



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY

INFORMATION BULLETIN - September 2009

International beef maximum residue limits (MRLs)

This information bulletin provides a list of maximum residue limits (MRLs) for pesticides, veterinary medicines and contaminants that are included in the National Residue Survey (NRS) random survey for beef matrices. Listed in the table are MRLs for Australia as developed in the Australia Food Standards Code and a number of countries to which Australian beef products may be exported. The main purpose of this bulletin is to inform producers of the export requirements for residues of pesticides, veterinary medicines and contaminants. **The critical element of this information is that Australian MRLs do not apply to other countries.** If an MRL is 'not set', in some instances, a zero tolerance applies (refer to the notes below the table for full details)#.

Organisations marketing to overseas countries should be aware that the information provided below represents the official standards, but not necessarily the marketing requirements. Marketers should refer to the contractual arrangements concerning agreed residue limits.

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Group of substances	Maximum residue limit (mg/kg) for beef								
	Compounds	Matrix	AUSTRALIA (Food Standards Code)	CODEX	CANADA	EUROPEAN UNION	JAPAN	KOREA	UNITED STATES of AMERICA
ANABOLIC and UNAUTHORISED SUBSTANCES									
A1	Stilbenes								
	Dienoestrol	liver	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set
	Diethylstilboestrol		not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set
	Hexoestrol		not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set
A3	Steroids								
	Boldenone ¹ (17 α and 17 β)	urine ²	not defined	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set
	Methandriol		not defined	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set
	19 Nor-testosterone ¹ (17 α and 17 β)		not defined	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set
	Stanozolol (16-OH)		not defined	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set

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ANABOLIC and UNAUTHORIZED SUBSTANCES											
A3	Steroids - Continued										
		Trenbolone (α and β)	liver	0.01(eo) [residues should not occur in HGP free/EUCAS cattle]	0.01	0.013	not set	0.01	not set	not set	
	Corticosteroids	Betamethasone		not set	not set	not set	0.002	P (0.002)	not set	not set	
		Dexamethasone		0.1 (eo)	not set	not set	0.002	P (0.04)	not set	not set	
A4	Resorcylic acid lactones										
		Zeranol	liver	0.02(eo) [residues should not occur in HGP free/EUCAS cattle]	0.01	0.01	not set	0.01	0.01	not needed	
A5	Beta agonists										
		Cimaterol	liver	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	
		Clenbuterol		not set	0.0006 ³	not set	0.0005	P (0.0006)	not set	not set	
		Mabuterol		not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	
		Ractopamine		T0.1 (kidney)	not set	not set	not set	0.04	not set	0.09	
		Salbutamol		not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	
A6	Prohibited compounds										
		Chloramphenicol	muscle	not set	not set	not set	not set	prohibited	not detected ⁷	not set	
VETERINARY DRUGS and CONTAMINANTS											
B1	Antibacterials										
	Aminoglycosides	Apramycin	kidney	2.0 (eo)	not set	not set	20.0	P (10.0)	not set	not set	
		Dihydrostreptomycin		0.3 (eo) ⁴	1.0	not set	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0
		Gentamycin		not set	5.0	not set	0.75	5.0	5.0	5.0	not set
		Neomycin		T10.0	10.0	10.0 ⁵	5.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	7.2
		Streptomycin		0.3 (eo) ⁴	1.0	not set	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0 (calves)
	Beta-lactams	Amoxicillin		0.01 (eo) ⁴	not set	not set	0.05	P (0.04)	0.01 (m)	0.01 (et)	
		Ampicillin		not set	not set	0.01 (et)	0.05	P (0.03)	0.01 (m)	0.01 (et)	
		Benzyl penicillin G		0.06 (eo) ⁴	0.05	0.05 (et)	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05 (et)	
		Cloxacillin		not set	not set	not set	0.3	P (0.04)	not set	0.01 (et)	

