Basic information

2021/2608(RPS)

RPS - Implementing acts

Procedure completed

Resolution on the draft Commission regulation amending Annexes II, III and IV to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 as regards maximum residue levels for acequinocyl, acibenzolar-S-methyl, Bacillus subtilis strain IAB /BS03, emamectin, flonicamid, flutolanil, fosetyl, imazamox and oxathiapiprolin in or on certain products

Subject

3.10.10 Foodstuffs, foodstuffs legislation 4.60.04.04 Food safety

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
ENVI Environment, Climate and Food Safety	RIVASI Michèle (Greens /EFA)	07/04/2021
	Shadow rapporteur SCHNEIDER Christine (EPP) HUITEMA Jan (Renew)	

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
18/03/2021	Non-legislative basic document published	D063854/04	
24/03/2021	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
27/04/2021	Decision by Parliament	T9-0133/2021	Summary
27/04/2021	Results of vote in Parliament	E	
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Technical information		
Procedure reference	2021/2608(RPS)	
Procedure type	RPS - Implementing acts	
Procedure subtype	Comitology with scrutiny	
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed	
Committee dossier	ENVI/9/05666	

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Motion for a resolution		B9-0222/2021	26/04/2021	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0133/2021	27/04/2021	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	D063854/04	18/03/2021	
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2021)414	18/08/2021	

Resolution on the draft Commission regulation amending Annexes II, III and IV to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 as regards maximum residue levels for acequinocyl, acibenzolar-S-methyl, Bacillus subtilis strain IAB/BS03, emamectin, flonicamid, flutolanil, fosetyl, imazamox and oxathiapiprolin in or on certain products

2021/2608(RPS) - 27/04/2021 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 366 votes to 305, with 27 abstentions, a resolution *objecting* to the draft Commission regulation amending Annexes II, III and IV to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for acequinocyl, acibenzolar-S-methyl, Bacillus subtilis strain IAB/BS03, emamectin, flonicamid, flutolanil, fosetyl, imazamox and oxathiapiprolin in or on certain products.

To recall, flonicamid is a selective, systemic insecticide that acts by disrupting insect feeding, movement, and other behaviours, resulting in starvation and dehydration followed by death. The approval period of flonicamid as an active substance has been extended by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2069.

Under the draft Commission regulation, the MRLs for flonicamid would increase from 0.03 mg/kg, which corresponds to the current limit of detection, to 0.7 mg/kg for strawberries, to 1 mg/kg for blackberries and raspberries, to 0.7 mg/kg for rose hips, mulberries, azaroles/Mediterranean medlars, elderberries, and other small fruits and berries, to 0.8 mg/kg for blueberries, cranberries, currants, gooseberries, to 0.3 mg/kg for other root and tuber vegetables generally, but to 0.6 mg/kg for radishes, to 0.07 mg/kg for lettuces and salad plants, and to 0.8 mg/kg for pulses.

Against this background, Parliament opposed the adoption of the draft Commission regulation considering it as incompatible with the aim and content of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. It acknowledged that EFSA is working on methods to assess cumulative risks, but also noted that the problem of the assessment of cumulative effects of pesticides and residues has been known for decades. Parliament requested EFSA and the Commission to address the problem as a matter of absolute urgency.

The resolution suggested that the MRLs for flonicamid should remain at 0.03 mg/kg.

The Commission is called on to withdraw the draft regulation and submit a new one to the committee, respecting the precautionary principle.