



# EFSA in focus *PLANTS*

ISSUE 01 - AUG. 2008

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## Introduction

Welcome to the new EFSA newsletter, **EFSA in focus - Plants**.

This newsletter aims to keep you abreast of the latest developments from EFSA in plant health, plant protection products, the peer review of pesticides and their residues, GMOs, and the Europe-wide collection and analysis of food and feed data for exposure assessments.

This easy-to-read newsletter provides a comprehensive overview of all our activities related to your work.

- > Our **key topics** section is a snapshot of what we consider to be our most important recent work.
- > In each edition, **EFSA at work**, will provide a glimpse of what EFSA does in a given area.
- > We will also include reports of past **events** and announcements of forthcoming events.

> To encourage you to get involved with EFSA we will publish information on **public consultations, calls for data and contracts awarded**.

> To help you keep your finger on EFSA's pulse, the newsletter will list the latest **mandates and scientific opinions and other publications** published by our sector specific panels.

Please feel free to distribute this electronic newsletter to your colleagues. To subscribe, simply send your email details to [newsletter@efsa.europa.eu](mailto:newsletter@efsa.europa.eu). The newsletter will be published quarterly.

To help us improve and best cater to your needs, please send any feedback to [newsletter@efsa.europa.eu](mailto:newsletter@efsa.europa.eu).

EFSA in focus is a series of EFSA targeted newsletters. Other topics include Food and Animals. For news on EFSA's corporate activities, see our general newsletter 'EFSA News', and for news on how EFSA cooperates with Member States, see our 'Moving Together' newsletter.

## > Key topics

### 5 out of 15 citrus fruit pests and diseases could threaten growers in French overseas departments

The European Food Safety Authority has published scientific advice on citrus plant pests and concluded that some of the organisms examined could pose a risk to the French overseas departments of Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Martinique and Réunion.

Based on a review of the information provided by the French authorities and on additional scientific data, EFSA recommended that five of the 15 citrus pests and diseases evaluated should be added to the EU list of organisms harmful to plants and plant products. Of those five, the fungus *Ceratocystis fimbriata*, is considered, by far, the most likely to cause a serious disease in many plant species.



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*C. fimbriata* infects many economically important plants worldwide, including cocoa, coffee, sweet potato and a variety of tree species. In a few countries of Central and South America, *C. fimbriata* causes a deadly disease affecting most citrus plants, except grapefruit. EFSA concluded that the fungus could establish itself in the citrus growing areas of the French overseas departments and that the growth of citrus in household gardens might help spread the disease. The risk of introduction would be mostly associated with the import of infected plants or plant propagation material from the affected areas. Once established,

*C. fimbriata* could affect citrus orchards, and possibly also coffee and other crops, in the French overseas departments.

The evaluations of the pest risk assessments follow a request from the European Commission. The request was made in the light of revisions to plant health regulations to include the French overseas departments within the EU plant health regime.

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178710295043.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178710295043.htm)

## Banana pests could threaten French growers overseas

EFSA has evaluated the risks posed by 15 banana pests and diseases to the French overseas departments of Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Martinique and Réunion, all banana-producing areas. EFSA concluded that most of the pests studied could threaten food production in these regions and should be considered candidates for the EU list of harmful organisms. This would mean that these pests could then be subject to EU plant health measures. These pests are already reportedly damaging banana crops in different parts of South and Central America, Asia and Africa.

Among the pests studied was the Banana bunchy top virus (BBTV), the cause of one of the most dangerous banana plant diseases. Of the virus diseases affecting bananas worldwide, BBTV is, by far, the most serious and can have a devastating effect on crops. Plants infected with BBTV can be spotted easily as their leaves curl up and stand erect. More importantly, the plant in question produces small and distorted fruit or no fruit at all. BBTV is transmitted by an insect, the banana aphid, or by infected planting material, often imported by banana growers to populate new plantations.

BBTV is currently present in many Asian and African countries, as well as Oceania and Hawaii. EFSA concluded that the phytosanitary risk associated with BBTV is extremely high. It considers that there is a high probability that the virus could enter, establish itself and spread in the French overseas departments where it is currently not present. If it did, it would cause severe losses to local banana plantations.



