

Pesticide Residue Control Results

“National summary report”

Country: *ROMANIA*

Year: *2012*

National competent authority/organisation:

National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

Ministry of Health

Web address where the national annual report is published:

www.ansvsa.ro, www.madr.ro

1. Objective and design of the national control programme

In Romania three Competent Authorities are involved in elaboration and implementation of National Control Programme for pesticides residues: National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority (NSVFSA), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and Ministry of Health (MH).

National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority (the coordinator) has the responsibility for preparing the National Multiannual Control Programme for pesticides residues in cooperation with the other two CAs. NSVFSA also has the responsibility for elaboration and implementation of its own National Programme for Surveillance and Control for food of plant and animal origin.

Implementation of National Programme for Surveillance and Control for food of plant and animal origin is performed by Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety County Divisions and BIPs.

The Programme specifies the samples of food of plant origin from Member States and third countries, the point of sampling, the active substances to be analyzed.

36 commodities have been included in monitoring programme on 2012 (34 in 2011)- olive oil and green tea.

The number of active substances has been increased from 145 (in 2011) to 150 - 5 pesticides (chlorfenapyr, trifluralin, mandipropamid, formetanate hydrochloride, fipronil) are validated and accredited from 2 matrix: olive oil and tea.

Romanian Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has the responsibility for national monitoring plan of pesticides residues in fruits, vegetables, cereals from domestic market. Implementation of monitoring plan is performed by Central Phytosanitary Laboratory - Laboratory for Pesticides Residues Control in Plants and Vegetable Products, which analyses the samples taken by Counties and Bucharest Phytosanitary Units.

In the monitoring programme of MARD for 2012, 1807 samples from 43 agricultural products were planned and 1772 samples were analyzed. The number of active substances has been increased from 137 (in 2011) to 179 .

Ministry of Health is responsible for food for special nutritional purposes.

MH realises monitoring and control of pesticide residues in food for special nutritional purposes within the National Program for monitoring of environmental and worklife determinants – Subprogram for public health protection by preventing diseases associated with food and nutrition risks factors.

Ministry of Health analysed 11 samples in 2012. All of them complied with the legislative provisions.

The following factors were considered in designing the national control plan:

- *Food commodities with high residues/non-compliance rate in previous monitoring years;*

All data from the last three years were compared and the products with high residues levels were selected to be analysed at a higher frequency: lettuce, spinach, table grapes and wine grapes. For products in which we frequently no found pesticide residues, the number of planned samples was reduced (watermelon, melons)

- *Origin of food*

Compared to 2010 and 2011, in 2012 the number of samples analysed for pesticide residues from domestic market has been increased (from 62% in 2010 to 70% in 2012) and the one from EEA has been reduced (from 15% in 2010 to 9,9% in 2012). For samples from Third Countries the number of samples has been increased (from 15% in 2010 to 20% in 2012)- as presented in the table below

Origin of samples	2010	2011	2012
	%	%	%
Domestic market	62	64	69
European Economic Area	15	17	9,9
Third Countries	15	18	21
Unknown	8	1	0,15

- *Sampling at different marketing levels:* farm gates, wholesaler, import activities, border inspection activities, farming, slaughtering,
- *Seasonal availability of food commodities,*
- *RASFF notifications*
- Food for the sensitive consumer groups, e.g. baby food;
- *Importance of the commodity in the country production;*

The selection of the products that were tested for pesticides residues determination is made taking into consideration the statistical data presented by National Institute of Statistics (*Production of the main agricultural products per inhabitant*). Thus a great number of samples were planned for cereals (wheat), fruits (apples, grapes) and vegetables (potatoes, tomatoes)

- *Food commodities not included in the EU coordinated programme*
- *The pesticides included in the EU coordinated programme*
- For the pesticides from the national control programmes, Romania considers for inclusion in this programme the following factors: use pattern of pesticides, cost of the analysis: multiple methods, capacity of laboratories.

2. Key findings, interpretation of the results and comparability with the previous year results

Compared to 2010 and 2011, in 2012 the number of samples with residues below MRL has been increased (from 83% in 2010 to 75% in 2011 to 74% in 2012) and the number of samples non compliant has been reduced (from 1,0% in 2011 to 0,9% in 2012) – as presented in the table below: The number of pesticides reported has been increased from 242 in 2011 to 268 in 2012. Pesticides were validated according to SANCO 12495/2011.

Samples	2010	2011	2012
Total	3551	3775	3367
Without residues	2953 (83%)	2815 (75%)	2497 (74%)
With residues below MRL	566 (16%)	924 (24%)	839 (25%)
Exceeding	32 (0,9%)	35 (1,0%)	31 (0,9%)
Non compliant	32 (0,9)	24 (1,0%)	31 (0,9%)

In 2012 a total number of 3367 samples were taken in order to check the MRL's compliance of pesticide residues in different crops. From these, 3038 samples there were sampled under surveillance strategy and 329 samples were under enforcement strategy. In 2012 were analyzed 22 organic samples

A number of 1342 samples were vegetables, 862 fruits and nuts, 204 cereals and 550 samples of animal origin.

