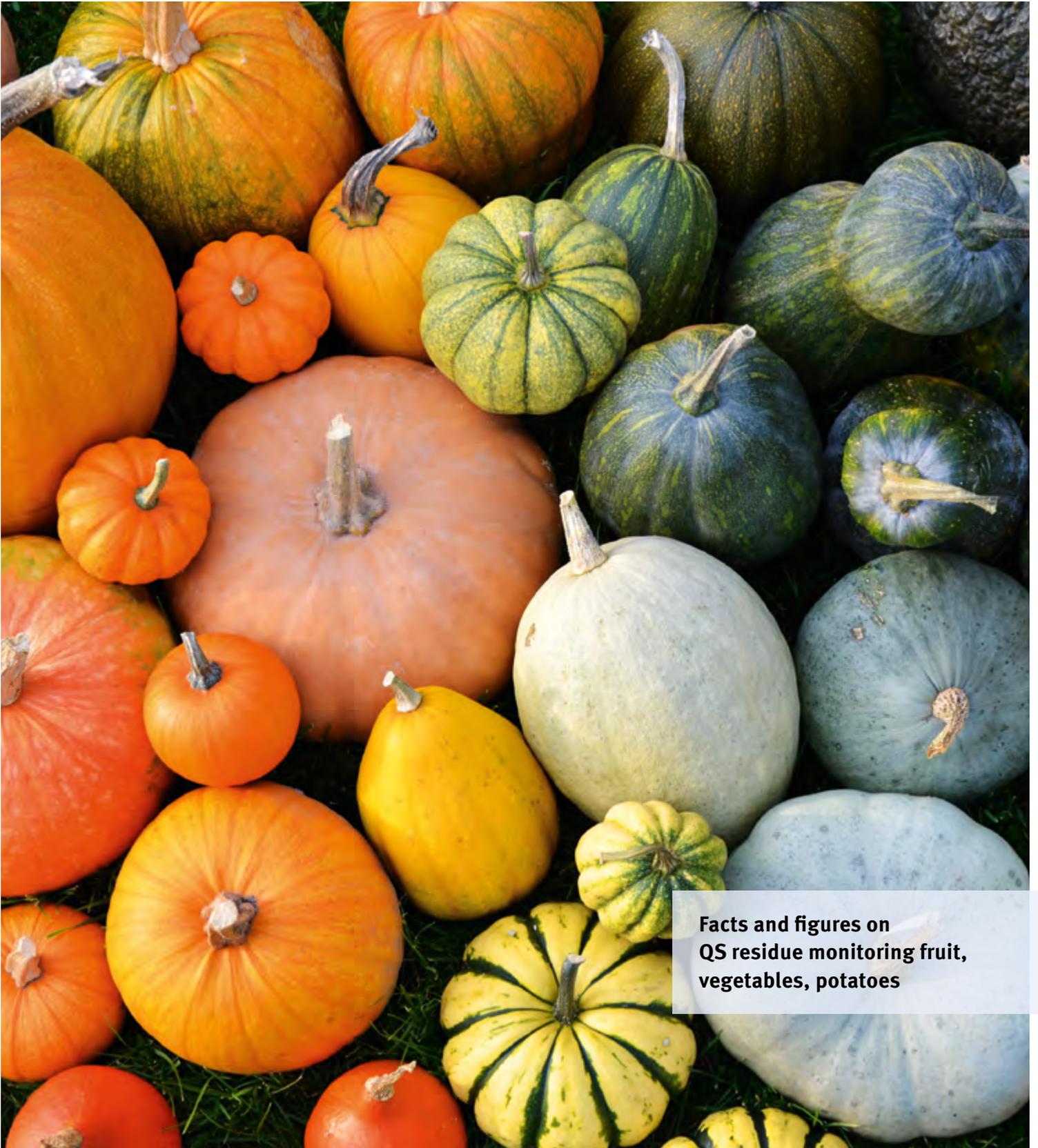


22
23

kompekt

Qualitas Special on QS Residue Monitoring



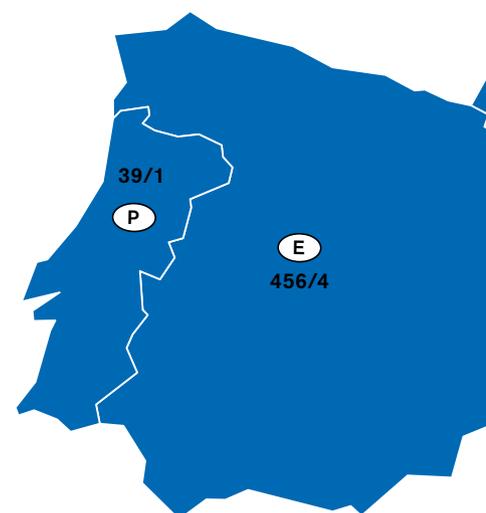
**Facts and figures on
QS residue monitoring fruit,
vegetables, potatoes**

Certified Quality

An overview of the latest results from residue monitoring in European producer countries.

