



Qualitätssicherung. **Vom Landwirt bis zur Ladentheke.**

Press release



Monitoring-Report 2020: More than 25,000 analyses prove conscientious use of plant protection products for fruit and vegetables

- Very low complaint rate for products from Germany and the EU
- Analyses show conscientious use of plant protection products by producers

QS and the *Deutscher Fruchthandelsverband e.V. (DFHV)* present the eleventh issue of the Monitoring-Report Fruit, Vegetables, Potatoes. The analysis results once again demonstrate the importance of consistent quality assurance for the care and reliability in handling plant protection products.

For the current Monitoring-Report, the DFHV and QS evaluated a total of 25,627 samples from 73 countries. No pesticide residues were found in over 48 percent of the samples. Compared to the previous year, the complaint rate for products from Germany (0.5 percent) showed a further decline compared to the previous year (0.7 percent). Products from the EU - excluding Germany - are complained about just as frequently (1.8 percent) as last year. The exceedance rate for goods from third countries is comparatively high at 9.1 percent. The reason for this is the relatively small group of exotics in terms of quantity, which are, however, sampled very intensively and in a risk-oriented manner. Dr. Hermann-Josef-Nienhoff, Managing Director of QS Qualität und Sicherheit GmbH: "*The evaluation of data from residue monitoring in fruit, vegetables and potatoes shows that consistent quality assurance for fresh fruit and vegetables can also be proven by clean results. They attest to good professional practice and conscientious handling of pesticides on these farms.*"

Detailed evaluations for the practice

In addition to the results overview of the approximately 25,000 evaluated sample data, the current Monitoring-Report includes detailed residue evaluations for bananas, peppers, blueberries, cucumbers, chinese cabbage/pak choi and apples.

In addition, the current issue of the joint Monitoring-Report of QS and the DFHV provides important information for the entire industry. Among other things, the planned reductions in the maximum levels (MRLs) for chlorate and maximum residue levels for perchlorate. QS and the DFHV have investigated what consequences these might have on certain product groups in terms of MRL utilisation.

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More than 200,000 fruit and vegetable samples evaluated in 11 years

In total, more than 200,000 fruit and vegetable samples and 54 detailed evaluations have been prepared by QS and the DFHV since the report was first published. Dr. Andreas Brügger, DFHV Managing Director: *"With more than 200,000 analysis results, the Monitoring-Report has become a permanent feature of the industry. Every year, it provides the latest evaluations of the residue situation in fruit and vegetables and offers valuable information on current developments in the industry."*

The new Monitoring-Report will be available at the QS booth at Fruit Logistica 2020 in Berlin and is also included in the Fruchthandel Magazin (issue 7-8/2020). In addition, the report can be downloaded from 27 January in the media catalogue on the QS website (www.q-s.de/en) and on the website of the Deutscher Fruchthandelsverband e.V. at www.dfhv.de.

*The **Deutscher Fruchthandelsverband e.V. (DFHV)** represents the interests of companies from all trading areas of the fruit and vegetable sector. The association represents the companies of direct marketing, import and export, wholesale and retail trade. The DFHV member companies account for the vast majority of all sales of fresh fruit and vegetables in Germany.*

QS Qualität und Sicherheit GmbH

Quality assurance. From farm to shop.

The QS standards for the production and marketing of meat and meat products as well as fruit, vegetables and potatoes define the requirements for assured processes and product quality. In areas where it is of importance for the reliability of food and feed or the health of the animals, they exceed the legal requirements. All partners in the QS network are regularly checked by independent auditors. Comprehensive monitoring programmes and targeted laboratory analyses prove the reliable quality assurance. Products from the QS network can be recognised by the QS certification mark. The aim is to confirm consumer confidence in fresh food every day: Consumers in Germany can rely on safe fresh food.

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