional risk factors, concluded that maximum residue levels for Cyantraniliprole on various commodities could be safely raised given the minimal associated risks. Please see the full list of MRL changes below. Action: APEDA

Cyflumetofen¹⁵ is a acaricide and insecticide, it is used pre-harvest to paralyse and cause death of any targeted pest. It is used primarily to control mites, and sometimes other small pests. Cyflumetofen is used on fruit crops like citrus, grapes, apples, plums, strawberries and tree nuts. Also on vegetables like tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, cucurbits, leafy greens, dried herbs lastly also on some ornamentals and teas as well as indoor as well as outdoor. EFSA's¹⁶ 2021 peer review, drawing on data from Member States, the UK and Commission regulations, found overall low risks and endorsed raising maximum residue levels for most commodities, while flagging the need for further assessment on a few, resulting in MRL amendments for the majority of produce. Please see the full list of MRL changes below. Action: APEDA, IEC, TEABOARD

Deltamethrin¹⁷ is a insecticide to be used as soil treatment to target ants, cockroaches and stored-product pests but is also used on produce directly. Deltamethrin is a widely used insecticide worldwide used on a wide variety of commodities, like cotton, vegetables, fruits, cereals and grains. Deltamethrin is also sometimes used as a post-harvest insecticide, since it has a long residual activity. EFSA's¹⁸ review, requested by Austria to assess maximum residue levels for maize and corn (while evaluating other produce), recommended an MRL of 0.7 mg/kg based on data requiring further verification but found no major concerns with the proposed 2.0 mg/kg level—an MRL the EU ultimately adopted for maize/corn—alongside minor MRL adjustments for other commodities. Please see the full list of MRL changes below. Action: APEDA

Mefentrifluconazole¹⁹ is a fungicide used in a wide area of ways to combat and control for any foliar diseases on crops. As long as the fungicide is applied to the crops, it can be applied through several methods. Mefentrifluconazole is used on a vast array of crops like cereal, corn, vegetables, oilseeds, sugar crops, fruits and ornamentals. EFSA's review²⁰ review, conducted at the United Kingdom's request to raise MRLs, approved increased residue limits for most commodities but maintained current levels for hazelnuts, beans, and soybeans due to insufficient data; the revised MRLs for the remaining produce are detailed below. Action: APEDA, IEC, IOPEPC

For the full MRL list for: cyantraniliprole, cyflumetofen, deltamethrin, and mefentrifluconazole, please consult the table within the regulation: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2025/1164>

Mepiquat²¹ is a plant growth regulator, it is known and used for causing plant to grow more compact and to enhance the plants yield. This regulator is used on wheat, barley, rye, triticale, cotton, onions, leeks, garlic, fungi, mushrooms and used on people's turf targeting seed grasses and turf grasses. EFSA's extensive review²², carried out to assess a proposed increase in MRLs for fungi and mushrooms, determined that current limits remain appropriate for all except oyster mushrooms—whose MRL was raised from 0.7 mg/kg to 3 mg/kg—while retaining existing levels for the other products. Action: APEDA

Oxathiapiprolin²³ is a fungicide used to do preventative control for downy mildew and phytophthora diseases. It is mostly used on soils and seeds, but can be applied later on the crops as they start growing as well. It is used on a wide array of products, ranging from vegetables and fruits to root crops, leafy greens, herbs and ornamentals. EFSA's review²⁴ of U.S. blueberry import tolerances and the existing radish leaf MRL (as a kale subgroup) concluded that raising the blueberry MRL from 0.01 to 1.5 mg/kg poses no risk and that radish leaves should align with the same 1.5 mg/kg limit. Action: APEDA, IEC, IOPEPC

V. 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 substances²⁵. The extension of the approval periods of the active substances 1,4-dimethylnaphthalene, amidosulfuron, bentazone, bixafen, clomazone, fenoxaprop-P, fludioxonil, fluoxastrobin, flutolanil, fluxapyroxad, gibberellic acid, gibberellins, halauxifen-methyl, mecoprop-P, paraffin oil, penthiopyrad, pirimiphos-methyl, propamocarb, propyzamide, prothioconazole, rimsulfuron, sedaxane and sulfoxaflor.