For the residue monitoring, 17,047 samples were analysed for pesticide residues in the evaluation period from 1 October 2021 to 30 September 2022. The analysed samples came from 41 different countries of origin, with the majority of the analysed samples coming from the EU (16,765 samples) and most of them from Germany (12,742 samples). Even in difficult times, under extreme climatic conditions, the producers comply with the legally prescribed maximum residue levels (MRLs) in the use of plant protection products. 99.33 percent of the samples were free of objections, only 115 of the samples examined (0.67 percent) showed an MRL exceedance in the current evaluation. The exceedance rate in Germany is similar to the last evaluation at a low value of 0.64 percent. In the case of the samples from the EU (including Germany), the proportion of samples with an MRL exceedance increased slightly from 0.48 to 0.64 percent compared to the last evaluation.

Number of analysed samples (total) per country/samples with MRL exceedance



17,047
analysed samples

12,742
samples from Germany

16,765
samples from the EU
(incl. Germany)

16,932
samples without MRLs
exceeded (total)

115
samples with MRLs
exceeded (total)*

0.67%
exceedance rate
(total)

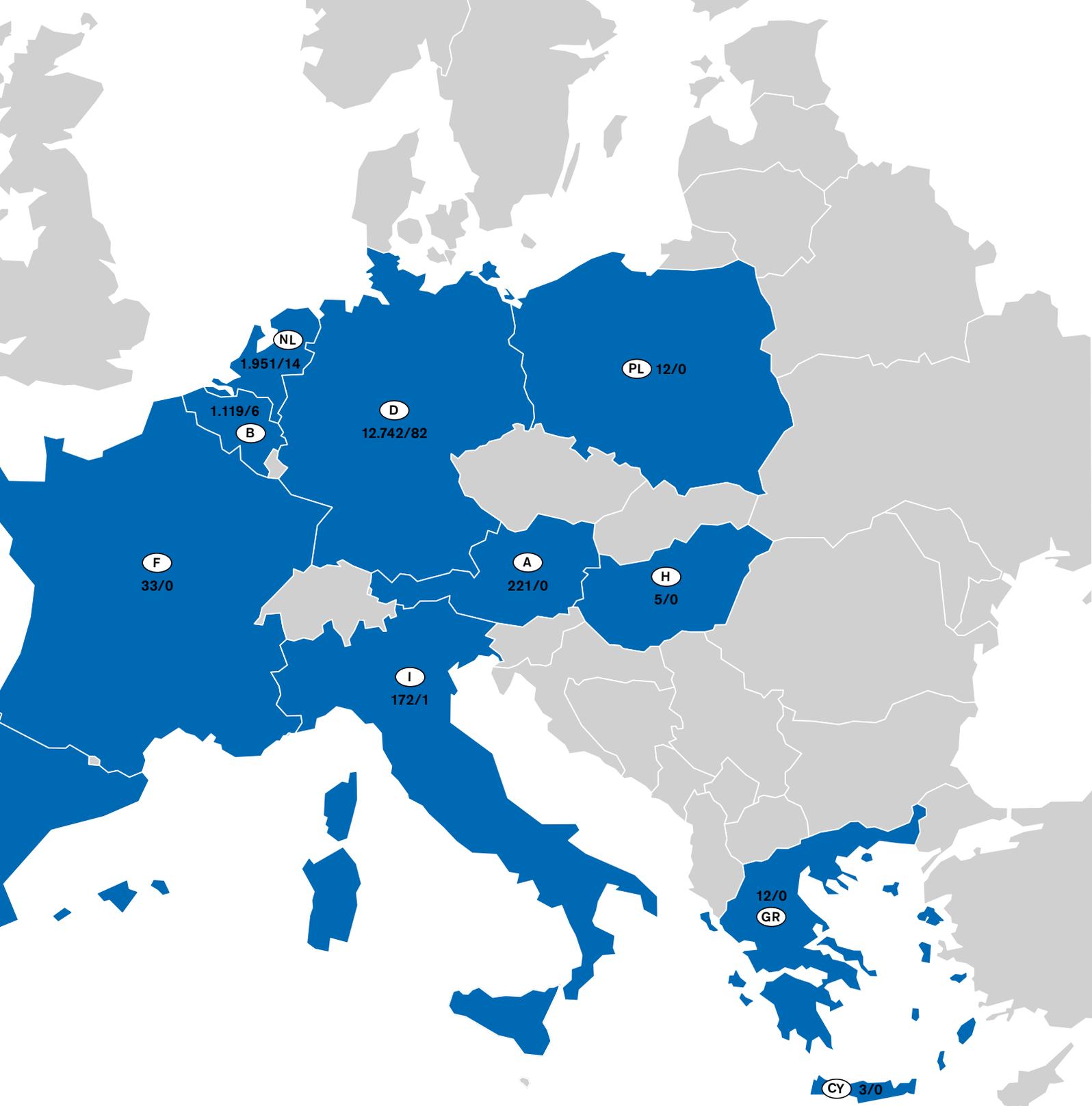
0.64%
exceedance rate for
products from Germany

