



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Directorate E - Safety of the food chain  
E3 - Chemicals, contaminants, pesticides

Brussels, 20. 10. 2010  
SANCO E3/CD/km (2010) *Ares 721053*

**Subject: Presence of morpholine on fruit**

Dear Mr Rosseneu,

We would like to thank you for the information you provided concerning the use of morpholine, which we have assessed. In addition, we were in close contact on this issue with the FSA (Food Standards Agency, UK).

In DG SANCO's view morpholine is regarded as a carrier in waxes and is as such not authorised according to Regulation (EC) 1333/2008 and Directive 95/2/EC. Imports of fruits into the EU, of which the surface is treated with waxes, can only be allowed, if authorised carriers and waxes have been used. Nevertheless the European Commission, having taken into account the position of the Food Standards Agency (UK), is proposing a period of tolerance for the import of fruits coming from third countries treated with morpholine containing waxes, if the peels are not expected to be consumed, and no migration of morpholine into the edible part can be expected (i.e. citrus fruits, pineapples). This proposal is going to be discussed in the next meeting of the Working Group of Governmental Experts on Food Additives scheduled for the 3 November 2010.

We would appreciate if Freshfel could confirm whether a transitional period of 1 month (until 19 November 2010) is sufficient for suppliers in third countries to change the processes in order to comply with the EU legislation.

We would be grateful, if we could receive a reply from you before the next meeting of the Working Group of Governmental Experts on Food Additives of the 3 November 2010.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Flüh  
Head of Unit

Mr F. Rosseneu  
FRESHFEL EUROPE  
European Fresh Produce Association A.I.S.B.L.  
Avenue de Broqueville 272 bte 4  
1200 Brussels • Belgium