From the total number of the 3038 surveillance samples that include fruit, vegetables, cereals, processed products (including baby food), animal products, 2339 were produced in Romania, 333 samples were produced in EU, and 361 samples were produced outside of the EU.

From the 3367 analysed samples 2497 (74%) were without pesticides residues findings, 839 (25%) had residues below MRL, 31 (0,9%) had residues exceeding MRL's and all were non-compliant. The most frequent pesticides detected in the analysed samples were (methidathion, imazalil, thiabendazole, chlorpyrifos, pyrimethamil); the highest concentration was for imazalil 21,200 mg/kg detect in grapefruit.

From the total number of samples, 417 foodstuffs samples had 2 or more findings. Below there are mentioned some products with different number of pesticide residues:

- grapefruit – 72 samples with a number of residues from 2 up to 5, 60 of them (83,33%) were originated from Turkey;
- lemons – 88 samples with a number of residues from 2 up to 5, 80 of them (90,90%) were originated from Turkey;
- apples – 29 samples a number of residues from 2 up to 7, 17 of them (58,62) were originated from Romania
- mandarins - 47 samples with a number of different residues from 2 up to 4, 42 of them (89,36%) were originated from Turkey;
- oranges – 23 samples with 2 to 5 residues, 11 of them (47,82%) were originated from Turkey,
- tomatoes – 30 samples with 2 to 5 residues, 21 of them (70%) were originated from Turkey,

All the data presented above will be taken into account in amending of the National Control Programme for pesticides residues during the next years.

3. Non-compliant samples: possible reasons and actions taken

In 2012, 0,7 % of the samples (32 samples in total) were found non-compliant with the EU MRL.

For 8 samples the lot was not released on market, and for 24 samples other measures were taken.

The following follow-up actions were taken in case of sample non compliant with the EC MRL (measurement uncertainty taken into consideration):

Number of non-compliant samples	Action taken	Note
8	<i>Lot not released on market</i>	<i>RO321-ANSVSA-30129, 31314, 31320, 31479-1, 31479-3, 31363, 31619, 30189</i>

17	<i>RASFF notification</i>	<i>RO321-ANSVSA-</i> 30018, 30030, 30037, 30073, 3015, 30173-1, 30173-5, 30622, 30646, 31322, 31444, 31476, 31484, 31493, 31496, 31502-1, 31504, 31348, 31357, 31385-7, 31390, 31419, 31425, 31573
7	<i>Warnings</i>	<i>RASFF ref:</i> 007/05.03.2012, ACD/28.05.2013 040/26.10.2012 041/26.10.2012 042/02.11.2012 043/06.11.2012 045/06.11.2012 AGJ/13.11.2012 047/09.11.2012 AGI/12.11.2012 AGH/09.11.2012 050/14.11.2012 049/13.11.2012 051/14.11.2012 048/13.11.2012 052/16.11.2012 055/22.11.2012

Product	Residue	Reason for MRL non compliance	Note
Grapefruit	Imazalil, Methidation	Other (please specify in the "Note" column)	GAP not respected
Grapes	Folpet, Procimidon	Other (please specify in the "Note" column)	GAP not respected
Pomegranate	Acetamiprid, Imazalil, Tau- Fluvalinate	Other (please specify in the "Note" column)	GAP not respected
Apples	Dimethoate	Other (please specify in the "Note" column)	GAP not respected

4. Quality assurance

Country code	Laboratory Name	Laboratory Code	Accreditation Date	Accreditation Body	Participation in proficiency tests or interlaboratory tests
RO	Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Laboratory Bucharest	RO321-ANSVSA	11/04/2007	RENAR-Bucharest, Romania	PT2012: FV14, C6, SM 04
RO	Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Laboratory Constanta	RO223-ANSVSA	24/05/2004	RENAR-Bucharest, Romania	AO07
RO	Laboratory for Control Pesticide Residues in Plants and Products Plants	RO_321_LCC RPPPV	16/01/2006-11/01/2010	RENAR-Bucharest, Romania	PT2012, C6, FV14, SM 04.
RO	Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Laboratory Cluj	RO113-ANSVSA	13/06/2013	RENAR-Bucharest, Romania	C4, T081
RO	Environmental and food chemistry and microbiology laboratory	MS-RO321-MS	LI 353/2011	RENAR-Bucharest, Romania	-
RO	Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Laboratory Calarasi	RO312-ANSVSA	11/28/2005	RENAR-Bucharest, Romania	AO07
RO	Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Laboratory Suceava	RO215-ANSVSA	05/03/2007	RENAR-Bucharest, Romania	PT2012, AO07
RO	Sanitary veterinary and food safety laboratory Iasi	RO213-ANSVSA	17/04/2006	RENAR-Bucharest, Romania	C6; FV14
RO	Institute of Hygiene and Veterinary Public Health	RO321-IISPV	01/04/2002	RENAR-Bucharest, Romania	AO07