0.64%
exceedance rate for
products from Europe
(incl. Germany)

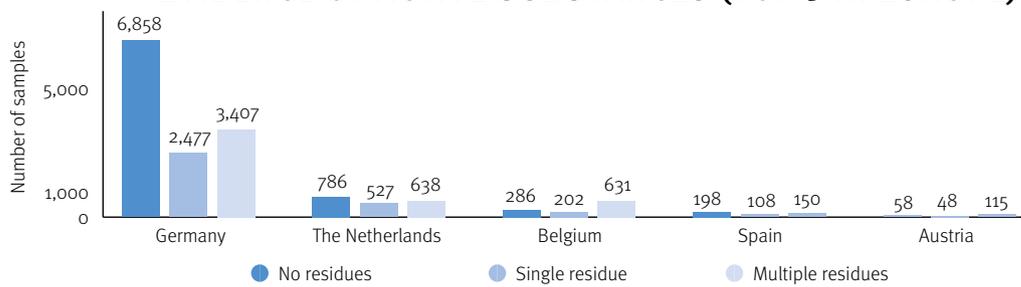
41
sample countries

Evaluation period: 1/10/2021 – 30/09/2022

*Based on the actual value (measured without taking into account an expanded measurement uncertainty of $\pm 50\%$).



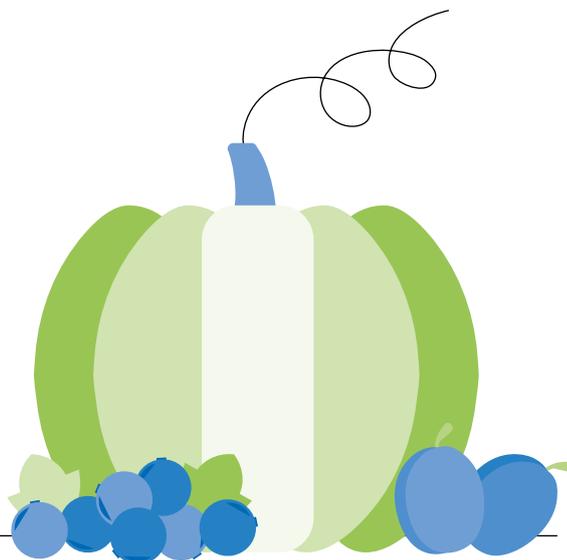
NUMBER OF ANALYSED SAMPLES WITH AND WITHOUT EVIDENCE OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCES (TOP 5 IN EUROPE)



RESIDUE MONITORING

Latest results

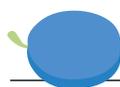
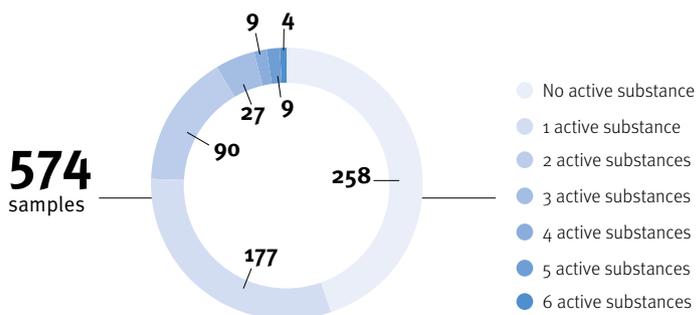
Residue analyses for plums, pumpkins and blackcurrants.



