

Update of the Hong Kong Pesticide MRL Database

Centre for Food Safety
18 February 2016

Background

- Launched in July 2014
- Web-based searchable database containing MRLs/EMRLs that have been laid down in Schedule 1 to the Regulation
- Facilitate the trade and the general public in finding the appropriate pesticide MRLs/EMRLs for specific food commodities

Background

- Available at:
<http://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/mrl/index.php>



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Hong Kong Pesticide MRL Database. The browser address bar displays www.cfs.gov.hk/english/mrl/index.php. The page header includes the logo of the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. A navigation menu on the left lists various services such as Home, What's New, About Us, Press Release, Programme Areas, Committee and Forum, Import Control / Export Certification, Slaughterhouses and Food Animal Monitoring, Food Legislation / Guidelines, Risk Communication, Nutrient Information Inquiry, Public Forms, Publications in Peer-reviewed Journals, Frequently Asked Questions, Links, and Contact Us. The main content area features a large heading "Hong Kong Pesticide MRL Database" and an "Introduction" section. The introduction states that the Pesticide Residues in Food Regulation (Cap. 132CM) ("the Regulation"), passed by the Legislative Council in June 2012 and came into operation on 1 August 2014, is enforced by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD). The Hong Kong Pesticide MRL Database ("the MRL Database") aims to facilitate the trade and the general public in finding relevant pesticide maximum residue limits (MRLs) / extraneous maximum residue limits (EMRLs) for concerned "pesticide-food" pairs. Below the introduction, there is a section titled "Hong Kong Pesticide MRL Database" which describes the database as a web-based searchable database containing MRLs/EMRLs that have been laid down in Schedule 1 to the Regulation. It also includes a section for "Terms and Conditions of Use" with a list of bullet points: CFS makes no representations or warranties, express and implied, about the accuracy, completeness or suitability for any purpose of the information published in this website and the information retrieved from the MRL Database; the list of food commodities is not exhaustive, and only food commodities specified in Schedule 1 to the Regulation will be included in the database. Users should refer to the User Guides of the MRL Database, the Pesticide Residues in Food Regulation (Cap. 132CM) - User Guidelines, Guidelines on Food Classification for the Pesticide Residues in Food Regulation (Cap. 132CM) and other relevant guidelines published by CFS for application and interpretation of the search results.

Update (1) – Search by Food

- Created a “Searching by Food” interface

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Hong Kong Pesticide MRL Database. The header includes the Centre for Food Safety logo and the text 'The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region'. A navigation menu on the left lists various services such as 'Home', 'What's New', 'About Us', 'Press Release', 'Programme Areas', 'Committee and Forum', 'Import Control / Export Certification', 'Slaughterhouses and Food Animal Monitoring', 'Food Legislation / Guidelines', 'Risk Communication', 'Nutrient Information Inquiry', 'Public Forms', 'Publications in Peer-reviewed Journals', 'Frequently Asked Questions', 'Links', and 'Contact Us'. The main content area features a large purple banner with the text 'Hong Kong Pesticide MRL Database'. Below this banner are two buttons: 'Searching by Pesticide' and 'Searching by Food'. The 'Searching by Food' button is highlighted with a red dashed circle, and a red arrow points from the text 'Searching by Food' in the bullet point above to this button. The footer includes a 'Back' button, a 'Back to Top' button, and copyright information: '2016 © | Important notices | Privacy Policy' and 'Last Revision Date : 15-10-2015'.

Update (2) – Food grouping

- Update of food grouping according to the latest Codex classification

- Example: Java apple



Assorted tropical and sub-tropical fruits – **inedible peel**



Assorted tropical and sub-tropical fruits – **edible peel**

Please note...

- The list of food commodities is not exhaustive
- For application and interpretation of the search results, refer to:
 - User Guides of the MRL Database
 - Pesticide Residues in Food Regulation (Cap. 132CM) - User Guidelines
 - Guidelines on Food Classification for the Pesticide Residues in Food Regulation (Cap. 132CM)
 - other relevant guidelines published by CFS

End