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HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
Directorate F - Food and Veterinary Office

DG (SANCO)/7599/2007 - GR FINAL

GENERAL REPORT
OF A SERIES OF MISSIONS
CARRIED OUT BETWEEN 2003 AND 2006
IN 25 MEMBER STATES
CONCERNING CONTROLS OF PESTICIDES IN FOOD OF
PLANT ORIGIN



Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
1. INTRODUCTION	4
2. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF THE SERIES OF MISSIONS.....	4
3. MAIN FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS REGARDING CONTROL SYSTEMS FOR THE PLACING ON THE MARKET AND USE OF PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS	5
3.1. Legislation	5
3.2. Competent authorities.....	5
3.3. Authorisation of Plant Protection Products	5
3.4. Control activities regarding the placing on the market and the use of plant protection products	6
3.5. Obsolete pesticides	7
3.6. Laboratory for formulation analysis	7
4. MAIN FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS REGARDING CONTROL SYSTEMS FOR PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN FOODSTUFFS OF PLANT ORIGIN	8
4.1. Legislation	8
4.2. Competent authorities.....	8
4.3. Control activities regarding pesticide residues.....	8
4.4. Laboratories for pesticide residue analysis.....	9
4.5. Rapid Alert System.....	10
4.6. Follow-up of recommendations from previous mission series.....	10
5. RECOMMENDATIONS	11
6. ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION SERVICES.....	12
6.1. Follow-up of mission recommendations	12
6.2. Additional action by the Commission Services.....	12
ANNEX 1 – LEGAL BASIS.....	14
ANNEX 2 - DETAILS OF MISSIONS UNDERTAKEN	16

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the period September 2003 to June 2006, a second series of missions was undertaken to the 25 Member States to evaluate the control systems in place for the marketing and use of plant protection products and for pesticide residues in food of plant origin. The earlier series of missions took place between 1998 and 2003 and was summarised in Report DG(SANCO)/9507/2003 – GR final.

The main findings of the second series of missions indicated that control systems vary considerably between Member States. The control system for pesticide residues was in general better developed than the control system for placing on the market and use of plant protection products.

For both control systems the relevant Community legislation was generally well transposed into national law. The Competent authorities for the two control systems were designated, although some overlap in responsibilities of different competent authorities in the area of pesticide residue control was noted.

Marketing & Use of plant protection products:

Shortcomings regarding certain aspects of the authorisation and labelling of plant protection products were noted in some Member States. In addition, deficiencies in the planning and conducting of inspections for control of the marketing and use of plant protection products were frequently identified. Reporting of the results of controls to the Commission was often incomplete or delayed.

While the control of 'obsolete pesticides' was generally satisfactory, a risk of contamination of food, feed or the environment was noted in a minority of Member States.

The operation of formulation laboratories to test plant protection products was generally considered to be satisfactory.

Pesticide residues in products of plant origin:

The planning and reporting of controls for pesticide residues in food of plant origin has improved significantly since the first mission series. However, weaknesses were specifically found with regard to the low number of samples taken for analysis, the technique of sampling, enforcement of the babyfood Directives, assessment of risk to consumers and operation of the EU Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed. A further weak point in the residue area was the follow up and enforcement of infringements, due, largely, to the long time-lapse between sampling for analysis and reporting of the analytical result.

Equipment in the laboratories was found to be generally satisfactory, with many laboratories now equipped with Liquid Chromatograph with Mass Spectrometry. However, laboratories continue to have problems, particularly with regard to incomplete implementation of the EU Quality Control Procedures and the lack of accreditation. The scope of analysis varied widely – from as low as 7 analytes up to 460 analytes – and was generally found to cover too few analytes.

Most of the recommendations and suggestions made to Member States during the first series were found to be either partially or fully addressed.

The nature of deficiencies noted during this series of missions did not give rise to health concerns that would require urgent action. Those recommendations from the first series which needed to be further addressed were revised or repeated in the second mission series and additional recommendations were made to address any additional points identified as weaknesses.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Food and Veterinary Office has carried out a series of missions to the 25 Member States to evaluate the control systems in place for the placing on the market of plant protection products and pesticide residues in foodstuffs of plant origin. The first mission of the series took place in September 2003 and the last mission took place in June 2006. Details of these missions are given in Annex 2.