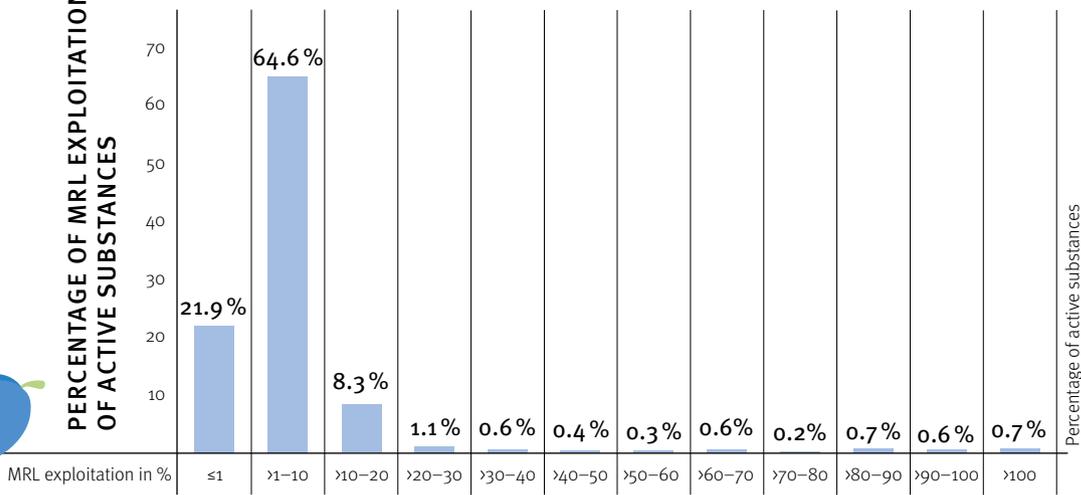
PLUMS

Of the 574 analysed samples, 543 came from Germany. 44.9 percent of all samples contained no active substances, an active substance was detected in 30.8 percent of the analysed samples and 24.3 percent of the analysed samples contained multiple residues. The maximum residue level (MRL) concentration for 94.6 percent of the active substances was below 20 percent.

NUMBER OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCES DETECTED PER SAMPLE



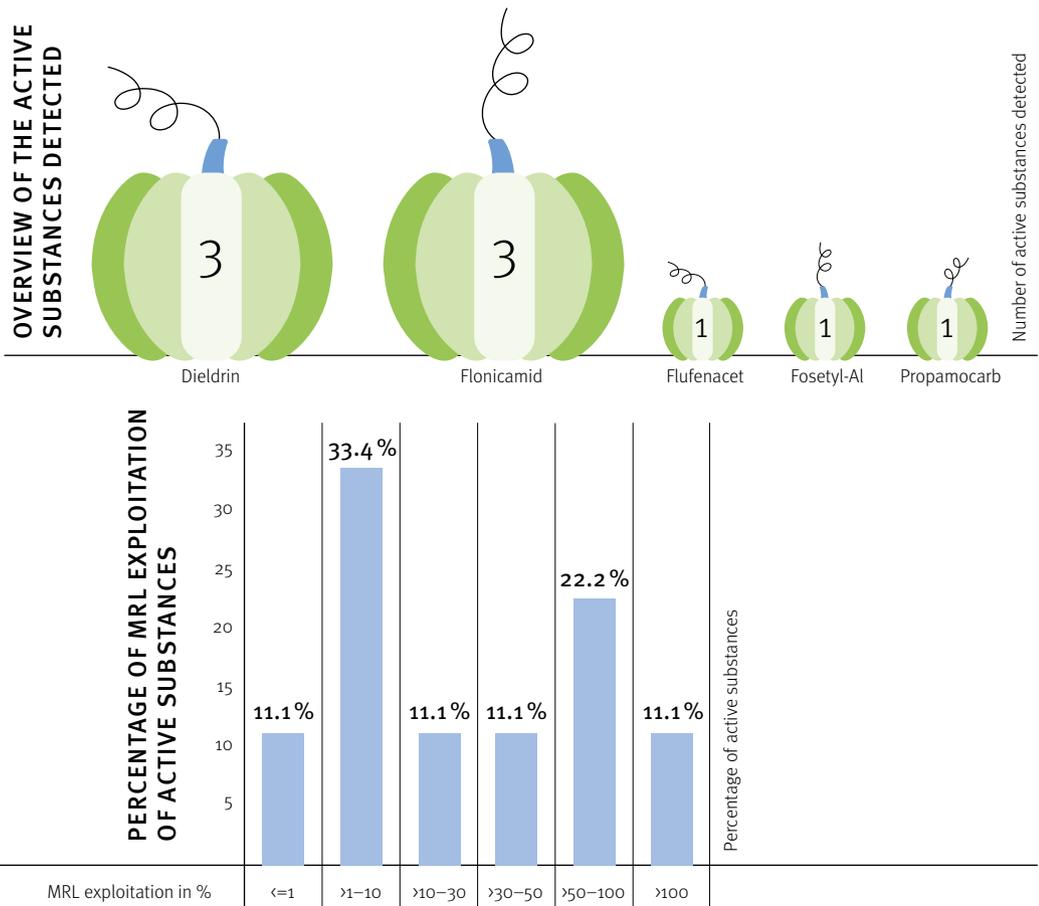
PERCENTAGE OF MRL EXPLOITATION OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCES



