Basic information

1995/0154(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Directive	Procedure completed
Maximum levels for pesticide residues (amend. direct. 76/895/EEC, 86/362/EEC, 86/363/EEC, 90/462/EEC) **Subject** 3.10.09.02 Plant health legislation	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	BREYER Hiltrud (V)	26/07/1995

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	REDONDO JIMÉNEZ Encarnación (PPE)	19/07/1995
JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights	SCHAFFNER Anne-Marie (UPE)	24/01/1996

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Agriculture and Fisheries	1889	1995-11-29
Agriculture and Fisheries	2018	1997-06-25
Agriculture and Fisheries	2006	1997-05-20

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
07/10/1994	Additional information		Summary
19/06/1995	Legislative proposal published	COM(1995)0272	Summary
14/07/1995	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
29/11/1995	Debate in Council		Summary
15/07/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
15/07/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0251/1996	

17/09/1996	Debate in Parliament		
31/01/1997	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1997)0021	Summary
20/05/1997	Debate in Council		
25/06/1997	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
25/06/1997	End of procedure in Parliament		
12/07/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1995/0154(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Directive
Legal basis	EC Treaty (before Amsterdam) E 043
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ENVI/4/06919

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0251/1996 OJ C 277 23.09.1996, p. 0004	15/07/1996	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0461/1996 OJ C 320 28.10.1996, p. 0066-0086	18/09/1996	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1995)0272 OJ C 201 05.08.1995, p. 0008	19/06/1995	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1997)0021 OJ C 103 02.04.1997, p. 0020	31/01/1997	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES1447/1995 OJ C 082 19.03.1996, p. 0001	20/12/1995	Summary

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
Directive 1997/0041 OJ L 184 12.07.1997, p. 0033-0049	Summary

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

1995/0154(CNS) - 18/09/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

Parliament adopted the report by Mrs Hiltrud BREYER (Greens, D) on the proposal for a Council Directive amending four existing directives relating to the fixing of maximum levels for pesticide residues in and on fruit and vegetables, cereals, foodstuffs of animal origin, and certain products of plant origin. In its amendments Parliament asked for the legal basis of the proposal to be Article 100a of the EC Treaty and not Article 43, as proposed by the Commission. It also hoped that, in the case of foodstuffs, the maximum level of pesticide residues would not exceed 0.05 mg/kg.

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

1995/0154(CNS) - 31/01/1997 - Modified legislative proposal

The Commission's amended proposal incorporated, in whole or in part, 15 amendments adopted by the European Parliament.

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

1995/0154(CNS) - 25/06/1997 - Final act

OBJECTIVE: to improve current conditions for fixing the maximum levels for pesticide residues on and in fruit and vegetables, cereals, foodstuffs of animal origin and certain products of plant origin, including fruits and vegetables. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Directive 97/41/EC amending directives 76/895/EEC, 86/362/EEC, 86/363/EEC and 90/642/EEC. CONTENT: the Council, acting by a qualified majority, with the German delegation voting against, adopted the directive amending current Community legislation relating to the fixing of maximum levels for pesticide residues in numerous categories of foodstuffs. The directive seeks to: - extend the field of application of current regulations to dried, processed products etc.; - introduce a fast-track procedure for solving conflicts in the event of difficulties in intra-Community trade due a lack of harmonized maximum levels of residues; - introduce a coordinated Community monitoring programme; - introduce recourse to the regulatory committee rather than the Council procedure in order to fix harmonized maximum levels. DEADLINE FOR TRANSPOSITION: 31 December 1998. -

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

1995/0154(CNS) - 29/11/1995

Pending delivery of the European Parliament’s opinion, the Council took note of the proceedings on the proposal for a directive amending present Community legislation fixing the maximum levels for pesticide residues in numerous categories of foodstuffs (fruit and vegetables, cereals, foodstuffs of animal origin, etc.). It noted that the Permanent Representatives Committee had made significant progress on the basis of a compromise drawn up by the Presidency and it instructed Coreper to continue its proceedings so that the Directive could be adopted at the earliest opportunity.

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.

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

1995/0154(CNS) - 20/12/1995 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

The Council's procedure for adopting maximum residue levels is highly inflexible and clearly hinders the application of the Directives on the fixing of maximum pesticide residue levels. Crop diversification is indirectly being held back. The largest crops, or the most widespread throughout the EU, have MRLs for virtually all the pesticides covered, while smaller-scale crops, which might in the future provide an answer to the problems of farming in small districts, may well be left without means of controlling pests, since there is no private research into the appropriate pesticides. The ESC endorses the Commission's amendments to the Directives in question, but would make a number of comments: - In the ESC's view, the Commission's extension of the Directive to dried, processed and composite products is of benefit to consumers. - The application of MRLs to products for export to third countries is also a positive step. The Committee considers it would be most appropriate for Community MRLs to be set under a III-b type Regulatory Committee procedure, thereby ensuring an adequate degree of control over Commission action. The Commission should be urged to prepare, as soon as possible, correcting mechanisms for the calculation of MRLs for processed and composite products. Similarly, such products must be covered by procedures for the resolution of conflicts (protecting Treaty Articles 30 to 36) and for monitoring. An international pesticide information exchange office should be set up.