An earlier series of missions took place to 15 Member States between 1998 and 2003. The outcome is summarised in the "General Report on the outcome of missions carried out in all Member States from 1998 to 2003 in the field of control systems on placing on the market of plant protection products and residues in foodstuffs of plant origin" (Report DG (SANCO)/9507/2003 – GR final), and may be accessed at: http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/specialreports/sr_rep_9507-2003_en.pdf

Obviously, this General Report can only reflect the status observed at the time of the mission, although some systems may have improved in the meantime. One difficulty faced during preparation of this report was the time span of almost 3 years in which this series had been carried out. This hampers the comparability of the information received. Occasionally, the information obtained was not complete for all the Member States on every aspect. In addition, the introduction of Regulations relating to food hygiene (Regulation (EC) No 853/2004¹) and to official controls on food and feed (Regulation (EC) No 853/2004) since the start of the mission series has resulted in a change in emphasis leading to new findings, conclusions and recommendations. However, based on the recommendations made in the individual mission reports, it is possible to identify areas which are more problematic than others, to draw conclusions and to make overall recommendations.

The reports on the individual missions undertaken and the annual pesticides residue monitoring reports are available at the Directorate General's website:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/index_en.htm .

2. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF THE SERIES OF MISSIONS

Pesticide residues in foodstuffs of plant origin are an area of high consumer concern. In Council Directives 86/362/EEC and 90/642/EEC, maximum levels have been fixed for those products in order to minimise the exposure of consumers to harmful or unnecessary intake of pesticides. Member States are asked to check regularly the compliance of foodstuffs with these levels and to carry out national and European monitoring programmes.

The objectives of the missions were:

- to evaluate the control systems put in place for pesticide residues in foodstuffs of plant origin in the framework of Council Directive 86/362/EEC on the fixing of maximum levels for pesticide residues in and on cereals, Council Directive 90/642/EEC on the fixing of maximum levels for pesticide residues in and on certain products of plant origin, including fruit and vegetables. As residue

¹ Legal Acts quoted in this report refer, where applicable, to the last amended version. Full references to the Acts quoted in this report are given in Annex 1.

monitoring is related to the placing on the market and use of plant protection products, the control system for the latter functions, in the framework of Council Directive 91/414/EEC concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market, was also evaluated.

- to follow-up findings of previous missions on the evaluation of official controls within the context of the above objective.
- to assess the implementation of Art. 50 (Rapid Alert System) of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety, with regard to pesticide residues.

In pursuit of these objectives visits to the central and regional competent authorities, to the services in charge of inspections and sampling, including visits to packing houses for fruit and vegetables and farms, and to the laboratories in charge of formulation and residue analysis were undertaken.

3. MAIN FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS REGARDING CONTROL SYSTEMS FOR THE PLACING ON THE MARKET AND USE OF PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS

3.1. Legislation

3.1.1. Transposition of EC legislation

Transposition of the Community legislation has been carried out within the timeframe established in all but 5 Member States. Where deficiencies in the completeness and accuracy of transposition were noted, recommendations were made to the Member States concerned.

3.1.2. National legislation

Although not currently required under EU legislation, additional national legislation exists in 24 Member States regarding one or more of the following: licensing of professional users, sellers and distributors of plant protection products, licensing of premises engaged in the distribution of plant protection products, special controls of the sale of toxic and very toxic products and certification of spraying equipment.

3.2. Competent authorities

The competent authorities have been clearly identified in each Member State although 1 Member State was required to clarify the allocation of competence.

3.3. Authorisation of Plant Protection Products

Shortcomings regarding certain aspects of the authorisation of plant protection products were noted and recommendations were made to 8 Member States. Recommendations referred to a need to systematically review authorisations following establishment of harmonised EU MRLs in 4 Member States and a need to establish provisional MRLs at the time of first authorisation of a plant protection product containing a new active substance in accordance with Article 4(1)(f) of Directive 91/414/EEC in 4 Member States. In the meantime, it is noted that Article 4(1)(f) has been repealed following adoption of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005.

The remaining 2 recommendations referred to deficiencies in the dissemination of information regarding authorisations.

It was noted that implementation and enforcement of Council Directive 1999/45/EC, concerning classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous preparations, including plant protection products, was deficient in 12 Member States. However, the deficiencies related mainly to the lack of labelling for environmental hazard and are expected to be gradually addressed as newly authorised or newly formulated products enter the market.

3.3.1. Essential uses

It was noted that not all Member States sought 'essential uses' for certain active substances under the provisions of Commission Regulations No 835/2004 and 2076/2002, as amended. Four Member States were recommended to ensure that the labels of plant protection products contain only those uses considered as 'essential' and also requested Member States to report on the outcome of efforts, if any, to identify suitable alternatives. It is expected that these deficiencies will become irrelevant as the 'essential uses' are due to expire in 2007.