Period: 01/07/2021-30/09/2022

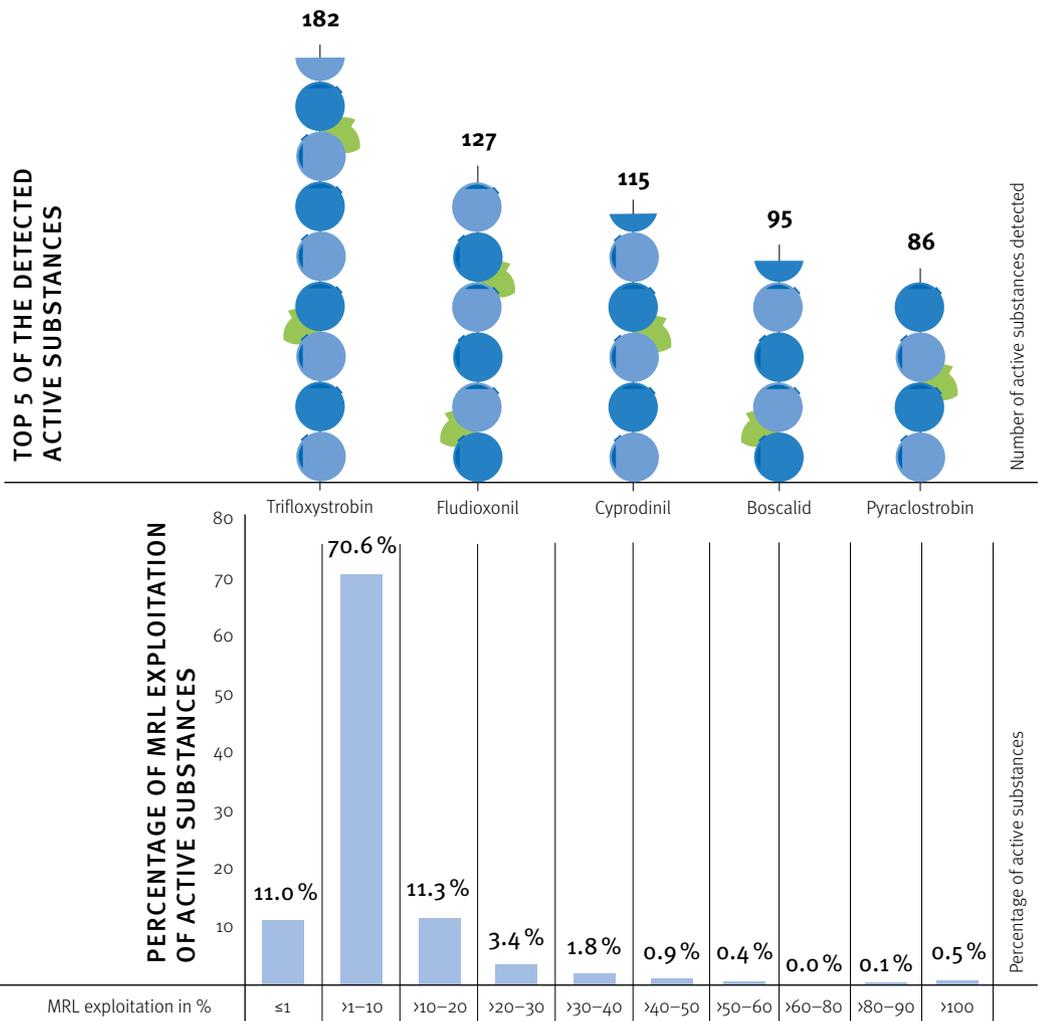
PUMKIN

Of the 328 analysed pumpkin samples, the majority came from Germany (312). In 97 percent of the analysed samples, no active substances were detected. Residues were only detected in 9 samples. In 7 samples, an active substance not authorised for use in the cultivation of pumpkin was detected, this most likely drifted from neighbouring areas. The active substance dieldrin was detected in 3 samples which was traced back to an old contamination of the cultivation area.



BLACKCURRANTS

Of 317 blackcurrant samples, 308 came from Germany. The maximum residue level concentration for 92.9 percent of the active substances was below 20 percent. Around 11 percent of all samples did not contain any active substances and an active substance was detected in 6.3 percent of samples. 82.6 percent of the analysed samples contained multiple residues.





Pumpkins and squash – correct application of plant protection product authorisations

Guest contribution from Jochen Kreisellaier, Dienstleistungszentrum Ländlicher Raum (DLR) Rheinpfalz

The European Commission is responsible for authorising active substances and setting their maximum residue levels at an international level.

In accordance with Regulation (EC) No 396/2005, pumpkins and squashes are split into two categories: “Curcubits with edible skin” and “Curcubits with inedible skin”. The authorisation for individual plant protection products, however, is done by the individual EU member states themselves. In Germany, the German Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL) is responsible for this. In their online database, the BVL lists the crop species “calabash”, “squashes”, “pumpkin hybrids”, “musky gourd”, “giant pumpkin”, and “patty pan squash”. In addition, the BVL often defines the admissibility of plant protection products for pumpkins and squash with edible or inedible skin using an intended use.

Example of the Hokkaido pumpkin

As the example of the Hokkaido pumpkin shows, the classification of pumpkins and squash is not always clear: According to the BVL, the insecticide Teppeki (flonicamid) is only authorised for certain curcubits with edible skin.