The evaluations of the pest risk assessments were based on documentation provided by the French authorities, and additional scientific and technical data. The request, from the European Commission, was made in the light of revisions to plant health regulations to include the French overseas departments within the EU plant health regime.

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178697026883.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178697026883.htm)

## EFSA's proposes approach for assessing the risks of residues from multiple pesticides



On 15 April 2008, EFSA adopted an Opinion on evaluating the suitability of existing methodologies and, if appropriate, the identification of new approaches to assess cumulative and synergistic risks from pesticides to human health to set Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) for pesticides according to Regulation (EC) 396/2005.

In essence EFSA proposes a way of assessing the risks to humans of exposure to combinations of pesticide residues in foods, following its review of existing methods. Under EU legislation the cumulative effects of pesticides must be taken into account when calculating maximum residue levels, the upper legal limit of a concentration for pesticide residues in food.

The combined toxicity of two or more compounds can take three possible forms: dose-addition, response-addition, or interaction. However, having considered the evidence on the different forms of combined toxicity and their potential relevance to risk assessment for pesticide residues at the levels occurring in food, EFSA limited its advice to the possible impact of dose-addition.

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It proposes criteria by which to include compounds in a cumulative assessment group, highlighting the possibility of different levels of refinement in a step-wise approach. The grouping can be based on general criteria like chemical structure, or mechanism of action, or more refined criteria like common toxic effect, or ultimately toxic mode of action.

It also identified criteria for selecting groups of compounds for consideration in a combined risk assessment. These included: (a) frequency of detection in monitoring programmes, (b) high use based on surveys or sales statistics, (c) evidence of "high" intake from biomonitoring data for the general population or for sub-populations/geographical areas, (d) compounds with high exposures relative to their reference values, (e) cumulative risk assessment carried out elsewhere showing possible unacceptable exposure, (f) high number of compounds (e.g. 5 or more) in a group, (g) assumptions on future trends in the use of pesticides.

A worked example of the proposed methodology is being developed for the triazole fungicides, and the results will be reported in a separate opinion with any suggested refinements necessary.

For more on the proposed methodology see:

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178712607885.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178712607885.htm)

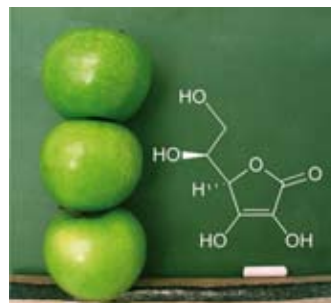
## EFSA opinion on the science behind the Guidance Document on risk assessment for birds and mammals



EFSA worked almost two years to revise that Guidance Document on risk assessment for birds and mammals produced by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Health and Consumer Protection in 2002. The opinion, adopted on 17 June 2008 contains 178 pages and 32 appendixes, and is available online.

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902014630.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902014630.htm)

## Sign up to EFSA's online database of scientific experts



- Want to make a difference to EU food safety?
- Contribute to EU risk assessment?

EFSA's database of scientific experts was officially launched on 5 June 2008. It will serve as a valuable tool to harness the wide scientific excellence that is available in the European Union, and beyond, and to further enhance EFSA's high quality scientific advice.

The database will become a 'pool' of expertise from which EFSA will select the best scientific experts to provide support to its Scientific Committee and Panels, corporate networks (e.g. Advisory Forum and Focal Points) and respective Working Groups. The expert database will also be available to all EU Member States who may use it to identify experts for their own scientific activities.

This expert database has been set up to further reinforce EFSA's capacity to deliver high-quality independent scientific advice and to assist the Authority with its growing workload. It will also contribute to reinforcing EFSA's responsiveness in providing risk assessment advice to Europe's decision-makers.

- Value high profile networking with peers?
- Driven by excellence?

Experts from Europe and worldwide, in a wide range of scientific and expert fields, such as food and feed safety, nutrition, toxicology, chemistry, animal health and welfare, are invited to apply. The full list of expertise being sought is indicated in the online application form.

This open invitation to scientific experts is being made within the context of EFSA's strengthened policy on transparency and independence for selecting experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work.