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VETERINARY DRUGS and CONTAMINANTS										
B1	Antibacterials - Continued									
Cephalosporins	Ceftiofur	kidney	2.0 (eo)	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	0.4	
	Cefuroxime		0.1 (eo) ⁴	not set	not set	not set	P (0.02)	not set	not set	
	Cephalonium		0.1 (eo) ⁴	not set	not set	not set	P (0.01)	not set	not set	
	Other	Dimetridazole	muscle	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set
		Florfenicol		0.3	not set	not set	0.2	P (0.2)	not set	0.3
		Thiamphenicol		not set	not set	not set	0.05	P (0.02)	0.5	not set
Lincosamides	Lincomycin	kidney	0.2 (eo)	not set	not set	1.5	P (0.9)	not set	not set	
	Macrolides		erythromycin	0.3 (eo) ⁴	not set	not set	0.2	P (0.05)	0.1 (m)	0.1 (et)
Tilmicosin			1.0 (eo)	0.3	1.0 (liver)	1.0	0.3	0.3	1.2 (liver)	
Tulathromycin			1.0	not set	not set	not set	3	not set	5.5 (liver)	
Tylosin			0.1 (eo) ⁴	not set	0.2	0.1	P (0.05)	0.2 (m)	0.2	
Sulfonamides	Sulfadiazine		0.1 (eo)	not set	0.1 (et) ⁵	0.1 ⁶	P (0.1)	0.01	not set	
	Sulfadoxine		0.1 (eo) ⁴	not set	0.1 (et) ⁵	0.1 ⁶	P (0.1)	0.1	not set	
	Sulfafurazole		not set	not set	not set	0.1 ⁶	not set	not set	not set	
	Sulfamerazine		not set	not set	0.1 (et) ⁵	0.1 ⁶	P (0.1)	0.1	zero	
	Sulfamethazine/ Sulfadimidine		0.1 (eo)	0.1	0.1 (et)	0.1 ⁶	0.1	0.1	0.1 (et)	
	Sulfamethoxydiazine		not set	not set	not set	0.1 ⁶	not set	not set	not set	
	Sulfapyridine		not set	not set	0.1 (et) ⁵	0.1 ⁶	P (0.1)	not set	not set	
	Sulfaquinoxaline	not set	not set	0.1(et) ⁵	0.1 ⁶	P (0.1)	0.1 (m)	0.1 (et)		
Sulfathiazole	not set	not set	0.1 (et) ⁵	0.1 ⁶	P (0.1)	not set	not set			
Sulfatroxazole	0.1 (eo)	not set	not set	0.1 ⁶	P (0.1)	not set	not set			
Tetracyclines	Chlortetracycline	kidney	0.6	1.2	1.2	0.6	1.2	1.2	12.0	
	Doxycycline		not set	not set	not set	0.6	P (0.6)	not set	not set	
	Oxytetracycline		0.6	1.2	1.2 ⁵	0.6	1.2	1.2	12.0	
	Tetracycline (HCl)		not set	1.2	1.2	0.6	1.2	1.2	12.0	

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	Compounds	Matrix	AUSTRALIA (Food Standards Code)	CODEX	CANADA	EUROPEAN UNION	JAPAN	KOREA	UNITED STATES of AMERICA	
OTHER VETERINARY DRUGS										
B2a	Anthelmintics									
	Benzimidazoles	Triclabendazole	liver	2	0.3	not set	0.1	0.3	0.3	not set
		Thiabendazole		0.2 (eo)	0.1	0.1 (et)	0.1 (eo)	0.1	0.1	0.1 (et)
		Albendazole		0.1 (eo) ⁴	5.0	0.2	1.0	not set	5.0	0.2; 0.05 (m)
		Oxfendazole		3.0 (eo)	0.5	not set	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.8
		Fenbendazole		0.1 (eo) ⁴	0.5	0.4 ⁵	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.8
		Mebendazole		0.02 (eo) ⁴	not set	not set	not set	P (0.02)	not set	not set
		Oxibendazole		not set	not set	not set	not set	P (0.03)	not set	not set
	Imidazothiazoles	Levamisole		1.0 (eo)	0.1	0.1 (et)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1 (et)
		Morantel		2.0 (eo)	not set	n	not set	not set	not set	0.7
	Macrocyclic lactones	Abamectin	fat	0.1	0.1	not set	0.01	P (0.1)	not set	not set
		Doramectin		0.1	0.15	0.03 (m) ⁵ ; 0.07 (liver) ⁵	0.15	P (0.15)	0.15	0.1 (liver), 0.03 (m)
		Emamectin		0.002 (m) ⁴	not set	not set	not set	P (0.002)	not set	0.01
		Eprinomectin		0.5	0.25	0.1 (m) ⁵ ; 1.0 (liver) ⁵	0.25	0.25	not set	4.8 (liver), 0.1 (m)
		Ivermectin		0.04 (mf)	0.04	0.07 (liver)	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.1 (liver), 0.01 (m)
		Moxidectin		1.0 (mf)	0.5	0.5 ⁵	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.9, 0.05 (m), 0.2 (liver)
	Salicylanilides	Spinosad		T 1.0 (mf)	3.0 (m)	not set	not set	P (3.0)	not set	50.0
		Closantel	liver	not set	3.0	not set	1.0	1.0	1.0	not set
B2c	Carbamates, pyrethroids & other insecticides									
	Benzoyl ureas	Chlorfluazuron	fat	1.0 (mf)	not set	not set	not set	P (1.0)	not set	not set
		Diflubenzuron		0.02 (eo) ⁴ ; 0.02 (mf) ^{4,9}	0.1 (m)	not set	not set	P (0.1)	0.05 (m)	0.05
		Fluazuron		7.0 (mf)	7.0	7.0	7.0	P (7.0)	7.0	7.0
		Triflumuron		0.05 (m) ⁴	not set	not set	not set	P (0.05)	not set	not set

