

ROMANIA

1. SUMMARY OF RESULTS

During 2007 about 2480 samples of fruits, vegetables and cereals were analyzed in the national monitoring program, 53.9% of fruits and vegetables samples were from domestic market, 33.1% came from other EU MS, 10.7% from third countries and 2.3% with unknown origins. 91.2% of cereals samples were from domestic market, 0.6% came from other EU MS, 2.5% from third countries and 5.6% with unknown origins. Out of 2480 samples analysed there were sought 100 pesticide residues and 35 pesticide residues were found. Out of 2480 samples analyzed 413 contain pesticides residues. Among pesticides sought, the most frequent found are: chlorpyrifos, chlorpyrifos-methyl, imazalil, procimidon, carbendazim and endosulfan. From domestic samples, apples, grapes, strawberries and tomatoes present pesticides residues frequently. The non-domestic samples which have been found with pesticides residues are: oranges, grapes and tomatoes.

No MRL exceeding was found.

Following 4 notifications through Rapid Alert System there have been carried out sampling procedures and one noncompliance with the legislation was found.

In 2007 had been analyzed 315 samples of baby food. The levels of the pesticides for all the samples had been in the limits established by the legislation. In 2008 Ministry of Public Health (MPH) will enlarge the range of pesticide residues compounds analyzed as follows: from 23 in 2007 at 43 in 2008.

2. ORGANISATION OF MONITORING PROGRAMMES AND SAMPLING

Romanian Agriculture and Rural Development Ministry and National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority (NSVFSA) have the responsibility for national monitoring plan of pesticides residues in fruits, vegetables and cereals. Each competent authority draws up one independent annual plan for control pesticide residues in food of plant origin. Implementation of monitoring plans is performed by Agriculture and Rural Development Ministry through Central Laboratory for Pesticides Residues Control in Plants and Vegetable Products, which analyses the samples taken by Counties and Bucharest Phytosanitary Units and Food Safety Departments within Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety County Division.

National legislation is ensured by the Order of National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority president, ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, ministry of Public Health and of National Authority for Consumers Protection president no.12/173/286/1/124/2006, establishing maximum residues levels of pesticide residues in and on fruits, vegetables and cereals and other products of plant origin which transpose the following EC Directives: 76/895/EEC, 86/362/EEC, 86/363/EEC and 90/642/EEC with last amendments.

Samples are taken by phytosanitary inspectors, employers of Phytosanitary Units according to a sampling plan that has been foreseen in 2006 and inspectors involved in food safety field within Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety County Division according to annual surveillance program in the field of food safety. The sampling procedure is according to the EU Directive no. 2002/63/EEC which has been transposed in national legislation. The priorities of planning the programme of the NSVFSA are fresh commodities imported from third countries and intra-community trade, the place of sampling are warehouses of importers, frequency of sampling is minimum 12 samples/product.

Ministry of Public Health is responsible for baby food analysis and food for special nutritional purposes. Within the National Prophylaxis Program - Public Health Subprogram, MPH realizes monitoring and control of pesticide residues from processed cereal - based foods

and baby foods for infants and young children. There are involved 111 specialists in this activity, at county level. The sampling has been performed by the specialists from Counties Public Health Authorities, according to the working methodology elaborated by the Public Health Institute of Iasi. Sampling points are supermarkets. In 2007 all the samples analyzed complied with the legal provisions.

3.QUALITY ASSURANCE

Central Laboratory for Pesticides Residues Control in Plants and Vegetable Products is accredited to EN ISO/IEC 17025 for GC-MS multiresidues method for analysis of vegetable products since 16.01.2006 with accreditation number 387-L. The 2041 samples were analyzed by GC-MS MRM method. In 2007 by this method were detected 100 analytes, 90 samples were also analyzed by LC-MS/MS method. The laboratory took part to the proficiency test EUPT-FV 09 and reported the 18 pesticides added to the strawberries homogenate. In the final report of proficiency test the laboratory was placed in A category (laboratory code 131). The laboratory implemented EU Quality control procedures for pesticides analysis – Document Nr. SANCO/10232/2006- 24 march 2006. Analytical uncertainty is calculated for GC-MS accredited method according to „EA guidelines on the expression of uncertainty in quantitative testing”.

From the 7 regional laboratories (Bucharest, Calarasi, Iasi, Suceava, Timis, Galati, Dolj) of the National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority, 3 regional laboratories were accredited. The general strategy is detection as many pesticides as possible in one analyses by using Multi-Residue-Methods (MRMs). The extracts are analyzed by chromatographic separation and selective detection of residues. The detection methods are Gas Chromatography (GC) with Electron Capture Detection (ECD) and Gas Chromatography with Nitrogen Phosphorus Detection (NPD). The scope of the methods is to detect about 14 analytes. The validity of the analytical results is governed by a quality assurance system under ISO 17025 accreditation. The multi-residues methods are within scope the accreditation of the Laboratory. The central laboratory, has implemented the EU Guideline of Quality Control Procedure SANCO 10232/2006 and it had taken a FAPAS test.

Under the MPH there are 8 laboratories (4 regional labs in Bucharest, Iasi, Cluj Napoca and Targu Mures and 4 county laboratories in Prahova, Suceava, Buzau and Sibiu). Only one laboratory is accredited for pesticide residues analyses (Public Health Institute of Bucharest). The analyses of pesticide residues had been performed according to the analyse methods from currently Romanian Standards Analytical methods (SR EN 12393-1:2003, SR EN 12393-2:2003 and SR EN 12393-3:2003). Participation in proficiency test 2 laboratories in 2007. The implementation of DG SANCO document 2007/3131- Method validation and quality control procedures for pesticide residues in food and feed is on going. The implementation of procedure according to „ Guideline for analytical uncertainty” is on going.

NOTE: The sum of the percentage is equal to 100% for all laboratories participating from each competent authority involved in the monitoring exercise(table G).

4.OTHER INFORMATION

Common Order 387/251/2002 for approval of Norms regarding foods for special nutritional purposes which transposes the EU directives.

Government Decision No. 984/2005 regarding the penalties and sanctions for non compliance cases to the sanitary veterinary and food safety legislation.