For more, and to sign up, see:

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/AboutEfsa/WhoWeAre/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178712806106.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/AboutEfsa/WhoWeAre/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178712806106.htm)

## EFSA's role in pesticide residue risk assessments

Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) are the upper legal levels of a concentration for pesticide residues in or on food or feed. And setting the levels requires sound scientific advice on the risks to consumers. Here EFSA has an important role to play.

MRLs are set for a wide range of food commodities of plant and animal origin, and they usually apply to the product as put on the market (e.g. oranges including the peel or stone fruit including the stones). MRLs are not simply set as toxicological threshold levels, but they are derived after comprehensive assessment of the properties of the active substance and the residue behaviour on treated crops. Currently, approximately 250 pesticides are covered by European MRL legislation for various pesticide/commodity combinations.

The new EU legislation on MRLs that entered into force in 2005, aims to set harmonised MRLs at EU level for all active substances. In 2006, EFSA was asked to perform the consumer risk assessment for those active substances for which MRLs were previously set at Member State level and which should be transferred in the EU legislation, provided that no consumer risk is identified. Based on the EFSA risk assessment, Regulation 149/2008 was issued which contains the full list of MRLs for almost 500 active substances.

In the next step to implement the new legislation, EFSA will focus on the re-assessment of MRLs for active substances that have been set at EU level over the last 15 years in order to ensure that these MRLs meet the current safety standards. In this exercise EFSA will also consider Maximum Residue Limits that have been set at international level. From September 2008 on, EFSA will be routinely involved in the consumer risk assessments of setting new or amending existing MRLs.

To help EFSA do this significant body of work, EFSA has developed a model to calculate the expected short and long-term intake of pes-



ticide residues via food, considering the different food consumption habits in Europe. It includes short and long-term consumption data from 14 Member States, and 41 diet sets for different subgroups of the population.

EFSA will also take over the task from the European Commission to publish the annual report on the control of pesticide residues in food.

In order to manage all these tasks efficiently EFSA will establish and maintain a database on the relevant scientific information concerning MRLs, including Good Agricultural Practices, dietary intake assessments and toxicological reference values for the Commission and Member States to consult.

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/ScientificPanels/PRAPER/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_MaximumResidueLevels.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/ScientificPanels/PRAPER/efsa_locale-1178620753812_MaximumResidueLevels.htm)

## Supporting EU phytosanitary decision making

6-7 December 2007 - Parma, Italy

On 6-7 December 2007, the 10th Scientific Colloquium organised by EFSA welcomed more than 80 experts in Parma to debate the assessment of risks posed by organisms harmful to plants and plant products. The Colloquium provided a forum for discussing the different scientific approaches to pest risk assessments, the availability of data, the assessment of the potential impact of new plant pests following their introduction to the EU. Possible joint efforts with EU Member States, third countries and international organisations, to further develop harmonised approaches were also discussed.

Some key recommendations emerging from the discussion included:

- > Methods and terminology can and have to be harmonised, especially when using qualitative approaches and expert judgements.
- > Models are valuable to deal with biological complexity, but critical assumptions and the level of accuracy must be made clear.
- > Quantitative approaches are more consistent and suggest precision, but uncertainty still exists which also must be made explicit.
- > In pest risk assessments, Type I errors (false positive, a shipment is declared infested when it is not) may lead to prohibiting the import of a harmless commodity. A Type II error (false negative, failure to detect an infestation) may allow a new pest to enter the area. Ideally, both types of errors should be avoided. Minimising type I errors will minimise inappropriate trade barriers, while minimising type II errors will minimise the risks to crops and biodiversity.

- > The economic impact is a key determinant, together with the likelihood of introduction and spread, of the risk posed by a pest. More articulated definitions of economic, social and environmental consequences are needed.
- > The relevant time frame to be considered when assessing the risk of invading pests will also depend upon the pest and its impact, as the environmental consequences could unfold over a long period.
- > To respond to threats of new pest introductions and consequences which may arise due to the globalisation of trade and climate change, a more generic approach to the characterisation and assessment of risks was suggested, including a greater emphasis on the analysis of pathways, rather than on individual pests.
- > Considering that climate changes are predicted over long periods of at least 30-50 years, the pest risk assessor may not be able to include such long-term predicted scenarios, but must always consider the climatic changes which have already occurred.
- > Communication among risk assessors and risk managers is important and needs to be enhanced.

