



12 December 2012

Revision Maximum Residue Levels of DPA (Diphenylamine)

Dear member,

The WAPA secretariat wishes to inform you on the latest developments regarding the present status of the active substance Diphenylamine (DPA) in the EU, in particular the revision of the maximum residue levels.

With regard to the MRL, the EU Commission presented a proposal to review the DPA MRLs during last week's meeting of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain (including all Member States) – section pesticide residues. The proposal provided for a revision of the MRL to 0,05 ppm for both apples and pears. In this light, the WAPA secretariat and several members have warned the Commission services and Member States that such levels may entail difficulties given historical contamination of packing stations and bins which may lead to residue levels above 0,05 ppm even when not using DPA. Following last minute pressure from several third countries along with additional data demonstrating the scope of cross-contamination, the EU Commission decided to postpone the decision to the next meeting (25-26 February 2013) allowing further internal consultation and with the concerned third countries.

Considering the adoption procedure (including parliamentary scrutiny period of 3 months) and a standard transition period of 6 months, we consider it unlikely that the 2013 Southern Hemisphere season would be affected. Indeed any change is now most likely to apply as of November-December 2013.

Developments will be continue to be closely monitored by the WAPA-secretariat in order to ensure that any cross-contamination is properly covered by the future MRLs.

Yours sincerely,

Frédéric Rosseneu
Food Safety Adviser