

駐歐盟兼駐比利時代表處經濟組 函

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受文者：衛生福利部食品藥物管理署

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主旨：有關歐方在第三國輸入歐盟之食品與飼料中偵測到環氧乙烷(ethylene oxide)超標事，請查照。

說明：

- 一、依據歐盟執委會衛生暨食品安全總署(DG SANTE) 食物永續及國際關係司司長Nathalie CHAZE 110年8月16日致第三國駐比京使館信函(如附件)辦理。
- 二、歐方前揭來函內容略以：
 - (一)歐盟在自第三國進口之食品及原料中偵測到含有環氧乙烷高於歐盟訂立之定量極限(limit of quantification)情事與日俱增，且目前歐盟境內之主管機關及食品業者均已注及該情形。
 - (二)歐盟未核准在食品或飼料中使用環氧乙烷，且該物質之最大殘留容許量(MRL)在歐盟法下係設於所有產品分析方法之定量極限，並反映技術零檢出(technical zero)之標準。供人食用之產品中任何超出前述MRL之情事，均可視為對人類健康有害。
 - (三)歐方爰盼第三國能提醒食品及飼料公協會及業者(包含農民、製造商、食品加工業者及出口商)，勿將環氧乙烷用於擬輸銷歐盟之產品，且第三國出口至歐盟之食品或飼料不應含有超出前述定量極限值之環氧乙烷。



正本：行政院農業委員會畜牧處、衛生福利部食品藥物管理署
副本：行政院農業委員會國際處、經濟部國際貿易局

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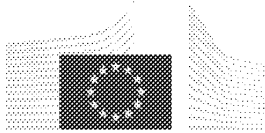
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EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY
Food sustainability, international relations
The Director

Brussels
SANTE.DDG2.D.3/SC/mh(2021)5649845

To all Third countries' Embassies based in Brussels

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Exceedance of levels of ethylene oxide above the EU MRL detected in commodities from third countries

I would like to draw your attention to serious incidents arising from the detection in the European Union (EU) of residues of ethylene oxide (ETO) above its limit of quantification, in food commodities and ingredients imported from third countries.

Ethylene oxide is not approved for use on food or feed products in the EU, as it is classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic, and toxic to reproduction category 1B, in accordance with the EU legislation on classification and labelling of chemicals¹. Thus, no safe level of residues can be established. This is also reflected in the EU Pesticides Database². Consequently, maximum residue levels (MRLs) for ETO have been set at the limit of quantification (LOQ) of the analytical method for all products, reflecting the technical zero level.



Any exceedance of this MRL in a product for human consumption is considered to present a risk to human health.

I would appreciate it therefore if you could remind food or feed business associations; food and feed business operators, including farmers, producers, food processors, and exporters in your country that the substance must not be used on food or feed intended for export to the EU. Consignments of food or feed exported to the EU must not show any quantity of ETO above the relevant limit of quantification.



¹ <https://echa.europa.eu/de/substance-information/-/substanceinfo/100.000.773>

² https://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/pesticides/eu-pesticides-database/active-substances/?event=as.details&as_id=99

Third countries' Embassies

Commission européenne/Europese Commissie, 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel, BELGIQUE/BELGIË - Tel. +32 22991111

The attention of authorities and food business operators within the EU has also been drawn to this serious issue.

I look forward to maintaining our constructive cooperation, and remain at your disposal for any clarification you may have.

Yours faithfully,

Electronically signed

Nathalie CHAZE

c.c.: Cabinet of Commissioner S. Kyriakides, E. Thevenard (Unit G4),
K. Berend (Unit E4); F. Verstraete (Unit E2); K. Van Dyck and D3

