

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: New Rules Propose to Halve Pesticide Use and Risk in the EU

Country: European Union

Post: Brussels USEU

Report Category: SP2 - Prevent or Resolve Barriers to Trade that Hinder U.S. Food and Agricultural Exports

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Report Highlights:

On June 22, 2022, the European Commission adopted its proposal for a new Regulation on the sustainable use of Plant Protection Products (SUR). The rules encourage reducing pesticides through integrated pest management and alternatives to chemical pesticides. The SUR is considered to be a crucial tool to achieving the targets outlined in the European Green Deal and the Farm to Fork Strategy as it puts forward legally binding pesticide reduction targets to reduce the use and risk of chemical pesticides by 50% by 2030. The proposal is part of the Commission's nature restoration package, which also includes a proposal to restore damaged ecosystems and bring nature back across Europe. The adopted act is open for feedback until August 22, 2022. The Commission will summarize all feedback and present it to the European Parliament and Council to include it into the legislative debate.

Introduction:

The proposal for a Regulation on the Sustainable Use of Pesticides (SUR) is a revision of the Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (SUD). It aims at addressing reducing pesticide use and potential risks to human health and the environment across Member States. This is in line with the ambitions under the Commission's European Green Deal and Farm to Fork Strategy (F2F) to reduce the use and risk of chemical pesticides. The F2F proposes two specific targets to reduce the use and risk of chemical pesticides and pesticides that are more hazardous by 50% by 2030.

Provisions of the SUR Proposal:

The proposal aims to reduce the risks from – and impacts of – pesticide use on human health and the environment by setting pesticide reduction targets and to promote the use of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and alternatives to chemical pesticides. It sets out requirements for the National Action Plans (NAPs), IPM, sales of plant protection products, training and certification of professional users, and pesticide application equipment, etc.

Reduction Targets for Chemical Plant Protection Products:

The Commission's approach to reduce the use and risk from pesticides by 50% is to set the EU's targets to which the Member States will contribute. The Commission suggests three options or scenarios to implement this, reaching from non-legally binding targets at the EU level to legally binding at both the EU and Member State level.

The Commission's preferred scenario is to prohibit the use of all chemical pesticides in sensitive areas. As for the reduction targets, the preferred option would be to have the 50% reduction targets become legally binding at the EU level, while Member States would set their own national reduction targets using established criteria.

Feedback to the Adopted Act:

The adopted act is now open for feedback for a minimum period of **8 weeks** until August 22, 2022. The European Commission will summarize all feedback and present it to the European Parliament and Council to include into the legislative debate.

U.S. Stakeholders who would like to comment can do so at the following page: [Pesticides – sustainable use \(updated EU rules\) \(europa.eu\)](#)

This webpage contains, in addition to the proposal and Annex, an extensive impact assessment report consisting of two parts as well as an opinion on the impact assessment and summary.

Attachments:

No Attachments.