Maximum levels for pesticide residues (amend. direct. 76/895/EEC, 86/362/EEC, 86/363/EEC, 90/462/EEC)

1995/0154(CNS) - 19/06/1995 - Legislative proposal

The proposal for a directive aimed to improve the current conditions for fixing the maximum levels for pesticide residues laid down in Directives 76/895/EEC, 86/362/EEC, 86/363/EEC and 90/642/EEC, with a view to increase the ability of the Community to deal with the increased tasks it would face in the future. The Commission proposed including the following amendments in its current legislation: - Extension of the scope of the directive to include dried and/or processed single agricultural products and processed products; - Introduction of appropriate arrangements for establishing maximum residue levels throughout the Community in accordance with Directive 91/414/EEC: this Directive stipulated that the Commission should fix the maximum levels for residues - within three months of notification by a Member State - taking into account good agricultural practice followed in only one or several Member States and the toxicological data available for the assessment of the active substance with a view to including it in Annex I to Directive 91/414/EEC; - Introduction of procedures to be followed in cases where barriers to intra-Community trade were detected or had appeared due to the absence of harmonised maximum residue levels for certain pesticide/product combinations; - Greater harmonisation of measures to monitor pesticides in and on foodstuffs; - Alignment of the three main directives by updating the provisions concerning exemptions and exports to third countries, the safeguard clauses, and the regulatory committee procedure; - Introduction of a regulatory committee procedure for decisions on certain measures such as the adoption of amendments to the annexes, the adoption of temporary maximum residue levels, and the establishment of dilution or concentration factors relating to certain drying or processing operations; - Measures guaranteeing rapid transposition by the Member States of the amendments to the annexes; - Compatibility of the action proposed with the principle of subsidiarity.