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OTHER VETERINARY DRUGS										
B2c	Carbamates, pyrethroids & other insecticides - Continued									
	Synthetic pyrethroids	fat	Bifenthrin	2.0 (mf)	0.5	not set	0.1	P (0.5)	0.05	1.0
			Bioresmethrin	not set	not set	not set	not set	P (0.5)	0.5 (m)	not set
			Cyfluthrin	0.5	0.2	5.0	0.05	P (0.2)	not set	2.0
			Cyhalothrin	0.5 (mf)	0.4	1.0	0.5	P (0.4)	not set	3.0
			Cypermethrin	0.5 (mf)	0.2 (mf)	not set	0.2	P (0.2)	0.2 (mf)	1.00
			Deltamethrin	0.5 (mf)	0.5	not set	0.05	P (0.5)	0.5 (m)	0.05
			Fenvalerate (Esfenvalerate)	1.0 (mf)	1.0(m)	not set	0.25	P (1.0)	1.0 (m)	1.5
			Flumethrin	0.2 (mf)	0.2	not set	0.15	P (0.2)	0.2 (m)	not set
			Permethrin	1.0 (mf)	1.0 (m)	0.1	0.5	P (1.0)	1.0 (m)	1.5
	Triazines	kidney	Cyromazine	0.05 (eo)	not set	not set	not set	P(0.1)	not set	0.2
	Pyrimidines		Dicyclanil	not set	not set	not set	not set	P(0.125)	not set	not set
B2e	Non-steroidal anti inflammatories									
		liver	Flunixin	0.02	not set	0.08 ⁵	0.3	P (0.2)	not set	0.125
			Ketoprofen	0.05 (eo) ⁴	not set	0.25 (m) ⁵	not set	P (0.05)	not set	not set
			Oxyphenylbutazone	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set
			Phenylbutazone	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set
			Tolfenamic acid	0.01 ⁴	not set	not set	0.4	P (0.2)	not set	not set
OTHER SUBSTANCES and ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINANTS										
B3a	Organochlorine compounds									
		fat	Aldrin/Dieldrin	0.2 E(mf)	0.2E(m)	0.2	0.2	P (0.2)	0.2 (m)	0.3
			Chlordane (Oxychlordane)	0.2 E(mf)	0.05 E(m)	0.1 (m)	0.05	P (0.05)	0.5 (m)	0.3
			DDT and metabolites	5.0 E(mf)	T5.0 E(m)	1.0	1.0	P (5.0)	5.0 (m)	5.0
			endosulfan	0.2 (mf)	0.1 (m)	0.1 (m)	0.05	P (0.1)	0.1 (m)	0.2
			HCB	1.0 E(mf)	not set	not set	0.2	P (0.6)	not set	0.5
			HCHs (BHC) (except γ -HCH)	0.3 E(mf)	not set	0.1 (m)	0.3	not set	not set	not set
			Heptachlor (Heptachlor epoxide)	0.2 E(mf)	0.2 E(m)	0.2	0.2	P (0.2)	0.2 (m)	0.2
			Lindane (γ -HCH)	2.0 E(mf)	0.1(m)	2.0	0.0	P (3.0)	not set	7.0
			PCBs	0.2	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	3.0

