



Christian Ege – christian@rgo.dk

Case nr. 2025 - 4718

Date September 3rd 2025

Dear Christian Ege, Martin Dermine, and undersigned organizations,

Thank you for your letter about decisive European actions on critical pesticide-related issues. Due to Denmark holding the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, our job is to build a majority in the Council and drive initiatives towards effective compromises. That said, Danish priorities are pointed towards a green and competitive Europe, and also during the Presidency, this will be reflected in our work.

The issues on PFAS pesticides and TriFluoroacetic Acid (TFA) are topics where we are currently getting new scientific knowledge from a Danish scientific project. This has led to the withdrawal of 25 pesticides, due to a potential formation of TFA, while 8 remaining products are still being reassessed. This has been shared with the European Commission, in order to ensure that the knowledge of TFA formation is being considered in relation to the regulation of the relevant active substances.

As part of the Vision on Future Farming and Food, we are expecting a European Commission proposal on speeding up approval and access to market for biopesticides. There is great potential for the use of biopesticides in agriculture to maintain high food safety without compromising the protection of the environment and human health. I am therefore looking forward to the proposal and to taking a constructive dialogue with the Council on the matter.

Imported food from third countries has to comply with the established maximum residue level. The maximum residue levels are always set as low as possible according to Good Agricultural Practice (GAP). In all cases the maximum residue levels are evaluated by European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) including maximum residue levels based on import tolerances. Only maximum residue levels safe for the European consumer are implemented in the European regulation. Furthermore, the Council awaits an impact assessment from the European Commission to clarify the consequences of harmonized use of pesticides in both EU and non-EU countries.

We are currently following the communication from the European Commission on the matter of a ban on EU export of banned hazardous chemicals, as they finalize

their study. When this is published we will carefully consider which further actions can be taken by the Council.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Magnus Heunicke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and a long, sweeping underline.

Magnus Heunicke