

Amendments to the APVMA MRL Standard

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) approves maximum residue limits (MRLs) of agricultural and veterinary chemicals in agricultural produce, particularly produce entering the food chain. The MRLs approved by the APVMA are associated with a regulatory decision to register a product, grant a permit approval, or as an outcome from a review decision and are set out in the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (MRL Standard for Residues of Chemical Products) Instrument 2023*. The *MRL Standard* lists MRLs of substances that may arise from the approved use of agricultural and veterinary chemical products containing those substances on commodities used for human consumption as well as livestock feeds. The *MRL Standard* also provides the relevant residue definitions to which these MRLs apply. There may be situations where the residue definition for monitoring and enforcement is different to the definition used for dietary risk assessment purposes.

MRLs are set at levels which are not likely to be exceeded if the agricultural or veterinary chemicals are used in accordance with approved label instructions. In considering MRLs and variation to MRLs, the APVMA takes into account studies on chemistry, metabolism, analytical methodology, residues, toxicology, good agricultural practice and dietary exposure. In approving MRLs, the APVMA is satisfied, from dietary exposure assessment, that the levels set are not an undue hazard to human health.

The APVMA has amended the *MRL Standard* and the changes will have affect the day after the instrument is registered.

Details of the amendment can be found in the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (MRL Standard for Residues of Chemical Products) Amendment Instrument (No. 3) 2025*.

The amendments will be incorporated into the compilation of the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (MRL Standard for Residues of Chemical Products) Instrument 2023*.

The MRL Standard is accessible via the [Federal Register of Legislation website](#).

For further information please contact:

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Proposal to amend Schedule 20 in the Australian New Zealand Food Standards Code

In the previous notice on page 18 of APVMA Gazette No. 16, the APVMA gazetted amendments which it has approved to vary maximum residue limits (MRLs) for substances contained in agricultural and veterinary chemical products as set out in the APVMA's MRL Standard.

Under section 82 of the *Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act 1991*, the APVMA is proposing to incorporate those variations (Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code (*MRL Standard*) Amendment Instrument 2025 (No. 3)) to MRLs into Schedule 20 – Maximum residue limits in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.

MRLs contained in Schedule 20 provide the limits for residues of agricultural and veterinary chemicals that may legitimately occur in foods. By this means Schedule 20 permits the sale of treated foods and protects public health and safety by minimising residues in foods consistent with the effective control of pests and diseases.

The APVMA and Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) are satisfied, based on dietary exposure assessments and current health standards, that the proposed limits are not harmful to public health.

The agreement between the Australian Government and the New Zealand Government concerning a Joint Food Standards System excludes MRLs for agricultural and veterinary chemicals in food from the system setting joint food standards. Australia and New Zealand independently and separately develop MRLs for agricultural and veterinary chemicals in food.

A Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) notification to the World Trade Organization (WTO) will be made.

The APVMA invites comment on these proposals. Details on how to make a submission appear near the end of this notice, below the details of the proposed amendment.

The APVMA will consider any public comments made in response to this proposal. If the APVMA decides to proceed with the proposal, it will further notify any variations it makes to Schedule 20 in the APVMA Gazette. The variations will take effect as from the date of that subsequent notice.

Proposed variation to Schedule 20 in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code

5 August 2025

Note: Subsection 82(2) of the *Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act 1991* provides that variations to standards are legislative instruments, but are not subject to disallowance or sunseting.

To commence: on gazettal of variation

Schedule 20 Maximum Residue Limits

[1] Section S20—3 (table entry for Agvet chemical: Afidopyropen)

Insert in alphabetical order:

Persimmon, Japanese	*0.01
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[2] Section S20—3 (table entry for Agvet chemical: Broflanilide)

Insert in alphabetical order:

Fruiting vegetables, other than cucurbits	T0.1
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[3] Section S20—3 (table entry for Agvet chemical: Difenoconazole)

Insert in alphabetical order:

Chestnuts	T0.05
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[4] Section S20—3 (table entry for Agvet chemical: Dithiocarbamates)