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OTHER SUBSTANCES and ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINANTS									
B3b	Organophosphates								
	chlorfenvinphos	fat	T0.2 (mf)	not set	not set	not set	P (0.2)	0.2 (m)	not set
	chlorpyrifos		T0.5 (mf)	1.0 (m)	1.0	not set	P (1.0)	1.0 (m)	0.3
	chlorpyrifos-methyl		0.05 (mf) ⁴	0.05	not set	0.05 (m)	P (0.05)	0.05	0.5
	coumaphos		1.0 (mf)	not set	0.5	not set	not set ⁷	not set	1.0
	diazinon		0.7 (mf)	2.0 (m)	not set	0.7	P (2.0)	0.7 (m)	0.7
	dichlorvos		0.05 (m)	0.05 (m)	not set	not set	0.02	0.05 (m)	0.02
	dimethoate		0.05 (m)	0.05	not set	not set	0.05	0.05	0.02 (mby)
	ethion		2.5 (mf)	not set	2.5 (m)	not set	P (2.0)	2.5 (m)	0.2
	famphur		0.05 (m)	not set	not set	not set	P (0.1)	not set	0.1
	fenitrothion ⁸	meat	T0.05 (m) ⁶	0.05 E(m) ⁴	not set	not set	P (0.05)	0.05 (m)	not set
	fenthion ⁸		1.0 (m)	not set	not set	not set	P (0.1)	0.1 (m)	not set
	malathion (maldison)	fat	1.0 (mf)	not set	not set	not set	P (2.0)	not set	4.0
	methidathion		0.5 (mf)	0.02	not set	0.02	0.02	0.02	not set
	parathion-methyl		T0.05 (m)	not set	not set	0.02	0.05	not set	not set
	phosmet		1.0 (mf)	not set	not set	not set	P (0.6)	1.0 (m)	0.2
	pirimphos-methyl		0.05 (m)	0.01 (m)	not set	0.05	P(0.1)	0.05 (m)	0.02
	prothiofos		not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set
	temephos		T5.0 (mf)	not set	not set	not set	P (4.0)	not set	not set
	trichlorfon	0.1	not set	not set	not set	P (0.1)	0.1 (m)	0.1 (N)	
B3c	Chemical elements								
	cadmium	liver	1.25	not set	not set	0.5	not set	not set	not set
	lead		0.5 (eo)	0.5 (eo)	not set	0.5 (eo)	not set	not set	not set
	mercury		not defined	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set
B3d	Mycotoxins								
	zearalenone	liver	not defined	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set
	α-zearalenol		not defined	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set
	β-zearalenol		not defined	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set	not set

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B3 OTHER SUBSTANCES and ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINANTS									
B3f	Other - Fungicides								
	cyproconazole	fat	0.03 (m)	not set	0.05	0.03	not set	0.01	not set
	flutriafol		0.05 (m)	not set	0.01	0.05	not set	not set	not set
	procymidone		T0.2 (mf)	not set	0.01	0.05	not set	not set	not set
	propiconazole		0.1 (m)	0.01 (mf)	0.01	P0.08	0.05 (m&mybp)	0.05	2.0 (liver & kidney)
	quintozene		not set	not set	0.01	0.01	not set	not set	not set
B3f	Other - Herbicides								
	ethofumesate	fat	0.5 (mf)	not set	0.1	0.3	not set	0.05	not set
	metolachlor		0.05 (m)	not set	not set	0.02	not set	0.04	not set
	propachlor		0.02 (mf)	not set	0.05	P(0.02)	not set	0.05	not set
B3f	Other - Insecticides								
	chlorfenapyr	fat	0.05 (mf)	not set	not set	0.05	0.2(m)	not set	not set
	indoxcarb		1.0 (mf)	1.0 (mf)	0.3	1.0	not set	1.5	not set

NOTES:

(m) meat,	(eo) edible offal	(IT) negotiated import tolerance.
(mf) meat in the fat	(E) Extraneous MRLs	
(et) edible tissue	(P) Provisional MRL	
(mbyp) meat by-product	(T) Temporary MRL	

- not set' MRL, any detection is a violation.
- For 'not set' shown in columns for overseas markets, exporters should consult with AQIS for specific advice regarding market access requirements for the countries of interest.
- MRL 'not defined', denotes no maximum limit set, a detection is not a contravention

¹ Residues of these compounds may arise from endogenous sources.

² The screen is undertaken in a matrix for which Australian Standards are not established. Any detection in this matrix may indicate endogenous production or inappropriate use of the compound and/or the presence of residues of the compound in edible tissue. AQIS staff should consult central office for specific advice.

