

**Question for written answer E-003053/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Inma Rodríguez-Piñero (S&D)

Subject: Harmonising maximum residue limits for fungicide tricyclazole in rice produced in the EU with rice imported from third countries

The maximum usage limit of fungicide tricyclazole in rice produced in the EU is currently 0.01 mg/kg. Under the Commission's proposal for a regulation amending annexes II and V to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and the Council on maximum residue limits (MRL) for tricyclazole, the MRL of this active substance will be increased to 0.09 mg/kg in rice imported from third countries.

The Commission presented this regulation on establishing an MRL for tricyclazole to the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed, where it was not approved due to a lack of consensus among Member States on the increase.

Given that the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has concluded that tricyclazole is not carcinogenic and that the new MRL of 0.09 mg/kg is safe for EU consumers:

1. Why is the Commission asserting that the MRL for tricyclazole should be 0.09 mg/kg in rice imported from third countries, yet 0.01 mg/kg in rice produced in the EU?
2. Will the Commission be proposing that the MRL for tricyclazole in rice produced in the EU should be increased to 0.09 mg/kg, harmonising it with the limit set for third countries?

Submitted: 16.10.2023