Active substance	Commodities	Approval period extended till
1,4-Dimethylnaphthalene	Potatoes (as post-harvest sprout inhibitor) <u>Action: APEDA</u>	30 November 2027
Amidosulfuron	Cereals (winter & spring wheat, barley, rye, triticale), flax, grass/pasture (post-emergence herbicide) <u>Action: APEDA, DAHD</u>	30 November 2026
Bentazone	Pulses (dry peas & beans), potatoes, sugar beet (selective herbicide) <u>Action: APEDA</u>	31 October 2027
Bixafen	Cereal grains (wheat, barley, oats), rotational crops (field vegetables) (broad-spectrum cereal fungicide) <u>Action: APEDA</u>	31 October 2027
Clomazone	Soybeans, cotton, rice, sugarcane, cereals & grains, vegetables (pre- and early post-emergence herbicide) <u>Action: APEDA</u>	30 September 2026
Fenoxaprop-P	Cereals (spring & winter wheat, barley, rye, triticale) and grass/pasture (post-emergence grass herbicide) <u>Action: APEDA, DAHD</u>	30 November 2026
Fludioxonil	Fruits (citrus, avocado, pineapple, melon), cucurbits (cantaloupe, squash), fruiting vegetables (pepper, tomato) (broad-spectrum post-harvest and foliar fungicide) <u>Action: APEDA</u>	30 September 2026

Active substance	Commodities	Approval period extended till
Fluoxastrobin	Peanuts, potato, fruiting vegetables, leaf-petiole vegetables, turf (strobilurin fungicide; foliar & seed treatment) <u>Action: APEDA, DAHD</u>	31 January 2027
Flutolanil	Rice, potatoes, cotton, soybeans, brassica leafy vegetables, peanut (systemic benzamide fungicide) <u>Action: APEDA, IEC</u>	15 June 2026
Fluxapyroxad	Pome & stone fruits, root & tuber vegetables, sweet corn, pulses, oilseeds, cereals (SDHI fungicide) <u>Action: APEDA, IEC, IOPEPC</u>	31 October 2027
Gibberellic acid	Fruit trees (apples, grapes), hops, cereals & grains (rice), vegetables (tomato, cucumber) (plant growth regulator) <u>Action: APEDA</u>	31 October 2026
Gibberellins	Agriculture, horticulture, forestry (seed germination & growth regulator for cereals, fruits & vegetables) <u>Action: APEDA, DAHD, IOPEPC</u>	31 October 2026
Halauxifen-methyl	Wheat, barley (post-emergence broadleaf herbicide) <u>Action: APEDA</u>	5 January 2028
Mecoprop-P	Cereals, grassland, pastoral crops (phenoxy herbicide for broadleaf weeds) <u>Action: APEDA, DAHD, IEC</u>	15 October 2027
Paraffin oil	Horticultural spray oil on fruit trees (citrus, pome), vegetables, ornamentals (insect suffocation/ adjuvant) <u>Action: APEDA, IOPEPC</u>	30 November 2026
Penthiopyrad	Caneberries (raspberries, blackberries), blueberries (carboxamide fungicide) <u>Action: APEDA</u>	31 October 2027
Pirimiphos-methyl	Stored grains (cereals & pulses), spices, vegetables, fruits, animal products (organophosphate insecticide) <u>Action: APEDA, DAHD</u>	31 January 2027
Propamocarb	Vegetables (tomato, cucurbits, leafy & tuberous vegetables) (systemic carbamate fungicide) <u>Action: APEDA</u>	31 January 2027
Propyzamide	Grassland/pasture, cereals (wheat, barley, oats), oilseed rape (pre-emergence herbicide) <u>Action: APEDA, DAHD, IEC</u>	30 November 2027
Prothioconazole	Cereals (wheat, barley, rye), pulses & oilseeds (triazole fungicide) <u>Action: APEDA, IOPEPC</u>	31 March 2027
Rimsulfuron	Maize, potato, tomato (sulfonylurea herbicide) <u>Action: APEDA</u>	15 August 2028
Sedaxane	Cereal grains (wheat, barley, oats), pulses & oilseeds (seed-treatment SDHI fungicide) <u>Action: APEDA, IOPEPC, DAHD</u>	31 October 2027
Sulfoxaflor	Okra/lady's fingers, leafy vegetables, herbs & edible flowers (insecticide) <u>Action: APEDA</u>	18 January 2028

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
Zoxamide (Pesticides MRL) ²⁶	30/07/2025
Acequinocyl (Pesticides MRL) ²⁷	30/07/2025

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
Metschnikowia fructicola strain NRRL Y27328	27/12/2025
Cypermethrin	31/01/2026
Beauveria bassiana strain IMI389521	19/02/2026
Beauveria bassiana strain PPRI 5339	20/02/2026
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
Terpenoid blend QRD-460	10/08/2025
Methoxyfenozide	31/03/2026

C. EU News Corner

I. Temporary increase of official controls of food imports²⁸

Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 governs the import conditions for certain food products from non-EU countries due to identified risks from contaminants such as pesticide residues. The review is conducted biannually, based on Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) notifications, third-country monitoring reports, and Member State inspection data. Commodities showing reduced risk may be removed, while those with recurring non-compliance are subject to stricter measures.

