Procedure file

Basic information

RPS - Implementing acts	2021/2608(RPS)	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, Public Health and Food Safety	RIVASI Michèle	07/04/2021
		Shadow rapporteur	
		SCHNEIDER Christine	
		HUITEMA Jan	

Key events

18/03/2021	Non-legislative basic document published	D063854/04	
24/03/2021	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
13/04/2021	Decision by committee, without report		
27/04/2021	Results of vote in Parliament		
27/04/2021	Decision by Parliament	T9-0133/2021	Summary

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					
Non-legislative basic document		D063854/04	18/03/2021	EC	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0222/2021	26/04/2021	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0133/2021	27/04/2021	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2021)414	18/08/2021	EC	

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

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.