3.3.2. Parallel Trade

Simplified procedures to facilitate the importation into a Member State of a plant protection product which is identical to a plant protection product already authorised in the importing Member State are set out in Document SANCO 223/2000. Although not legally binding, the procedures were satisfactorily observed in the majority of Member States. Recommendations to consider implementation of the simplified procedures were made to 5 Member States.

In the meantime, a judgement of the European Court of Justice (ECJ Case C-112/02), delivered on 1 April 2004, has re-opened discussions on the procedures.

3.4. Control activities regarding the placing on the market and the use of plant protection products

3.4.1. Training of inspectors

Training of the inspectors who carry out controls was provided in the majority of Member States, with only 2 Member States receiving a recommendation to provide training. In addition, one Member State received a recommendation to provide the appropriate documentation necessary to carry out the inspection controls.

3.4.2. Market controls

Under Article 17 of Directive 91/414/EEC, Member States are required to make the necessary arrangements for plant protection products which have been placed on the market to be officially checked to see whether they comply with the requirements of the Directive.

Deficiencies in the control activities regarding the marketing of plant protection products were noted in 19 Member States, especially regarding the lack of checking of the label and the authorisation status, the lack of procedures and planning for controls and the low frequency of controls. The Member States where deficiencies were noted received recommendations to establish co-ordinated and comprehensive

control plans, and associated procedures, for checking the marketing of plant protection products.

3.4.3. Use controls

Also under Article 17 of Directive 91/414/EEC, Member States are required to make the necessary arrangements for the use of plant protection products which have been placed on the market to be officially checked to see whether they comply with the requirements of the Directive. In addition, Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 applies since January 2006 and stipulates that food business operators, including those involved in producing or harvesting plant products, keep records on any use of plant protection products.

Deficiencies in the control activities regarding the use of plant protection products were found in most Member States, especially regarding the very low number of controls at farm level. Recommendations were made to 21 Member States to include co-ordinated and comprehensive controls of the use of plant protection products in their control plans. It was noted that a number of Member States considered the sampling and analysis of plant produce for the presence of pesticide residues, pre- and post-harvest, to be a form of control on users.

Furthermore, in accordance with Article 17 of Directive 91/414/EEC, Member States are required to report, annually, the results of the inspection measures for marketing and use to the other Member States and to the Commission. Reporting of the outcome of the control activities by the Member States did not include information on all inspections conducted in 9 Member States or was delayed in 1 Member State and, consequently, specific recommendations were made.

3.5. Obsolete pesticides

It was noted that there is no harmonised definition for the term 'Obsolete Pesticides' but many Member States provided un-official definitions, varying from 'pesticide products containing substances banned under Directive 79/117/EEC' to 'pesticide products whose authorisation had expired'. It was agreed by all Member States that 'obsolete pesticides' cannot be marketed or used. Eight Member States were recommended to ensure control and safe destruction of 'obsolete pesticides', so as to avoid possible contamination of food, feed and the environment. The actual total quantities of 'obsolete pesticides' were not known or could not be confirmed in 5 Member States.

3.6. Laboratory for formulation analysis

The capacity and facilities of the laboratories analysing pesticide formulations were found to be sufficient in the majority of the Member States. Minor deficiencies were detected in 5 Member States. Three Member States received recommendations to increase the number of samples of plant protection products being analysed for identity and content of active substance, while 2 Member States, which had temporarily suspended performing analyses, were recommended to recommence analyses.

4. MAIN FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS REGARDING CONTROL SYSTEMS FOR PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN FOODSTUFFS OF PLANT ORIGIN

4.1. Legislation

Transposition of EU legislation relating to pesticide residues was generally satisfactory. A recommendation to avoid delays in transposition of amendments to Directives 76/895/EEC, 86/362/EEC and 90/642/EEC was made to 1 Member State.

4.1.1. National legislation

Member States were requested, where harmonised EU MRLs do not exist, to consider establishing national MRLs for all the active substances authorised in their territory. However, Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 will resolve the issue through the establishment of temporary EU MRLs in Annex III of the Regulation.

4.2. Competent authorities

The competent authorities have been clearly identified in each Member State. However, some overlap of competencies of different competent authorities was noted and, in the case of 5 Member States, deficiencies in communication and co-ordination between different relevant services were found. Recommendations to address these deficiencies were made in such cases.