It is suggested that the competent authorities take appropriate measures to ensure that exported commodities from India meet EU requirements. Any violations notified in RASFF should be followed by appropriate action by the competent authority, and the same must be communicated to DG SANTE via the portal or through email to avoid unnecessary increases in sampling checks.

The changes in physical checks for commodities exported from India in the 12th review of the standing committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (PAFF) on the 17th of June are as follows:

1. Drumsticks :

- Shall be moved from Annex I to Annex II, with the check frequency increased to 30%.
- An official certificate and laboratory test results confirming compliance with pesticide limits.

2. Yardlong Beans:

- Shall be moved from Annex I to Annex II, with the check frequency increased from 30% to 50%.
- Also subject to the same official certification and testing requirements as drumsticks.

3. Bottle Gourd:

- Will be newly included in Annex I due to evidence of pesticide residue non-compliance based on RASFF alerts and Member State reports.
- With a frequency of identity and physical checks, including sampling and laboratory analyses, established at 20% upon their entry into the Union.

All consignments of the above products must be presented at designated Border Control Posts (BCPs) with a Common Health Entry Document (CHED) submitted at least one working day in advance (or minimum 4 hours in cases of logistical constraints).

Current Indian-Origin Products under Regulation (EU) 2019/1793:

Annex I includes products subject to increased frequency of identity and physical checks at EU borders.

Annex II includes products requiring the same checks plus mandatory certification and accredited laboratory testing results from the country of origin or dispatch.

Annex 1 (as on 1 July 2025):

No.	Food and Feed	CN code	Frequency of identity and physical checks (in %)
1	Betel leaves	ex 1404 90 00	50
2	Okra	ex 0709 99 90 ex 0710 80 95	30
3	Drumsticks (<i>Moringa oleifera</i>)	ex 0709 99 90 ex 0710 80 95	30
4	Rice	1006	5 or 10 (depending on hazard assumed)
5	Yardlong beans	ex 0708 20 00 ex 0710 22 00	30
6	Guava	ex 0804 50 00	30
7	Nutmeg	0908 11 00 0908 12 00	30
8	Peppers of the genus <i>Capsicum</i>	0904 21 10 ex 0904 22 00 ex 0904 21 90 ex 2005 99 10 ex 2005 99 80	10
9	Cumin seeds	0909 31 00 0909 32 00	30
10	Mixtures of food additives containing locust bean gum or guar gum	ex 2106 90 92 ex 2106 90 98 ex 3824 99 93 ex 3824 99 96	20
11	Vanilla	0905	20
12	Cloves	0907	20

Annex 2 (as on 1 July 2025):

No.	Food and Feed	CN code	Frequency of identity and physical checks (in %)
1	Curry leaves	ex 1211 90 86	
2	Groundnuts (peanuts), in shell	1202 41 00	
3	Groundnuts (peanuts), shelled	1202 42 00	
4	Peanut butter	2008 11 10	
5	Groundnuts (peanuts), otherwise prepared or preserved, including mixtures	2008 11 91 2008 11 96 2008 11 98 ex 2008 19 12 ex 2008 19 19 ex 2008 19 92 ex 2008 19 95 ex 2008 19 99	50
6	Oilcake and other solid residues, whether or not ground or in the form of pellets, resulting from the extraction of groundnut oil	2305 00 00	
7	Groundnut flours and meals	ex 1208 90 00	
8	Groundnuts paste	ex 2007 10 10	
9	Peppers of the genus <i>Capsicum</i> (other than sweet)	ex 0709 60 99 ex 0710 80 59	30
10	Sesamum seeds	1207 40 90 ex 2008 19 19 ex 2008 19 99	20
11	Pepper of the genus <i>Piper</i> ; dried or crushed or ground fruit of the genus <i>Capsicum</i> or of the genus <i>Pimenta</i>	0904	20
12	Cinnamon and cinnamon-tree flowers	0906	30
13	Nutmeg, mace and cardamoms	0908	30

No.	Food and Feed	CN code	Frequency of identity and physical checks (in %)
14	Seeds of anise, badian, fennel, coriander, cumin or caraway, juniper berries	0909	20
15	Ginger, saffron, turmeric (<i>curcuma</i>), thyme, bay leaves, curry and other spices	0910	20
16	Sauces and preparations thereof; mixed condiments and mixed seasonings; mustard flours and meals and prepared mustard	2103	20
17	Calcium carbonate	ex 2106 90 92 ex 2106 90 98 ex 2530 90 70 2836 50 00	30
18	Food supplements containing botanicals	ex 13 02 ex 21 06	10

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