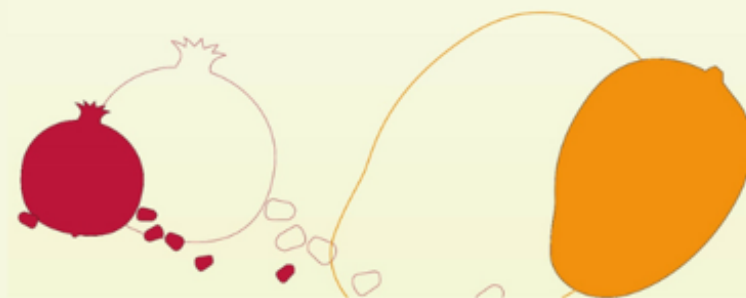


THE FRUITS AND VEGETABLES INDUSTRY SERIES

17 March 2026

Navigating EU policies, regulations
and standards impacting fruit and
vegetable value chains





OECD Working Party Pesticides



Crop Field Trials

- **Crop Field Trials** (also referred to as supervised field trials) are conducted to determine the magnitude of the pesticide residue in or on raw agricultural commodities, including feed items, and should be designed to reflect pesticide use patterns that lead to the highest possible residues. [Guidance Document on Crop Field Trials, First edition | OECD](#)
- Field trial data is used to set Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs)



OECD MRL Calculator

MRLs are set at the minimum levels expected when a plant protection product is used correctly, following Good Agricultural Practice

- [OECD MRL calculator](#) harmonises the calculation of MRLs across the OECD member countries
- It is made up of simple Excel spreadsheets that don't require extensive statistical knowledge from the user
- MRLs ensure that any residue present on food is below levels considered safe for people, including vulnerable groups.



Is there an alternative

Biological pesticides are pest management agents derived from natural sources. They are usually less toxic than conventional pesticides. They can be effective in small quantities or only affect a very narrow range of pests. The mode of action on the pest is often complex, reducing the risk of resistance development. They generally degrade quickly and are not persistent in the environment. When used as a component of integrated pest management (IPM) programmes, biological pesticides can reduce the use of conventional pesticides.



Accelerating the registration of Biopesticides

Manual on Concepts and Available Guidance for Microbial Pesticides: Index of resources from OECD and its member

OECD Data Point No.	Information, test or study for the OECD Data Point No.
8 Ecotoxicological Studies on the Microbial Pest Control Agent (Effects on non-target organisms)	
8 Ecotoxicological Studies on the Microbial Pest Control Agent (Effects on non-target organisms)	
8 Ecotoxicological Studies on the Microbial Pest Control Agent (Effects on non-target organisms)	
8 Ecotoxicological Studies on the Microbial Pest Control Agent (Effects on non-target organisms)	8.1 Effects on birds
8 Ecotoxicological Studies on the Microbial Pest Control Agent (Effects on non-target organisms)	8.1 Effects on birds
8 Ecotoxicological Studies on the Microbial Pest Control Agent (Effects on non-target organisms)	8.1 Effects on birds
8 Ecotoxicological Studies on the Microbial Pest Control Agent (Effects on non-target organisms)	8.1 Effects on birds
	8.10 Effects on soil micro-organisms
8 Ecotoxicological Studies on the Microbial Pest Control Agent (Effects on non-target organisms)	8.10 Effects on soil micro-organisms
8 Ecotoxicological Studies on the Microbial Pest Control Agent (Effects on non-target organisms)	8.10 Effects on soil micro-organisms
8 Ecotoxicological Studies on the Microbial Pest Control Agent (Effects on non-target organisms)	8.11 Other/special studies
8 Ecotoxicological Studies on the Microbial Pest Control Agent (Effects on non-target organisms)	8.2 Effects on fish
8 Ecotoxicological Studies on the Microbial Pest Control Agent (Effects on non-target organisms)	8.2 Effects on fish
8 Ecotoxicological Studies on the Microbial Pest Control Agent (Effects on non-target organisms)	8.2 Effects on fish
8 Ecotoxicological Studies on the Microbial Pest Control Agent (Effects on non-target organisms)	8.2 Effects on fish



Recent Publications

Expert Group Biopesticides

- OECD (2022), *Guidance Document for the Regulatory Framework for the Microorganism Group: **Bacteriophages***, Series on Pesticides and Biocides, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/706035c7-en>.
- OECD (2023), *Guidance document on **Baculoviruses** as plant protection products*, Series on Pesticides and Biocides, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/8f0dc501-en>.
- OECD (2020), ***Considerations for the Environmental Risk Assessment of the Application of Sprayed or Externally Applied ds-RNA-Based Pesticides***, Series on Pesticides and Biocides, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/576d9ebb-en>.
- OECD (2023), *Considerations for the **Human Health Risk Assessment of Externally Applied dsRNA-Based Pesticides***, Series on Pesticides and Biocides, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/54852048-en>.

Expert Group Residue Chemistry

OECD (2025), *Test No 506: Stability of **Pesticide Residues in Stored Commodities***, OECD Guidelines for the Testing of Chemicals, Section 5, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264061927-en>.



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Thank you



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