

United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
Cranberry Marketing Committee
Trade Policy Activity Report

February 28, 2025

To: Jennie M. Varela, Sr. Market Specialist, USDA

From: Matt Lantz, Sr. Vice President for Global Access, Bryant Christie Inc.

Reporting period: September 2024 – February 2025

The Cranberry Marketing Committee engaged the services of BCI on behalf of the U.S. cranberry industry as a consultant to provide technical assistance to educate individuals, organizations and entities on pesticide maximum residue level (MRL) issues that would restrict or hinder the importation of cranberry products into foreign markets. MRL monitoring is undertaken on behalf of the entire industry with the use of the remaining funds from the CMC.

Deliverables:

Since September 2024, BCI has reviewed over **300** MRL related regulations or draft regulations, **fifteen** of which impacted U.S. cranberries. BCI submitted **four** comment letters on behalf of the industry regarding proposed MRL changes. The industry received ad hoc notifications of MRL changes globally, and a monthly summary of the notifications was also distributed (see attachment A).

BCI attended and reported on MRLs at the Cranberry Institute meeting in December 2024 and is scheduled to attend and provide MRL updates in the upcoming meeting in March 2025. In addition, BCI held a virtual meeting with the Cranberry Institute's MRL committee in February to discuss in more detail potential MRL concerns.

Cranberry growers are encouraged to use the FoodChain ID MRL database for the latest MRLs in each country. Attached to this update are the MRL changes that have occurred since BCI was engaged by the CMC. A summary of those changes is included below.

Recent Cranberry MRL Changes

EU MRL Updates:

Established:

- **Acetamiprid** (Assail/Cormoran): pending EU MRL (0.7 ppm) is less restrictive than the U.S. and Canadian MRLs (0.6 ppm). The new MRL will come into effect on **August 19, 2025**. Until that date, the current MRL of 2 ppm applies.

- **Fenbuconazole** (Indar): pending EU MRL (0.01 ppm) is more restrictive than the U.S. and Canadian MRLs (0.5 ppm). The new MRL will come into effect on **August 24, 2025**. Until that date, the current MRL of 1 ppm applies.
 - **On behalf of the industry, comments were submitted to USDA. Unfortunately, the EU went through with the 0.01 ppm MRL as proposed. (see above)**
- **Fosetyl-al** (Aliette): pending EU MRL (1.5 ppm) is less restrictive than the U.S. and Canadian MRLs (0.5 ppm). The new MRL will come into effect on **April 29, 2025**. Until that date, the current MRL of 2 ppm applies.
- **Napropamide** (Devrinol): pending EU MRL (0.01 ppm) is more restrictive than the U.S. and Canadian MRLs (0.1 ppm). The new MRL will come into effect on **April 28, 2025**. Until that date, the current MRL of 0.02 ppm applies.

Proposed:

- **Difenoconazole** (Quadris Top): proposed EU MRL (0.6 ppm) is harmonized with the U.S. and Canadian MRLs.

Japan MRL Updates:

Proposed:

- **Napropamide** (Devrinol): proposed revocation of the temporary Japanese MRL (0.1 ppm) on cranberries, in which case the default level of 0.01 ppm will apply. The default MRL is more restrictive than the U.S. and Canadian MRLs (0.1 ppm).
- **Oryzalin** (Suflan): proposed revocation of the temporary Japanese MRL (0.1 ppm) on cranberries, in which case the default level of 0.01 ppm will apply. The default MRL is more restrictive than the U.S. MRL (0.05 ppm) and the Canadian MRL (0.1 ppm).

Australia MRL Updates:

Proposed:

- **Broflanilide** (Brofreya): proposed Australian MRL (0.002 ppm) is more restrictive than the U.S. and Canadian MRLs (0.01 ppm).