



Embassy of India

Belgium, Luxembourg & the European Union

# Pesticide Monitoring

Newsletter

September-October 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.

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## I. Renewal of the approval of the active substance

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

**Rapeseed Oil<sup>1</sup>** Rapeseed oil is a natural, physical-contact insecticide and acaricide used as a spray on plant surfaces to control soft-bodied pests like aphids, whiteflies, spider mites, and scale insects on crops such as fruit trees, vegetables, ornamentals, and greenhouse plants by coating and suffocating them. **EFSA's review<sup>2</sup>** was initiated after main rapporteur the Netherlands and co-rapporteur Finland requested rapeseed oil to be reviewed for re-approval as an acaricide on pome fruits trees, berries, vegetables and ornamentals mainly targeting spider mites, it was also intended on being used as a insecticide on

potatoes. After thorough research EFSA concluded that the only high risk factor with the use of Rapeseed oil was for bees, non-targeted arthropods other than bees, and soil macro organisms other than earthworms. However the European Commission, ruled that since the aforementioned high risk factor is the only one related to rapeseed oil, it can be concluded that rapeseed oil is a low risk pesticide, therefore it was given an renewal of the approval. This renewal of the approval will expire on the 31 October 2040.

## II. Change in MRL of Active Substances

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

On 17 October 2025<sup>3</sup>, an update was published concerning Regulation (EU) No 834/2013, introducing revised maximum residue levels (MRLs) for several pesticides. The substances affected include Acequinocyl, Bixafen, Diazinon, Difenoconazole, Etoxazole, Fenhexamid, Fludioxonil, Isopyrazam, lambda-cyhalothrin (including gamma-cyhalothrin), Profenofos, and Prothioconazole (including its metabolite prothioconazole-desthio).

Given the extensive nature of the amendments, all stakeholders with an interest in these pesticide MRL changes are encouraged to consult the full update available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2013/834/oj/eng>.

## 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
Verticillium nonalfalfae strain Vert56	13/12/2025
Quizalofop-P-tefuryl	26/12/2025
Propaquizafop	02/01/2026

### II. Up next for review

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

the submission of the renewal dossier;

Active substance	Date
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
Mefenitruflaconazole	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
Methoxyfenozide	31/03/2026

## C. News Corner/ NTB Measures

### I. EU Moves to Ease Deforestation Law Burden<sup>4</sup>

The EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) 2023/1115, adopted on 31 May 2023 to ensure deforestation-free and legally produced goods in the EU market, has seen its compliance deadlines postponed twice, most recently by the European Parliament on 26 November 2025. Large operators must now comply by 30 December 2026 and micro/small enterprises by 30 June 2027, allowing time for smoother transition and upgrades to the EU's electronic due-diligence system. In parallel, the Commission's amendment proposal (COM(2025) 652 final) seeks to reduce administrative burdens, simplify reporting for SMEs and low-risk countries, and align with the Better Regulation agenda while maintaining environmental objectives. India continues to be classified as a low-risk country, creating scope to pursue mutual recognition agreements, smallholder flexibilities, and sustained low-risk status under the revised framework. This classification implies that Indian exporters face fewer compliance burdens and regulatory checks when supplying products covered by the EUDR to the EU market. Specifically, Indian operators are subject to a minimum control rate of only 1% annually by EU national authorities. They benefit from simplified due diligence requirements, with less extensive risk assessment and mitigation obligations. This facilitates smoother market access for Indian products such as coffee, cocoa, soy, rubber, and wood products by reducing administrative and inspection burdens. However, this status is subject to periodic review, meaning India must maintain its low-risk profile to retain these benefits.

#### Key Changes Proposed

**Simplified process for small operators:** A new category, "micro and small primary operators," especially in low-risk

countries, will be allowed to submit a one-time simplified declaration instead of detailed due diligence reports.

**"Downstream operators" introduced:** Manufacturers and other operators using already verified deforestation-free materials will face lighter reporting rules, needing only to maintain traceability records.

**Extended timelines:** Small operators will have until **30 December 2026** for full compliance, while national enforcement authorities will begin checks from **30 June 2026**.

**Reduced administrative load:** The proposal aims to cut due diligence filings, easing data management on the EU's central IT system.

