



5 February 2026

(26-0800)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1. **Notifying Member:** EUROPEAN UNION

If applicable, name of local government involved:

2. **Agency responsible:** European Commission, Health and Food Safety Directorate-General

3. **Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable):** Cereals (HS codes: 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1008), foodstuffs of animal origin (HS codes: 0201, 0202, 0203, 0204, 0205, 0206, 0207, 0208, 0209, 0210) and certain products of plant origin, including fruit and vegetables

4. **Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:**

All trading partners

Specific regions or countries:

5. **Title of the notified document:** Draft Commission Regulation amending Annexes II, III and V to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for benomyl, carbendazim and thiophanate-methyl in or on certain products (Text with EEA relevance). **Language(s):** English. **Number of pages:** 16

https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2026/SPS/EEC/26_00739_00_e.pdf

https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2026/SPS/EEC/26_00739_01_e.pdf

https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2026/SPS/EEC/26_00739_02_e.pdf

https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2026/SPS/EEC/26_00739_03_e.pdf

6. **Description of content:** The proposed draft Regulation concerns the lowering of existing MRLs for carbendazim and thiophanate-methyl in certain food commodities.

7. **Objective and rationale:** **food safety**, **animal health**, **plant protection**, **protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease**, **protect territory from other damage from pests**.

8. **Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:**

Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text): One Codex Maximum Residue Limit for thiophanate-methyl in almonds. CODEX MRLs LIST is available at <https://www.fao.org/faohq-who-codexalimentarius/codex-texts/dbs/pestres/pesticides/en/>.

World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):

International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):

None

Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?

Yes No

If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard: The European Food Safety Authority published a reasoned opinion on the existing MRLs for carbendazim and thiophanate-methyl. Based on the opinion, Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 should be amended following a risk analysis approach.

In addition, Codex revoked all CXLs for carbendazim (residue definition including thiophanate-methyl) in 2025.

The current EU policy is to align EU MRLs with CXLs if the following conditions are fulfilled: (i) that the European Union sets MRLs for the commodity under consideration; (ii) that the current EU MRL is lower than the CXL; and (iii) that the CXL is acceptable to the European Union with respect to its policy objective of ensuring a high level of consumer protection, including aspects on supporting data and extrapolations.

9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:

- Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 February 2005 on maximum residue levels of pesticides in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin and amending Council Directive 91/414/EEC:
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32005R0396>
- European Food Safety Authority; Updated reasoned opinion on the toxicological properties and maximum residue levels (MRLs) for the benzimidazole substances carbendazim and thiophanate-methyl. EFSA Journal. 2024;22:e8569:
<https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.2903/j.efsa.2024.8569>

(available in English)

10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): 1 July 2026

Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): 2 July 2026

11. Proposed date of entry into force: Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union, and apply three months thereafter.

Trade facilitating measure

12. Final date for comments: Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 6 April 2026

Agency or authority designated to handle comments: National Notification Authority, National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

European Commission
DG Health and Food Safety, Unit A4-Multilateral International Relations
Rue Froissart 101
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: +(32 2) 29 54263
E-mail: sps@ec.europa.eu

13. Text(s) available from: National Notification Authority, National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

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