³ Codex - Due to the potential abuse of this drug, the MRLs are recommended only when associated with a nationally approved therapeutic use, such as tocolysis or as an adjunct therapy in respiratory diseases.

⁴ Maximum residue limit or the extraneous residue limit is set at or about the limit of determination.

⁵ Administrative MRL for which the promulgation process has been initiated.

⁶ Combined total residues of all substances within the sulphonamide group should not exceed 0.1mg/kg.

⁷ Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) listed 15 chemicals for which no residues may be detected ("black list") because of high human health risks - 2,4,5-T, Amitrole, Captafol, Carbadox including QCA, Chloramphenicol, Chlorpromazine, Coumafos/Coumaphos, Cyhexatin and Azocyclotin, Daminozide, Diethylstilbestrol, Dimetridazole, Metronidazole, Nitrofurans, Propham, Ronidazole.

⁸ For regulatory purposes, when no MRL has been set in fat or meat (in the fat), the MRL in meat is used.

⁹ Set in the AVPMA MRL Standard; for subsequent promulgation to the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code

Australia, Canada and USA - At present where there is no MRL a zero tolerance applies.

European Union - where there is no MRL for a commodity then default value of 0.01 mg/kg applies for pesticides only. For veterinary drugs if there is no MRL then there should be no detection.

Japan - if there is no residue limit applied a uniform limit of 0.01 mg/kg will then apply.

Korea - If there is no national standard then Korea will apply the Codex standard. If neither are applicable, the lowest of the residue limits of the pesticide in question specified for similar agricultural products shall apply to the agricultural products which the pesticides detected.

This table has been compiled with reference to the information obtained from the following Food/Agricultural Authorities or publications:

AUSTRALIA: Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code 1.4.1 (MLs) and 1.4.2 (MRLs) (Australia only), up to Amendment 111, August 2009 available on the FSANZ website. For New Zealand purposes, maximum residue limits for agricultural compounds are regulated in the New Zealand (Maximum Residue Limits of Agricultural Compounds Mandatory Food Standard 1999 (and subsequent amendments) issued under sections 11C and 11Z of the Food Act 1981.

<http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/thecode/foodstandardscode.cfm>

CANADA: List of Maximum Residue Limits Regulated Under the Pest Control Products Act

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/legislation/acts-lois/fdr-rad/index_e.html

Health Canada Veterinary Drugs indicating Administrative MRLs for which the promulgation process has been initiated.(as of 30 October 2006)

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/vet/mrl-lmr/index_e.html

CODEX: FAO/WHO Food Stds Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food - MRLs & Extraneous MRLs - (updated March 2009)

http://www.codexalimentarius.net/mrls/pestdes/jsp/pest_q-e.jsp

FAO/WHO Food Stds Codex Alimentarius Veterinary Drug Residues in Food - MRLs - (updated March 2009)

http://www.codexalimentarius.net/mrls/vetdrugs/jsp/vetd_q-e.jsp

Summary of Evaluations Performed by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives.

<http://jecfa.ilsa.org>

EUROPEAN UNION: Maximum residue limits of **veterinary medicinal products** in foodstuffs of animal origin - Go down to the most recent date listed under the consolidated version - 2009-08-09.

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/Notice.do?val=162315:cs&lang=en&list=185432:cs.162315:cs.&pos=2&page=1&nbl=2&pgs=10&hwords>

Pesticide EU-MRLs Database as of 1 September 2008

http://ec.europa.eu/sanco_pesticides/public/index.cfm

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 1881/2006 of 19 December 2006 - setting maximum levels for certain **contaminants in foodstuffs**

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2006:364:0005:0024:EN:PDF>

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<http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/topics/foodsafety/positivelist060228/>

Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) List of Agricultural Chemicals in Foods

<http://www.m5.ws001.squarestart.ne.jp/foundation/search.html>

KOREA: Korean Food and Drug Administration (KFDA): Korean MRLs for Pesticides, website (go to English version then to 'site map' at top right hand corner):

<http://www.kfda.go.kr/>

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Department of Health and Human Services CFR Titles 21 & 40; FR Titles 51, 53, 54, 55 & 57; MPI Dir 917.1, website:

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MRLs for PCB - Under CPG 7111.03 - http://www.fda.gov/ora/compliance_ref/cpg/cpgfod/cpg565-200.html

USA MRLs for Chlordane - http://www.fda.gov/ora/compliance_ref/cpg/cpgfod/cpg575-100.html