

File No. Std/SP-02/Technical Matter/2021-22 [E- 4311]
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Science and Standards Division
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-11000


Dated 8th April, 2024

ORDER

Subject: Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for Spices and Culinary Herbs- reg.

Reference is invited to FSSAI orders dated 21st April, 2022 and 30th August, 2022 regarding the methodology for fixing the Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) of Pesticides in respect of spices and culinary herbs. Various representations were received regarding the reconsideration and simplification of orders. Based on the scientific opinion and with the approval of Food Authority the following revised methodology has been decided: -

- a) The MRLs of pesticides for food commodities including spices and culinary Herbs are specified under Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulation, 2011. These MRLs are fixed based on the field trial data received through Central Insecticides Board and Registration Committee (CIB&RC), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. Until the field trial data is available, the MRLs for spices are also fixed based on the data generated under Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at National Level (MPRNL) scheme, by Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
 - b) In cases the pesticide is registered with CIB&RC and MRLs are specified for food commodities other than spices and culinary herbs, then the MRLs specified under Codex shall be applicable. Further, if the MRLs are not specified by the Codex, then the MRL of 0.1 mg/kg shall apply for spices and culinary herbs.
 - c) In case the pesticide is not registered with CIB&RC and then the MRL of 0.1 mg/kg will be applicable for spices and culinary herbs.
2. This order will supersede the orders dated 21st April, 2022 and 30th August, 2022.
 3. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.


(Dr. Amit Sharma)
Director (Science and Standards)

To

1. ED ((Regulatory Compliance, TICD, Regional Office)) with a request to communicate to Food Safety Commissioners of all States/UTs
2. Advisor (QA)- with a request to communicate all notified laboratories.
3. Director (RCD)/Director QA/ Director (Legal)
4. Director (TICD)-with a request to communicate to all Authorized Officers
5. All Regional Directors, FSSAI
6. CITO- for uploading on FSSAI website

Copy to:

1. PPS to Chairperson, FSSAI,
2. SPS to CEO, FSSAI
3. PS to Advisor (S&S)

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Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
(Science and Standards Division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotal Road, New Delhi- 110002

Email : advisor@fssai.gov.in

Phone no.: 011-23217833

Dated 30th August, 2022

ORDER

Subject: Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for Spices and Culinary Herbs- reg.

This is in continuation of the order dated 24th April, 2022 (Annexed) related to subject above.

2. In India, in case of Spices and Culinary Herbs, MRLs are not specified for most of the pesticides due to lack of filed trial data as endorsed by CIB & RC.
3. Considering the importance of the issue, the principle mentioned in the order 24th April, 2022 for specifying the MRL of pesticides is hereby extended to domestically produced Spices and Culinary Herbs with the following modifications -
 - i. In case of pesticides registered with CIB&RC (and MRLs fixed by FSSAI) for other commodities and MRLs are specified by Codex/EU/USA/Japan/FSANZ for any of these registered pesticides in case of spices & culinary herbs, the MRL fixed by Codex/EU/USA/Japan/FSANZ will apply.
 - ii. In case of those pesticides not registered with CIB&RC, even if MRLs are fixed for specific spice or culinary herbs as per Codex/EU/USA/Japan/FSANZ, the default MRL of 0.01 mg per Kg [or Below Detection Limit (BDL)] shall apply.
4. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

Bhaskar N
Advisor (Science and Standards)

To

1. ED(CS) with a request to communicate to Food Safety Commissioners of all States/UTs
2. Advisor (QA)- with a request to communicate all notified laboratories.
3. Head (RCD)/Head (Regulations)/ Head (Legal)
4. Director (TICD)-with a request to communicate to all Authorized Officers
5. All Regional Directors, FSSAI

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Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110 002

21st April, 2022

ORDER

Subject: Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for Spices and Culinary Herbs- reg.

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India fixes the MRLs of pesticides on different food commodities based on the field trial data submitted by pesticide manufactures received through Central Insecticides Board and Registration Committee (CIB & RC), Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine & Storage, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. These MRLs are notified under Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulation, 2011.

2. In India, in case of Spices and Culinary Herbs, MRLs are not specified for most of the pesticides due to lack of filed trial data. However, globally many regulators have specified MRLs of pesticides for these food commodities.
3. Considering the importance of the issue and based on the Scientific Opinion, it has been decided that in case of spices & culinary herbs the MRLs specified by Codex would be adopted till such time MRLs are specified for these commodities based on the field trial data. Further, in the absence of Codex MRLs, MRLs specified by the regulatory authorities of the exporting countries shall be considered for compliance.
4. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.


Bhaskar N

Advisor (Science and Standards)

To

1. ED(CS) with a request to communicate to Food Safety Commissioners of all States/UTs
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