



International Coffee Organization  
Organización Internacional del Café  
Organização Internacional do Café  
Organisation Internationale du Café

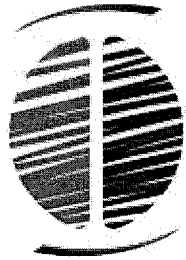
ED 1984/06

24 February 2006  
Original: English

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**EC Regulation on  
Maximum Residue Levels of pesticides**

1. The Executive Director presents his compliments and wishes to draw the attention of Members to the attached letter from the European Coffee Federation providing information on the European Commission regulation on Maximum Residue Levels of pesticides (MRLs) in food products, including coffee.
2. It should be noted that Annexes to this regulation containing listings of pesticides and associated MRLs should be published next month.
3. As previously indicated in document ED-1982/06 Members are requested to send the Executive Director information on the names of pesticides used, since substances for which MRLs are not set or do not fall under an exception will not be allowed.
4. Members will be informed of the listings of MRLs when published next month.



## European Coffee Federation

To : the ECF Council and Executive Committee      Amsterdam, 23 February 2006  
Cc : the ECF Technical & Regulatory Committee      06COUN012/ECF/RV/mj  
the ECF International Trade Committee  
the delegates of the ECF Transport Committee  
Mr. P. Dubois, International Coffee Organization

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### E-MAIL

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

### Re : Pesticide Residues

Please find annexed for your information Regulation 396/2005 on maximum residue levels of pesticides in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin, amending Council Directive 91/414/EEC. Other language versions can be found through this link: <http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/JOhtml.do?uri=OJ:L:2005:070:SOM:EN:HTML> (you will see the English text; at the top of the page you can click on the abbreviations for other languages).

This Regulation provides for the development of several annexes:

- Annex I, establishing the list of agricultural products to which harmonised MRLs shall apply. This annex should have been published three months after the entry into force of Regulation 396/2005, i.e. by 05.07.05. However, there was some delay and Annex 1 has only been published in February 2006.
- Annex II, listing the already harmonized EU MRLs (included under the existing EU Directives) for the products in Annex I, should be established within 12 months from the entry into force of the Regulation (i.e. by 06.04.2006).
- Annex III, establishing temporary MRLs (tMRLs) for the active substances which do not yet have an EU MRL, should be adopted within 12 months from the entry into force of the Regulation (i.e. by 06.04.2006).
- Annex IV, establishing a list of active substances for which no MRLs are required, should be adopted within 12 months from the entry into force of the Regulation (i.e. by 06.04.2006).

As mentioned above, Annex I has now been published. It is contained in Regulation 178/2006 of 1 February 2006 amending Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 (annexed). Please note the inclusion of coffee beans on page 15. Other language versions can be found through this link: <http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/JOHtml.do?uri=OJ:L:2006:029:SOM:EN:HTML>

For the practical effects the publication of the other annexes must be awaited. As we know from regular screening by a number of companies, it is very rare to find pesticide residues in green coffee exceeding existing MRLs. However, the major impact of the legislation will be on the HACCP systems through the inclusion and monitoring of additional Critical Control Points. Additionally, those active substances for which no MRL's are set or that do not fall under an exemption, will not be allowed. This means that if they are present above detection limit, the product will be refused entry into the EU.

We will of course keep you informed of developments.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roel Vaessen', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Roel Vaessen