A full report of this Colloquium, including recommendations, will be published on the EFSA website as well as in the EFSA Scientific Colloquium Series.

EFSA will use these recommendations as input when formulating new advice in this area.

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/ScientificOpinionPublicationReport/EFAScientificColloquiumReports/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_Pestris-kassessmentSciencesupportphytosanitary.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/ScientificOpinionPublicationReport/EFAScientificColloquiumReports/efsa_locale-1178620753812_Pestris-kassessmentSciencesupportphytosanitary.htm)

## EFSA at the International Congress of Plant Pathology



25-28 August 2008 - Turin, Italy

This year the five-yearly International Congress of Plant Pathology comes to Turin, Italy. The focus of the 9th International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP 2008) was on 'Healthy and safe food for everybody'. EFSA was present throughout the event to highlight its work in this field.

From 25 August until 28 August the over 1500 expected participants could visit the EFSA stand in the Exhibition area of ICPP 2008 and talk to its experts.

EFSA also ran a scientific session on how EFSA conducts its risk assessments to help maintain food safety in Europe. The session 'Risk assessment of plant pathogens, mycotoxins and plant protection products for the EU' took place on 26 August at 15.30 in Room CS20, Hall 500.

<http://www.icpp2008.org/>

## Article 36 calls

Article 36 of EFSA's Founding Regulation allows the Authority to financially support projects and activities that contribute to EFSA's mission. This financial support is exclusively given to a list of competent organisations capable of assisting EFSA in its work. The list was drawn up on the basis of nominations made by Member States. Calls awarded will soon be published on the web.

For the list of Article 36 calls, please visit:

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/1178622332239/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_call\\_for\\_proposals.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/1178622332239/efsa_locale-1178620753812_call_for_proposals.htm)

### Article 36 calls awarded

**Project to assess current approaches and knowledge with a view to develop a Guidance Document for pesticide exposure assessment for workers, operators, bystanders and residents**

**BENEFICIARIES:** €90,000 awarded to the UK's The Pesticides Safety Directorate and Ghent University, Belgium

## Call for proposals

### Collection of Codex Maximum Residue Limits and related information for evaluating active substances in pesticides

EFSA launched a call for proposals to collect the Codex maximum residue levels (MRLs) that were officially adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission for 64 active substances. It also covered collecting the related key risk assessment data for each of these Codex MRLs and investigating whether these Codex MRLs were based on European good agricultural practice only.

According to the EU Regulation on maximum residue levels of pesticides found in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin, EFSA is responsible for the risk assessment of European MRLs from 2 September 2008.

Assessments will be based place on the European authorisations for these compounds. However, 64 compounds also have internationally recommended MRLs, usually referred to as Codex MRLs, which will also need to be considered in EFSA's dietary intake assessments.

Before being officially adopted, Codex MRLs follow a very strict procedure which involves three internationally recognised bodies: the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR), the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR) and the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC). The JMPR is responsible for risk assessment of pesticide residues at international level and recommends codex MRLs to the CCPR based on the outcome of its risk assessment. The CCPR is a risk management body that reviews the JMPR MRL recommendations, based on which it then provides its own recommendations to the CAC. The CAC is the umbrella risk management body which then adopts the Codex MRLs officially. After adoption by the CAC, the recommended MRLs become internationally recommended Codex MRLs.

**The deadline for submitting proposals closed on 20 June 2008.**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178704537175.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178704537175.htm)

## Mandates received per unit: January-May 2008

Information on all other on-going requests is available in EFSA's register of questions:

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/ScientificOpinionPublicationReport/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_RequestsAndMandates.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/ScientificOpinionPublicationReport/efsa_locale-1178620753812_RequestsAndMandates.htm)

### Plant health (PLH)

#### Development of a guidance document on the evaluation of pest risk assessments for phytosanitary made by third parties

Requestor: EFSA  
Reception date: 21 Feb 2008  
Deadline: 31 Dec 2008  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-259

#### Scientific opinion on a pest risk assessment and additional supporting evidence provided by South Africa on *Guignardia citricarpa* Kiely

Requestor: European Commission  
Reception date: 15 Apr 2008  
Deadline: 15 Oct 2008  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-299

