

MAXIMUM RESIDUE LIMITS FOR CROP PROTECTION PRODUCTS ON PEANUTS - SOUTH AFRICA, EUROPE & JAPAN – September 2021

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BACKGROUND TO MAXIMUM RESIDUE LIMITS

The data generated from residue trials are used to calculate Maximum Residue Limits (MRL's). The definition of an MRL is: "The maximum concentration of a crop protection product legally permitted in or on food, agricultural commodities or animal foodstuffs." The main purpose of an MRL is to allow crops a legal trading limit. It does not reflect the toxicity of the product; however, it serves as a check that the crop protection product has been used according to Good Agricultural Practice (GAP). MRL's are also known as "Tolerances" in some countries e.g. the USA.

The MRL is expressed as milligram of residue in a kilogram of commodity/crop, or in parts per million (mg/kg or ppm). Residue studies are designed to give a worst case scenario of residue left in the crop. In residue trials, the crop protection product is applied in such a way as to give the maximum benefit to the crop; this will in turn also give the maximum possible residue from the proposed use. This maximum level of residue is produced by applying the highest proposed dose rate, the maximum proposed number of applications and the shortest practicable time between the last application and the crop being harvested. The above conditions are called "Critical Good Agricultural Practice" (cGAP) and will always provide the highest level of residue that could be expected. However, it is important to remember that these conditions are rarely encountered in the field and, depending upon pest, disease or weed pressure, most growers will need to use less than the permitted number of treatments on the crop, at a timing earlier than the last permitted opportunity and often at less than the highest proposed rate. Under these conditions, significantly lower residues will result, as compared to those obtained under cGAP.

This document lists chemicals that are registered for use on groundnuts in South Africa and indicates the MRL's for South Africa, the European Union and Japan. Where possible, PHI's have also been included (a PHI, or Pre-harvest Interval, is the period that should elapse between the final application and harvest). In many cases MRL's do not exist for all the markets and are indicated as NL (Not Listed). In these cases the reader will have to check with local suppliers as to the Agricultural Practice that needs to be followed in order for residues to be below the LOD (Limit of Determination), i.e., undetectable. The reasons for setting an MRL at the LOD are explained in World Trade Organization Document "QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE PROCEDURE TO OBTAIN IMPORT TOLERANCES AND THE INCLUSION OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCES FOR PLANT PROTECTION USES IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES LIST" - Ref G/SPS/GEN/557 dated 29 March 2005.

Apart from the active ingredients listed in this document, various other chemicals are mentioned in official and unofficial lists of MRL's in South Africa and elsewhere, but these are not registered for use on groundnuts / peanuts in this country and may therefore not be used on this crop.

Details of MRL's and PHI's appear in the following tables:

- Table 1: Fungicides
- Table 2: Insecticides and nematicides
- Table 3: Herbicides
- Table 4: Post-harvest storage products

Table 1. Fungicide products registered for use on South African Peanuts, plus MRL's for RSA and MRL's (Import Tolerances) for the EU and Japan.

