

St. Kitts and Nevis Regulation Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) for Pesticides in Fresh Fruits and Vegetables and Animal Feed Regulation

Introduction

This regulation establishes the maximum residue levels (MRLs) for pesticides in fresh fruits and vegetables and animal feed to ensure the highest standards of food safety and public health. The regulation aims to protect consumers, particularly vulnerable groups such as children, from potential health risks associated with pesticide residues.

1 Scope

This regulation applies to all fresh fruits and vegetables and animal feed produced domestically or imported into St. Kitts and Nevis.

2 Terms and Definitions

2.1

animal feed

any single or multiple materials, whether processed, semi-processed, or raw, which are intended for consumption by animals

2.2

fresh fruits and vegetables

edible plant products that are consumed in their raw state or after minimal processing, including but not limited to mangoes, bananas, sweet potatoes, and lettuce

2.3

maximum residue limit (MRL)

the highest concentration of a veterinary drug residue legally permitted in food and feed products, expressed in mg/kg or µg/kg

2.4

pesticide residue

any specified substance in food, agricultural commodities, or animal feed resulting from the use of a pesticide

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NOTE This includes any derivatives such as degradation and conversion products, metabolites, reaction products, and impurities considered to be of toxicological significance.

3 Regulation

3.1 General MRL for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

3.1.1 No fresh fruit or vegetable shall have a pesticide residue limit exceeding 0.01 mg/kg (10 µg/kg).

3.2 Imported Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

3.2.1 All imported fresh fruits and vegetables shall comply with the same MRL of 0.01 mg/kg (10 µg/kg).

3.3 Animal Feed

3.3.1 Fresh fruits and vegetables used in animal feed shall also adhere to the MRL of 0.01 mg/kg (10 µg/kg).

3.4 Monitoring and Enforcement

3.4.1 Regular monitoring and testing of fresh fruits and vegetables shall be conducted to ensure compliance with the established MRLs.

3.4.2 Non-compliance with this regulation will result in appropriate enforcement actions, including but not limited to fines, product recalls, and import bans.

3.4.3 Non-compliant products shall be rejected, recalled, or subjected to other enforcement actions as deemed necessary.

3.5 Review and Update

3.5.1 The MRLs and related provisions shall be reviewed and updated periodically to reflect new scientific data, changes in international standards such as Codex, and advancements in veterinary medicine.