



Banned Pesticides and residues in food

Webinar 'Hazardous Pesticides and EU's double standards' hosted by MEP Eric Andrieu (S&D) and MEP Anja Hazekamp (GUE/NGL) and organised by PAN Europe and Public Eye

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Setting of MRLs

- Basic principle: MRLs are set following a comprehensive scientific assessment conducted by Member States and EFSA that have to demonstrate that the levels are safe for consumers
- Same data requirements and same stringency of assessment apply for MRLs set for domestic uses and for imports
- When an active substance is no-longer approved in the EU:
 - In case of human health concern (proven or potential due to lack of data): no MRL possible for imports
 - In case of environmental concern: MRL possible for imports (if the assessment by Member States and EFSA finds that consumers are fully protected)

New development: Green Deal and Farm to Fork Strategy announce that environmental concerns will be taken into account when MRLs are considered for imports

Placing on the market/export of PPP

- Regulation 1107/2009 applies only to marketing and use within the EU – Production of active substances or PPP intended solely for export do not require authorisation (Art. 29 (2) d of the PPP Regulation)
- Exports of no-longer approved active substances and PPP containing them are subject to Regulation (EU) 649/2012 concerning the export and import of hazardous chemicals - export only possible with written explicit consent of the importing country
- An ban of exports from the EU of PPP containing no-longer approved substances will not ensure that use of the substances ceases in 3rd countries and that no residues occur in food imports - 3rd countries can source the substances elsewhere
- Only refusal of MRLs and/or convincing 3rd countries not to use such substances anymore will achieve this – as intended by the F2F Strategy

Thank you

For further information :

Commission website:

https://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/pesticides/max_residue_levels_en

ECHA website

<https://echa.europa.eu/regulations/prior-informed-consent/legislation>

Rotterdam Convention website :

<http://www.pic.int/>