Although the Hokkaido pumpkin, a variety belonging to the giant pumpkin (*Curcubita maxima*) family, is known for being a type of pumpkin that we eat with the skin on, it is not included in the list of curcubits that Teppeki is authorised for. According to the European Commission, giant pumpkins are curcubits with inedible skin. As a result,

Teppeki is not currently authorised for use in Germany. If producers are not 100 percent sure about which variety their pumpkin belongs to, they may end up using a plant protection product that is not authorised for the variety of pumpkin or squash that they are growing.

Checking the intended use

It is always important for producers to check whether the BVL has provided any indication about a specific intended use next to the variety before using a plant protection product. For example, it may be the case that a pumpkin or squash is classed as a “Curcubits with inedible skin” by the EU, but that the BVL states that its intended use is “Use

with skin; also with species and varieties with usually inedible skin when harvested early”. Nevertheless, the maximum residue level for “Curcubits with inedible skin” applies. Another difference between the EU and the BVL is with the patty pan squash (“UFO squash”). According to the EU, the patty pan squash should be classed as a pumpkin (*Curcubita pepo*) with regards to the maximum residue level, but in the BVL database it is classed as a patty pan squash (*Curcubita melopepo*) with regards to the authorisation. As such, in the case of the patty pan squash, you must search for plant protection product authorisations in the BVL database using the corresponding entry.

GROUPING IN THE EU WITH REGARD TO MAXIMUM RESIDUE LEVELS

Curcubits

with edible skin

with inedible skin

CLASSIFICATION BY THE BVL IN GERMANY WITH REGARDS TO THE AUTHORISATION OF PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS

Listed in the BVL database as

calabash
Patty pan squash
squash

Musky gourd
Giant pumpkin

Known varieties

calabash
Patty pan squash
Halloween pumpkin
Spaghetti squash

Butternut squash
Hokkaido

This table explains how well-known pumpkin varieties can be identified, assigned to their respective families and their authorisation for the use of plant protection products and how they can be identified without a doubt in the BVL database.

LEGAL INFORMATION

Content owner/manager:
QS Qualität und Sicherheit GmbH
Dr. Alexander Hinrichs

Schedestr. 1–3, 53113 Bonn
Telefon: +49 228 35068-0
Telefax: +49 228 35068-10
E-Mail: info@q-s.de



www.q-s.de