

news



**Pesticide
Action
Network**
Europe

December
2025

Dear reader,

The pesticide law is under attack. The EU Commission is currently discussing measures to deregulate pesticides. They have not decided on the proposal, so send them a message with our easy tool. See below. A coalition of leading scientists asks the Commission to move in the other direction: improve the implementation of the regulation and close the loopholes. And a new study from the German Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research uncovers that very small amounts of commonly used pesticides can significantly change how bees and fish behave. Our latest study reveals high levels of TFA - the small PFAS - in everyday cereal products across Europe. This is another huge gap in the regulation. We also won another major court case. The EU Court limited the possibilities for the European Commission to extend pesticide approvals. We also won in the Belgian court: 3 prolongations of pesticides in Belgium were cancelled.

The PAN Europe Team

News from the team



'Food and feed safety omnibus' threatens pesticide rules

Do you want healthy food for you and your children? Do you care about biodiversity and clean water? Beware! The European Commission is currently proposing a series of measures to massively deregulate pesticides. On December 16, the EU Commission is supposed to present the final plan. Next, it will be discussed with the EU Member States and the Parliament. Help and tell the EU Commissioner from your country to block these changes and change the focus to ban harmful pesticides. [Read more](#) and [Sign here](#).

We need your help - Support us

EU Commission proposes unlimited pesticide approvals

A draft Omnibus regulation on Food and Feed reveals that the European Commission's DG SANTE is attempting to deregulate all chemical pesticides. This comes under the guise of "simplification", intended to facilitate easy access to the market for safer bio-pesticides. The proposal would grant indefinite EU approval of most pesticide active substances, while removing the obligation for Member States to consider the most recent independent scientific evidence during national pesticide product authorisations. [Read more](#).

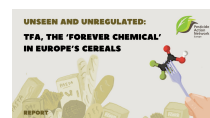


Leading scientists call for better protection against pesticides

A coalition of leading scientists from many countries call on the EU Commission to improve the protection of the environment, biodiversity and citizens' health against harmful pesticides. The scientists ask the Commission to drop the idea to weaken the pesticide regulation and improve the implementation of the current regulation and close the loopholes instead. [Read more](#).

High levels of TFA in everyday cereal products all across Europe

A new PAN Europe study reveals high levels of the "forever chemical" trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) in bread, breakfast cereals and some popular sweets. Recently, it was discovered that TFA can cause harm to reproduction and development. Average concentrations are 107 times higher than those in tap water and food and water combined expose us to the substance. [Read more](#).



EU Court limits the possibilities for the Commission to extend pesticide approvals

The European Commission has to stop the systematic and automatic extensions of pesticide approvals in case of delays in the re-assessment process. This was clarified by the EU Court of Justice today in a case started by PAN Europe. The ruling should end the practice of prolonging a pesticide permit year after year without evaluation of risks to health and the environment. [Read more](#).

Citizens deliver banned EU pesticides back to Brussels

Civil society groups from around the world have come together today to denounce the European Union's toxic double standards. In a symbolic action in front of the European Commission in Brussels, campaigners returned 75 boxes - one for each pesticide active substance banned for use in the EU but still massively exported abroad. [Read more](#).



Protect soils against pesticides

Soils are the foundation of our subsistence, and host an incredible amount of biodiversity and essential functions. However, up to 70% of EU soils are unhealthy and progressively degraded by many factors. Pesticides are one of the major causes: they kill soil life and pollute our soils, water, crops, air, wider environment and food. On World Soil Day we highlighted the need to protect our soils from pesticides. [Read more](#).

News from our members and partners

Belgian court cancels 3 illegal prolongations of pesticides in Belgium

The Belgian Council of State ruled illegal three authorisations granted to abamectin-based pesticides. This insecticide is highly toxic to the environment and suspected of being genotoxic to humans. PAN Europe and two of its Belgian members, Nature et Progrès Belgium and Bond Beter Leefmilieu, had brought the case before the Council of State in 2024, following a 15-year extension by Belgium of these authorisations for uses outdoors and in tunnels of Acaramik, Vargas, and Safran. [Read more](#).



Pesticides change how bees and fish behave

A new study from the German Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ) uncovers something troubling: even very small amounts of commonly used pesticides can significantly change how bees and fish behave. And these behavioural shifts could ripple across entire ecosystems. The study concludes that relevant behavioural tests should be included in the regulatory risk assessment. [Read more](#)

Please support our work!

Our work to eliminate the use of toxic pesticides is more important than ever before! With your support, we can change policies and practices for the better protection of our health and environment.

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