### Plant protection products and their residues (PPR)

#### Guidance Document regarding emission from protected crop systems (e.g. greenhouses and cultivations grown under cover)

Requestor: EFSA  
Reception date: 01 Apr 2008  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-260

#### Guidance Document on pesticide exposure assessment for workers, operators, bystanders and residents

Requestor: EFSA  
Reception date: 01 Apr 2008  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-261

#### Potential developmental neurotoxicity of deltamethrin

Requestor: European Commission  
Reception date: 22 May 2008  
Deadline: 15 Dec 2008  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-373

### Genetically modified organisms (GMO)

#### Natugrain TS (endo-1,4- $\beta$ -xylanase and endo-1,4- $\beta$ -glucanase) for piglets (weaned), laying hens, chickens and turkeys for fattening and ducks.

(Enzymes. Application for authorisation under Regulation (EC) N° 1831/2003 on additives for use in animal nutrition)

Requestor: European Commission  
Petitioner: BASF  
Reception date: 30 Jan 2008  
Deadline: Additional data requested  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-013

#### Application for authorisation of genetically modified stacked Bt11 x MIR604 x GA21 maize and derived food & feed (EFSA-GMO-UK-2008-56)

Requestor: Member State - United Kingdom  
Petitioner: Syngenta  
Reception date: 21 May 2008  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-375

#### Application for authorisation of genetically modified B12 with recombinant human intrinsic factor (rhIF. Food supplement containing an ingredient derived from GM plants (*Arabidopsis thaliana*) (EFSA-GMO-DK-2008-55)

Requestor: Member State - Denmark  
Petitioner: Cobento A/S  
Reception date: 19 May 2008  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-374

### EFSA opinion on LLRice62

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **16 May 2008**  
Deadline: **31 Jul 2008**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-316**

### Safeguard clause invoked by Hungary under Article 23 of Directive 2001/18/EC on MON810 maize

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **06 May 2008**  
Deadline: **31 Jul 2008**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-316**

### Safeguard clause invoked by Austria under Article 23 of Directive 2001/18/EC on GT73 oilseed rape

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **06 May 2008**  
Deadline: **31 Jul 2008**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-315**

### Safeguard clause invoked by Austria under Article 23 of Directive 2001/18/EC on MON810 and T25 maize

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **06 May 2008**  
Deadline: **31 Jul 2008**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-314**

### Safeguard clause invoked by Greece under Article 23 of Directive 2001/18/EC on MON810 maize

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **06 May 2008**  
Deadline: **31 Jul 2008**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-313**

### Application for the placing on the market of genetically modified A5547-127 soybean and derived food and feed (EFSA-GMO-NL-52)

Requestor: **Member State - The Netherlands**  
Petitioner: **Bayer Crop Science**  
Reception date: **03 Apr 2008**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-290**

### Guidance for the assessment of potential impacts of genetically modified plants on non-target organisms

Requestor: **EFSA**  
Reception date: **18 Mar 2008**  
Deadline: **18 Mar 2010**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-089**

### Safeguard clause and emerging measures invoked by France on MON810 maize.

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **27 Feb 2008**  
Deadline: **Not yet defined**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-077**

### General mandate- aspects of the environmental risk assessment (ERA) and the ERA guidance

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **28 Jan 2008**  
Deadline: **9 Mar 2010**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-262**

### Application for authorisation of genetically modified GHB614-glyphosate tolerant cotton and derived food and feed

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **25 Jan 2008**  
Deadline: **19 Sep 2008**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-016**

## List of opinions and other documents per Unit: January-May 2008

Disclaimer: This is not the full list of all EFSA opinions but only those considered relevant to this newsletter. For the full list please visit: [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/ScientificOpinionPublicationReport/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_ScientificOpinions.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/ScientificOpinionPublicationReport/efsa_locale-1178620753812_ScientificOpinions.htm)

### Plant health (PLH)

#### Pest risk assessment made by France on various citrus pests considered by France as harmful in French overseas departments of French Guiana and Martinique. They include:

- > *Panonychus citri*,
- > *Prays citri*,
- > *Prays endocarpa*,
- > *Sphaeropsis tumefaciens* Hedges,
- > Citrus chlorotic dwarf virus,
- > Citrus yellow mosaic virus or Citrus mosaic badnavirus,
- > *Metcalfa pruinosa* (Say),
- > *Parlatoria ziziphi* (Lucas),
- > *Ceratocystis fimbriata*,
- > *Mycosphaerella citri*,
- > *Xanthomonas axonopodis* pv. *citri*,
- > Hop stunt viroid (HSVd),
- > *Aceria sheldoni* (Ewing),
- > Citrus exocortis viroid (CEVd),

> *Brevipalpus californicus*, *B. phoenicis* and *B. obovatus* (Acari: Tenuipalpidae)

For details about the opinions on each citrus pest and disease evaluated see:

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178710295043.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178710295043.htm)

#### Pest risk assessment made by France on various banana pests considered by France as harmful in French overseas departments of French Guiana and Martinique. They include:

- > *Ralstonia* sp. pathogenic agent of banana blood disease
- > Banana mild mosaic virus (BanMMV)
- > *Phyllosticta musarum* [Cooke] van der Aa
- > *Nacoleia octasema*
- > *Mycosphaerella eumusae*
- > *Mycosphaerella fijiensis*
- > Banana streak virus (BSV)
- > Banana bract mosaic virus
- > *Trachysphaera fructigena*
- > *Odoiporus longicollis*
- > *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *musacearum*
- > *Erionota thrax* L.
- > *Ralstonia solanacearum* race 2
- > *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *cubense*
- > Banana bunchy top virus (BBTV)

For details about the opinions on each banana pest and disease evaluated see:

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178697026883.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178697026883.htm)

### Plant protection products and their residues (PPR)

#### Evaluating the suitability of existing methodologies and, if appropriate, the identification of new approaches to assess cumulative and synergistic risks from pesticides to human health with a view to set MRLs for those pesticides in the frame of Regulation (EC) 396/2005

Question number: EFSA-Q-2006-160

Adopted on 15 Apr 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178712607885.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178712607885.htm)

#### EFSA advises on chemical transformation rates of pesticides in soil at different temperatures

Question number: EFSA-Q-2007-048

Adopted on 12 Dec 07

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178680761578.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178680761578.htm)

#### EFSA advises on genotoxic potential of buprofezin insecticide to human health

Question number: EFSA-Q-2007-130

Adopted on 11 Dec 07

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178680773087.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178680773087.htm)

#### EFSA advises on risk of tritosulfuron herbicide metabolite to human health

Question number: EFSA-Q-2007-128

Adopted on 11 Dec 07

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178680096647.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178680096647.htm)

## Genetically modified organisms (GMO)

### Opinion on a request from the European Commission related to the enzyme preparation of trade name "Danisco Xylanase G/L (endo-1-4-beta-xylanase)" as a feed additive for laying hens and chickens and ducks for fattening

Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-021**

Adopted on **21 May 2008**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178712355752.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178712355752.htm)

### EFSA advises on GMO herbicide-resistant oilseed rape

Question number: **EFSA-Q-2005-278, EFSA-Q-2007-154**

Adopted on **05 Mar 08**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178690393760.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178690393760.htm)

### EFSA advises on the import of GM carnations for ornamental use

Question number: **EFSA-Q-2007-177**

Adopted on **12 Mar 08**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178696524130.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178696524130.htm)

### Response to the request from the European Commission on the non-authorised genetically modified event DAS 59132-8 in US maize

Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-216**

Adopted on **22 May 2008**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178710640885.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178710640885.htm)

## Pesticide risk assessment peer review (PRAPeR)

### Reasoned opinion on the first establishment of Annex IV of Regulation (EC) 396/2005

Adopted: **28 Oct 2007**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178680090647.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178680090647.htm)

### Pesticide conclusions assessing:

**Bifenox 14 Feb 08**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178686036919.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178686036919.htm)

**Diflufenican 14 Feb 08**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178686038256.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178686038256.htm)

**Fenpropidin 30 Jan 08**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178682962353.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178682962353.htm)

**Nicosulfuron 29 Jan 08**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178681377935.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178681377935.htm)

**Acequinocyl 29 Jan 08**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178681378513.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178681378513.htm)

**Amidosulfuron 9 Jan 08**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178676668329.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178676668329.htm)

**Fuberidazole 9 Jan 08**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178676669344.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178676669344.htm)

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