**Next review by 2030:** The Commission plans a comprehensive review of the EUDR by **June 2030**.

#### Implications for Indian Exporters

India, a key supplier of coffee, rubber, and wood-based products to the EU, could see both opportunities and challenges. The simplified process for small producers may benefit India's agricultural and forestry sectors, reducing compliance costs. Yet, larger exporters must still ensure full traceability to maintain access to the European market.

### II. Update on India-EU Equivalence Recognition of Organic Products<sup>5</sup>

The European Commission has published a Call for Evidence on the targeted amendment of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 on organic production, with the objective of ensuring continuity of trade in organic products with third countries currently recognized as equivalent under

the EU framework. To prevent any disruption to ongoing trade, the Commission has proposed extending the existing recognition deadline beyond 31 December 2026, while also introducing simplifications related to livestock production rules, cleaning and disinfection requirements, and eligibility criteria for groups of operators—without compromising the EU's high environmental and production standards. The feedback period closed on 18 November 2025, providing stakeholders an important opportunity to comment on the proposed adjustments and their potential implications for trade and regulatory efficiency. APEDA has also submitted its feedback in response to this consultation.

### III. EU Implementation Dialogues<sup>6</sup>

The European Commission has launched Implementation Dialogues, a new political-level consultation tool introduced in 2025 to make EU laws simpler, faster, and easier to implement. These dialogues bring together Commissioners and key stakeholders twice a year to identify bottlenecks, share best practices, and propose concrete simplification measures across EU policy areas.

The initiative is part of the Commission's broader agenda for a "Simpler and Faster Europe", aiming to reduce administrative burden, improve enforcement, and strengthen competitiveness.

#### 1. Agriculture & Food Systems

##### Implementation Dialogue on the EU Organic Policy

###### **Focus:**

- Challenges in applying the Organic Regulation
- Certification and control system bottlenecks
- Market uptake and competitiveness of EU organic products (Source: Implementation Dialogues list)
- The dialogues are expected to feed into the annual **Simplification and Implementation Reports**, which will be presented to the European Parliament and Council.

#### 2. MARE – Fisheries & Blue Economy

##### Small-Scale Coastal Fisheries

###### **Focus:**

- Administrative burden on small-scale operators
- Access to funding and data requirements
- Simplification of reporting obligations (Source: Implementation Dialogues list)
- These dialogues are particularly relevant given ongoing digitalisation efforts such as **CATCH** and the push for more efficient fisheries control systems.

#### 3. SANTE – Food Safety, Animal & Plant Health

##### (i) Chemicals Industry Package

###### **Focus:**

- Impacts on food contact materials
- Alignment with REACH and pesticide regulations

##### (ii) Environmental Assessments & Permitting

###### **Focus:**

- Implications for agrifood processing facilities
- Streamlining environmental approvals (Source: Implementation Dialogues list)

##### (iii) Import Controls

###### **Focus:**

- Border control procedures for food and feed
- Administrative burden on competent authorities (Source: Implementation Dialogues list)
- These dialogues will help shape future simplification efforts in food safety, plant health, and veterinary controls.

#### Why This Matters

##### **Implementation Dialogues are designed to:**

- Identify what works and what doesn't in EU rules
- Reduce administrative burden for operators and authorities
- Improve enforcement and policy outcomes
- Ensure stakeholder voices directly inform Commission action (Source: Implementation Dialogues objectives)

### References

- 1 [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg\\_impl/2025/1879/oj](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2025/1879/oj)
- 2 <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/7305>
- 3 <https://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/pesticides/eu-pesticides-database/start/screen/mrls/latest>
- 4 <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20251120IPR31498/eu-deforestation-law-parliament-supports-simplification-measures>
- 5 [https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/15273-Organic-production-targeted-updates-and-simplification\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/15273-Organic-production-targeted-updates-and-simplification_en)
- 6 [https://commission.europa.eu/law/law-making-process/better-regulation/simplification-and-implementation/implementation-dialogues-0\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/law/law-making-process/better-regulation/simplification-and-implementation/implementation-dialogues-0_en)

#### **Compiled and Edited by :**

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

**Ms Ridhima Shrivastava** - Trade Analyst

**Mr. Jochem Scholte** - Marketing Assistant