Active ingredient	Disease	South Africa		Europe		Japan		Limit Of Determination (LOD)
		MRL (ppm) / mg/kg	PHI (days)	MRL (ppm) / mg/kg	PHI (days)	MRL (ppm) / mg/kg	PHI (days)	
azoxystrobin / chlorothalonil	early leaf spot, web/leaf blotch	0.01/ 0.1	28	0.2/ 0.01	>>28 Consult supplier	0.2/ 0.05	>28 Consult supplier	0.01/ 0.01
azoxystrobin / difenoconazole	early leaf spot, web/leaf blotch	0.01/ 0.05	28	0.2/ 0.05	28	0.2/ 0.01	>28 Consult supplier	0.01/ 0.05
azoxystrobin / epoxiconazole	early leaf spot, rust, web/leaf blotch	0.01/ NL	28	0.2/ 0.05	>28 Consult supplier	0.2/ 0.05	>28 Consult supplier	0.01/ 0.05
azoxystrobin / flusilazole	early leaf spot, late leaf spot, rust, web/leaf blotch	0.01/ 0.05	42	0.2/ 0.01	>42 Consult supplier	0.2/ NL	>42 Consult supplier	0.01/ 0.01
benomyl (expressed as carbendazim)	early leaf spot, web/leaf blotch	0.1	42	0.1	42	0.6	42	0.1
carbendazim / difenoconazole	early leaf spot, grey mould, late leaf spot, rust, web/leaf blotch	0.1/ 0.05	21	0.1/ 0.05	21	0.6/ 0.01	>21 Consult supplier	0.1/ 0.05
carbendazim / epoxiconazole	early leaf spot, rust, web/leaf blotch	0.1/ NL	56	0.1/ 0.05	>56 Consult supplier	0.6/ 0.05	>56 Consult supplier	0.1/ 0.05
carbendazim / flusilazole	Botrytis stem rot, early leaf spot, late leaf spot, rust, web/leaf blotch	0.1/ 0.05	42	0.1/ 0.01	>42 Consult supplier	0.6/ NL	>42 Consult supplier	0.1/ 0.01
chlorothalonil	Botrytis rot, early leaf spot, late leaf spot, net blotch, peppery leaf spot, rust, web/leaf blotch	0.1	42	0.01	>>42 Consult supplier	0.05	>42 Consult supplier	0.01
dichlorophen	early leaf spot, web/leaf blotch	0.05	42	NL	>42 Consult supplier	NL	>42 Consult supplier	NL
difenoconazole	early leaf spot, late leaf spot, rust, web/leaf blotch	0.05	21	0.05	21	0.01	>21 Consult supplier	0.05
epoxiconazole / thiophanate-methyl (expressed as carbendazim)	early leaf spot, late leaf spot, rust, web/leaf blotch	NL/ 0.1	56	0.05/ 0.1	>56 Consult supplier	0.05/ 0.6	>56 Consult supplier	0.05/ 0.1
fludioxonil	damping-off, seed decay, seedling blight	NL	Seed tmt	0.01	Seed tmt	NL	Seed tmt	0.01
fludioxonil / mefenoxam [syn. metalaxyl-M]	damping-off, seed decay, seedling blight	NL/ NL	Seed tmt	0.01/ 0.01	Seed tmt	NL/ 0.1	Seed tmt	0.01/ 0.01
furfural	soil fungi	0.01	28	1.0	28	NL	>28 Consult supplier	0.01
mancozeb (dithio-carbamates)	black hull, crown rot, damping-off, early leaf spot, Phyllosticta leaf spot, seed decay	0.5	21	0.1	>21 Consult supplier	0.1	>21 Consult supplier	0.1
maneb (dithio-carbamates) / zinc oxide	early leaf spot, late leaf spot, rust, web/leaf blotch	0.5/ NL	21	0.1/ NL	>21 Consult supplier	0.1/ NL	>21 Consult supplier	0.1/ NL
propineb (dithio-carbamates / propylenediamine)	early leaf spot	0.5	21	0.1	>21 Consult supplier	0.1	>21 Consult supplier	0.1

tebuconazole	early leaf spot, late leaf spot, rust, web/leaf blotch	0.05	42	0.15	42	0.2	42	0.02
tebuconazole / trifloxystrobin	early leaf spot	0.05/ 0.02	42	0.15/ 0.02	42	0.2/ 0.05	42	0.02/ 0.01
thiram (dithio-carbamates)	crown rot, seed decay	0.5	Seed tmt	0.1*	Seed tmt	0.1	Seed tmt	0.1
<i>Trichoderma harzianum</i>	<i>Rhizoctonia, Fusarium</i>	NL	Consult supplier	No MRL required	Consult supplier	NL	Consult supplier	NL

* **Note:** Thiram has increasingly come under regulatory pressure in the EU and certain end uses for this a.i. have recently been withdrawn. It is possible that the MRL will be cancelled in the future. Consult supplier in the event of any uncertainty.

Table 2. Insecticide and nematicide products registered for use on South African Peanuts, plus MRL's for RSA and MRL's (Import Tolerances) for the EU and Japan.