4.3. Control activities regarding pesticide residues

4.3.1. Planning, priorities and scope

The sampling plans, procedures and activities of the Member States regarding pesticides residues were found to be sufficient in 20 Member States. The remaining 5 Member States were asked to consider broadening the scope of the sampling plan through increasing the number of samples, the number of commodities and/or the range of analytes in the analytical screen of the laboratories.

Provisions for the maximum levels of pesticide residues in baby foods for infants and young children and for infant formulae and follow-on formulae are specified under the Commission Directives 91/321/EEC and 96/5/EC respectively. Deficiencies in implementation of the requirements established by these Directives were found in Member States. Recommendations were made to 7 Member States to establish or implement control plans to monitor baby food according to the requirements of the Directives and to 7 Member States to improve the sensitivity of the analytical methods used by the laboratories.

4.3.2. Sampling

Commission Directive 2002/63/EC establishes Community methods of sampling for the official control of pesticide residues in and on products of plant and animal origin. Deficiencies in the application of the Directive were noted in 13 Member States, particularly regarding inadequate sealing and labelling of the samples, samples not being representative and not ensuring the minimum size of sample. Consequently, recommendations were made to these Member States to ensure full compliance with requirements of the Directive.

4.3.3. Reporting and follow up of infringements

The requirements to submit reports to the Commission, in accordance with Articles 4(3) and 7(3) of Council Directives 90/642/EEC and 86/362/EEC respectively, have been met by all Member States. However, 4 Member States submitted incomplete reports of the results of monitoring, and these Member States received recommendations to ensure that all monitoring results and analytical results are forwarded to the European Commission in accordance with the Directives.

In the case of MRL infringements most Member States conducted risk assessment for consumers, but not always in a consistent or systematic manner. In 9 Member States deficiencies were noted and resulted in recommendations to ensure risk assessments are conducted systematically.

A majority of Member States demonstrated adequate follow-up of infringements detected relating to excessive pesticide residues. However, in the case of 10 of Member States, systematic follow-up of infringements detected was deficient. The main deficiency related to delays in following up on infringements.

4.4. Laboratories for pesticide residue analysis

Organisation

Laboratories were organised in many different ways in the Member States, with 9 Member States each engaging only 1 laboratory for analysis for pesticide residues in food of plant origin and a further 9 Member States each engaging 2 to 4 laboratories.

Difficulties were noted in co-ordination of activities in some Member States where many laboratories were involved in analysing for the presence of pesticide residues and were operated by different central or regional authorities.

The time-span between sampling and reporting of the analytical results varied greatly - from less than 1 week to over 1 year in the laboratories visited. For 13 Member States, the overall time-span was found to be acceptable. However, in order to facilitate appropriate and effective follow-up in the case of non-compliant samples, recommendations to reduce the time-span was made to 12 Member States.

Resources and training

All of the 37 laboratories visited were equipped with Gas Chromatographs with various detectors and most also had High Pressure Liquid Chromatographs. Eleven laboratories had Liquid Chromatographs with Mass Spectrometry, although not all were fully operational at the time of the mission.

Training of laboratory staff was sufficiently addressed by all but one Member State. In this case, a recommendation to provide more training for the staff involved in the monitoring of pesticide residues was made.

Analysis

The number of pesticide analytes sought by the laboratories visited varied from as few as 7 up to 460 analytes. Recommendations were made to 17 Member States to increase the scope of analysis for pesticide residues so as to better reflect the pesticides commonly being marketed and used and to provide enhanced protection for the consumer.

Quality assurance system

The overall position with regard to accreditation has improved since the previous series. The lack of accreditation to ISO 17025 standards was particularly noted in those Member States where many laboratories were engaged in pesticide residue analysis and where the scope of analysis was limited. In total, 6 Member States received recommendations that all laboratories involved in analysis for pesticide residues pursue and achieve accreditation.

Compliance with the EU Quality Control Procedures for Pesticide Analyses (Document SANCO/10476/2003) was found to be generally satisfactory. However, compliance was found to be substantially lacking in 2 of the laboratories visited and to be deficient in 11 of the other laboratories visited, despite the fact that 8 of those 13 laboratories were accredited to ISO 17025 standards. Consequently, 10 Member States were encouraged to implement the guidelines fully. Furthermore, it was noted that measurement uncertainty was not taken into account in 7 Member States when taking decisions on compliance of samples with established MRLs.