Omit the following food commodities and associated MRLs:

Beans [except broad bean and soya bean]	2
Broad bean (green pods and immature seeds)	2
Common bean (pods and/or immature seeds)	2
Peas (pods and succulent, immature seeds)	2

[5] Section S20—3 (table entry for Agvet chemical: Dithiocarbamates)

Insert in alphabetical order:

Legume vegetables	2
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[6] Section S20—3 (table entry for Agvet chemical: Emamectin)

Insert in alphabetical order:

Ginger, root	T*0.01
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[7] Section S20—3 (table entry for Agvet chemical: Imazamox)

Omit the following food commodities and associated MRLs:

Peas (dry)	0.05
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[8] Section S20—3 (table entry for Agvet chemical: Imazamox)

Insert in alphabetical order:

Field pea (dry)	0.2
Peas (dry) [except field pea (dry)]	0.05

[9] Section S20—3 (table entry for Agvet chemical: Imazapyr)

Insert in alphabetical order:

Field pea (dry)	0.2
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[10] Section S20—3 (table entry for Agvet chemical: Linuron)

Omit the following food commodities and associated MRLs:

Vegetables [except celeriac; celery; leek; parsnip]	*0.05
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[11] Section S20—3 (table entry for Agvet chemical: Linuron)

Insert in alphabetical order:

Carrot	T0.1
Vegetables [except carrot; celeriac; celery; leek; parsnip]	*0.05

[12] Section S20—3 (table entry for Agvet chemical: Propachlor)

Omit the following food commodities and associated MRLs:

Leafy vegetables [except broccoli, Chinese (Gai lan); lettuce, head; lettuce, leaf; witloof chicory]	T1
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[13] Section S20—3 (table entry for Agvet chemical: Propachlor)

Insert in alphabetical order:

Cos lettuce	T0.2
Lettuce, head	T0.2
Leafy vegetables [except broccoli, Chinese (Gai lan); cos lettuce; lettuce, head; lettuce, leaf; witloof chicory]	T1

[14] Section S20—3 (table entry for Agvet chemical: Pyraclostrobin)

Omit the following food commodities and associated MRLs:

Tree nuts [except pistachio nut and walnut]	0.07
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[15] Section S20—3 (table entry for Agvet chemical: Pyraclostrobin)

Insert in alphabetical order:

Chestnuts	T1
Tree nuts [except chestnuts; pistachio nut; walnuts]	0.07

[16] Section S20—3 (table entry for Agvet chemical: Tetraniliprole)

Insert in alphabetical order:

Tuberous and corn vegetables	*0.01
Walnuts	T0.05

Invitation for submissions

Written submissions are invited from interested individuals and organisations to assist the APVMA in considering the proposal to vary Schedule 20 – Maximum residue limits in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.

Submissions should be strictly confined to relevant matters that the APVMA must consider (such as public health and safety) which are associated with the occurrence of the proposed residues in foods. Comments received outside these grounds will not be considered by the APVMA.

Claims made in submissions should be supported wherever possible by referencing or including relevant studies, research findings, trials and surveys. Technical information should be in sufficient detail to allow independent scientific assessment.

Submissions must be made in writing and should be clearly marked as a 'submission on the proposed amendment to Schedule 20' and quote the correct amendment number.

Deadline for public submissions

Submissions must be received by 2 September 2025 (28 days from date Gazette published). Submissions received after this deadline will only be considered by prior arrangement or if agreement for an extension has been given prior to this closing date. Agreement to an extension of time will only be given if extraordinary circumstances warrant an extension to the submission period.

Please note: submissions will be published on the APVMA's website, unless you have asked for the submission to remain confidential, or if the APVMA chooses at its discretion not to publish any submissions received (refer to the [public consultation coversheet](#)).

Please lodge your submission using the [public consultation coversheet](#), which provides options for how your submission will be published.

Note that all APVMA documents are subject to the access provisions of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and may be required to be released under that Act should a request for access be made.

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Privacy

For information on how the APVMA manages personal information when you make a submission, see our [Privacy Policy](#).