Active ingredient	Pest	South Africa		Europe		Japan		Limit Of Determination (LOD)
		MRL (ppm) / mg/kg	PHI (days)	MRL (ppm) / mg/kg	PHI (days)	MRL (ppm) / mg/kg	PHI (days)	
alpha-cypermethrin	African bollworm, cutworms	0.05	7	0.1	7	0.05	7	0.05
<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i>	African bollworm, armyworm, semi-looper	NL	Consult supplier	0.01	Consult supplier	NL	Consult supplier	NL
beta-cyfluthrin	cutworms	NL	**See below	0.02	**See below	0.5	**See below	0.02
beta-cypermethrin	African bollworm, cutworms, fall armyworm	0.05	7	0.1	7	0.05	7	0.05
bollworm (<i>Helicoverpa armigera</i>) nucleopolyhedrovirus	African bollworm	NL	Consult supplier	No MRL required	Consult supplier	NL	Consult supplier	NL
chlorantraniliprole / lambda-cyhalothrin	African bollworm, armyworm, fall armyworm, false armyworm	0.01/0.05	14	0.06/0.2	14	0.06/0.2	14	0.01/0.01
cypermethrin	African bollworm, cutworms	0.05	7	0.1	7	0.05	7	0.05
deltamethrin	African bollworm, cutworms	0.05	7	0.02	>7 Consult supplier	- Consult supplier	>7 Consult supplier	0.02
dimethoate	aphids	0.1	14	0.01	>>14 Consult supplier	1.0	14	0.01
emamectin benzoate	armyworm, fall armyworm, false armyworm	0.01	35	0.01	35	NL	>35 Consult supplier	0.01
esfenvalerate	cutworms	NL	**See below	0.05	**See below	NL	**See below	0.05
fenamiphos	nematodes	0.05	63	0.02	>63 Consult supplier	0.05	63	0.02
fenvalerate	cutworms	NL	**See below	0.05	**See below	0.1	**See below	0.05
furfural	nematodes	0.01	28	1.0	28	NL	>28 Consult supplier	0.01
gamma-cyhalothrin	African bollworm, cutworms	NL	Consult supplier	0.2	Consult supplier	0.2	Consult supplier	0.01
lambda-cyhalothrin	African bollworm, cutworms	0.05	Consult supplier	0.2	Consult supplier	0.2	Consult supplier	0.01
lufenuron	armyworm, fall armyworm, false armyworm	0.02	35	0.01	>35 Consult supplier	NL	>35 Consult supplier	0.01
mercaptotion [syn. malathion]	aphids, fall armyworm	8.0	0	0.02	>>0 Consult supplier	8.0	0	0.02
mercaptotion [syn. malathion] / pyrethrins	aphids	8.0/1.0	7	0.02/3.0	>>7 Consult supplier	8.0/1.0	7	0.02/NL
omethoate	thrips	0.1	21	0.01	>>21 Consult supplier	1.0	21	0.01

oxamyl	nematodes	0.05	80	0.01	>80 Consult supplier	0.1	80	0.01
pirimicarb	aphids	0.05	21	0.02	>21 Consult supplier	NL	>21 Consult supplier	0.02
quinalphos	cutworms	NL	**See below	0.02	**See below	0.05	**See below	0.02
sodium fluorosilicate [syn. sodium fluosilicate]	cutworms	NL	**See below	0.01	**See below	NL	**See below	NL
terbufos	astylus beetle, black maize beetle, false wireworm, nematodes, rootworm, wireworm	0.1	90	0.01	>>90 Consult supplier	0.05	>90 Consult supplier	0.01
thiamethoxam	aphids, thrips, white grubs, wireworm	0.02	Seed tmt	0.02	Seed tmt	0.02	Seed tmt	0.02
zeta-cypermethrin	African bollworm, cutworms	0.05	7	0.1	7	0.05	7	0.05

**** Additional Information:** Certain insecticide active ingredients used for cutworm control either do not have set Withholding Periods (PHI's) or MRL's, or MRL's are set at LOD. This is due to the Agricultural Practice, i.e., early post-plant applications leading to no detectable residue at harvest.

Table 3. Herbicide products registered for use on South African Peanuts, plus MRL's for RSA and MRL's (Import Tolerances) for the EU and Japan.

Active ingredient	South Africa		Europe		Japan		Limit Of Determination (LOD)
	MRL (ppm) / mg/kg	PHI (days)	MRL (ppm) / mg/kg	PHI (days)	MRL (ppm) / mg/kg	PHI (days)	
acetochlor	0.02	***See below	0.01	***See below	NL	***See below	0.01
acetochlor / benoxacor (safener)	0.02/ NL	***See below	0.01/ NL	***See below	NL/ 0.01	***See below	0.01/ 0.01
acetochlor / dichlormid (safener)	0.02/ NL	***See below	0.01/ NL	***See below	NL/ NL	***See below	0.01/ NL
alachlor	0.05	***See below	0.02	***See below	0.02	***See below	0.02
bendioxide [syn. bentazone]	NL	***See below	0.05	***See below	0.05	***See below	0.03
clethodim	1.0	28	5.0	28	5.0	28	NL
cycloxydim	0.5	35	0.2	>35 Consult supplier	0.05	>>35 Consult supplier	0.05
diclosulam	NL	86	NL	>86 Consult supplier	0.02	>86 Consult supplier	0.01
dimethenamid-p [syn. s-dimethenamid]	NL	***See below	0.01	***See below	0.01	***See below	0.01
fluazifop-P-butyl	NL	40	0.01	>40 Consult supplier	2.0	>40 Consult supplier	0.01
flufenacet	NL	***See below	0.05	***See below	NL	***See below	0.05
flumetsulam	NL	28	0.01	>28 Consult supplier	0.05	>28 Consult supplier	NL
flumetsulam / s-metolachlor	NL/ NL	***See below	0.01/ 0.05	***See below	0.05/ 0.2	***See below	NL/ 0.05
flumioxazin [syn. flumioxazine]	NL	***See below	0.05	***See below	0.02	***See below	0.05
fomesafen	0.05	56	0.02	>56 Consult supplier	NL	>56 Consult supplier	0.02
haloxyfop-R-methyl ester	2.0	40	0.01	>>40 Consult supplier	0.05	>>40 Consult supplier	0.01
imazethapyr	0.05	85	0.01	>85 Consult supplier	0.1	85	NL
metazachlor	0.05	***See below	0.02	***See below	NL	***See below	0.02
metolachlor	0.05	***See below	0.05	***See below	0.2	***See below	0.05
metolachlor / benoxacor (safener)	0.05/ NL	***See below	0.05/ NL	***See below	0.2/ 0.01	***See below	0.05/ 0.01

metolachlor / dichlomid (safener)	0.05/ NL	***See below	0.05/ NL	***See below	0.2/ NL	***See below	0.05/ NL
metolachlor / safener	0.05/ -	***See below	0.05/ -	***See below	0.2/ -	***See below	0.05/ -
pendimethalin	NL	***See below	0.05	***See below	0.2	***See below	0.05
propaquizafop (expressed as quizalofop)	NL	40	0.01	>40 Consult supplier	0.05	>40 Consult supplier	0.01
quizalofop-P-ethyl (expressed as quizalofop methyl)	0.2	24	0.01	>>24 Consult supplier	0.1	>24 Consult supplier	0.01
quizalofop-P-tefuryl (expressed as quizalofop)	NL	***See below	0.01	***See below	0.1	***See below	0.01
s-metolachlor [syn. metholachlor-s]	NL	***See below	0.05	***See below	0.2	***See below	0.05
s-metolachlor / benoxacor (safener)	NL/ NL	***See below	0.05/ NL	***See below	0.2/ 0.01	***See below	0.05/ 0.01
terbutryn	0.05	***See below	0.01	***See below	NL	***See below	NL
trifluralin	0.05	***See below	0.01	***See below	0.2	***See below	0.01

***** Additional Information:** Most herbicide active ingredients either do not have set Withholding Periods (PHI's) or MRL's, or MRL's are set at LOD. This is mainly due to the Agricultural Practice, i.e., pre-plant or early post-plant applications leading to no detectable residue at harvest.

Table 4. Post-harvest Storage products registered for use on South African Peanuts, plus MRL's for RSA and MRL's (Import Tolerances) for the EU and Japan. ****

Active ingredient	Pest	South Africa	Europe	Japan	Limit Of Determination (LOD)
		MRL (ppm) / mg/kg	MRL (ppm) / mg/kg	MRL (ppm) / mg/kg	
Aluminium phosphide. Residues as phosphine (hydrogen phosphide)	Pests of stored product	NL	0.05	0.1	0.01
Magnesium phosphide. Residues as phosphine (hydrogen phosphide)	Pests of stored product	NL	0.05	0.1	0.01
piperonyl butoxide	Pests of stored product	10.0	Not classified as a plant protection product	1.0	NL
pirimiphos-methyl	Pests of stored product	5.0	0.5	1.0	0.01
pyrethrins	Pests of stored product	1.0	3.0	1.0	NL

**** **Additional Information:** Fumigation is the process of killing insects with a toxic gas, phosphine (PH₃) being the most commonly used. Phosphine treatment involves a minimum of 5-14 days under fumigation, followed by a period of ventilation. Consult the contractor applying the fumigant for guidance on the appropriate period of ventilation following fumigation.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Use of chemical products (fumigation or otherwise) should be managed according to the HACCP plan of the processing facility if not handled by the farmer. Chemical contamination from these products falls outside the scope of pre-farm gate control points and care should be taken when following label instructions to ensure ventilation after treatment. In all cases NO RESIDUE is allowed to remain.
- Only products (formulations) registered under Act no. 36 of 1947 may be used and product label prescriptions should always be followed in accordance with the Act.
- NL = No MRL is listed in the country. **In these cases the MRL will default to Level of Determination (LOD).**
- In addition to production and storage chemicals, care should be taken to use only cleaning and sanitation products acceptable in terms of GAP, GMP and GDP requirements.
- Always follow requirements of published Food Safety legislation, including GAP, GMP and GDP.

REFERENCES:

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9. National Department of Agriculture, South Africa: [http://www.nda.agric.za/docs/plantquality/Maximum%20residue%20limits%20\(MRL\).htm](http://www.nda.agric.za/docs/plantquality/Maximum%20residue%20limits%20(MRL).htm)
10. Questions and Answers on the Procedure to Obtain Import Tolerances and the Inclusion of Active Substances for Plant Protection uses in the European Communities list: https://docs.wto.org/dol2fe/Pages/FE_Search/ExportFile.aspx?id=53315&filename=Q/G/SPS/GE_N557.pdf