4.5. Rapid Alert System

In case of MRL infringements in food of plant origin, competent authorities shall ensure that any information relating to a risk to human health from the presence of excessive pesticide residues is assessed. Where a risk to human health is identified, the national contact point for the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) should be notified and the information should be forwarded to the European Commission in accordance with Article 50 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and the Council. A "Draft Guidance document on notification criteria for pesticide residues findings to the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)" (SANCO/3346/2001, rev 7) has been published at the following address:

(http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/protection/resources/rasff_pest_res_en.pdf).

The system was seen to work well in 11 of the Member States. However, in the case of 14 Member States, improvements in the system were recommended. The main deficiencies related to the lack of procedures for systematic consumer risk assessment, a lack of communication between the competent authorities and the national contact point and a lack of communication between the national contact point and the European Commission.

4.6. Follow-up of recommendations from previous mission series

The first mission series between 1998 and 2003 included missions to 15 Member States. Missions to 4 Member States had taken place before the legal basis existed for such missions, as provided for in Article 5 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 645/2000. Consequently, 'suggestions' rather than 'recommendations' were made to these Member States.

Overall, 66 recommendations and 21 suggestions were made. A total of 51 recommendations and 15 suggestions were considered, during the second series, to be either partially or fully addressed. The remaining 15 recommendations, which had not been addressed, mainly related to control of the marketing and use of plant protection products, to the reporting of such controls under Article 17 of Directive 91/414/EEC and to the lack of accreditation in the residue laboratories. The

remaining 6 suggestions, which had not been addressed, related mainly to testing of formulations of plant protection products.

Where relevant, the recommendations and suggestions, which were not addressed or were partially addressed, were revised to take account of changes in the legislation and/or progress made since the first mission series. The revised recommendations were included in the reports of the second series of missions.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

The following is a summary of the main recommendations made in individual mission reports. It should be noted that not every recommendation applies to each Member State:

Marketing & Use of plant protection products:

1. In accordance with Article 17 of Council Directive 91/414/EEC, the competent authorities should establish co-ordinated and comprehensive inspection and enforcement procedures, including follow-up, to control the marketing and use of plant protection products.
2. The competent authorities should ensure that the annual report to the Commission, in the framework of Article 17 of Council Directive 91/414/EEC, includes results of all the inspection measures.
3. The competent authorities should ensure that all plant protection products on the market are classified and labelled fully in accordance with Directive 1999/45/EC.

Pesticide residues in products of plant origin:

4. The competent authorities should ensure that a co-ordinated plan is operated so that all food of plant origin, including babyfood, is monitored for pesticide residues at market level and that, in cases of non-compliance, appropriate enforcement measures are taken.
5. To ensure adequate enforcement of pesticide MRLs, as specified in Council Directives 76/895/EEC, 86/362/EEC and 90/642/EEC, as amended and Commission Directives 91/321/EEC and 96/5/EC, as amended, the competent authorities should
 - ensure that sampling is carried out fully in accordance with Commission Directive 2002/63/EC;
 - consider increasing the number of samples taken for monitoring and follow-up.

In addition, all laboratories involved in official pesticide residue controls should:

- continue to seek accreditation;
- increase the range of pesticides and metabolites in the analytical screens;
- ensure the quantification limits meet the requirements of EU MRL legislation, particularly with respect to Commission Directives 91/321/EEC and 96/5/EC;

- reduce the time-lapse between sampling for pesticide residues analysis and reporting of results, so as to allow adequate enforcement and follow-up actions as well as any necessary emergency measures.
6. In cases of MRL infringements, the competent authorities should establish procedures and carry out systematic and rapid consumer risk assessment, and should consider implementing the "Draft Guidance Document on notification criteria for pesticide residues findings to the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)", (SANCO/3346/2001, as amended).

6. ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION SERVICES

6.1. Follow-up of mission recommendations

For each mission, a copy of the Final Report was sent to the national competent authorities with a request for an 'Action Plan', indicating the proposed actions to be taken by the competent authorities to address the report's recommendations.

A deadline was set for the receipt of these plans and the response of the competent authorities was analysed. Six of the Member States addressed all of the recommendations with satisfactory responses in their action plans. In the case of 10 Member States, some of the recommendations had not been addressed satisfactorily but the overall responses were acceptable. However, in the case of 4 Member States, the proposed 'Action Plan' was found to be unacceptable. Where it was considered that the proposed actions did not satisfactorily address the recommendations, the Commission's services use the options available to it, including follow up General Review Missions and correspondence with the competent authorities concerned.

6.2. Additional action by the Commission Services

Control systems for the placing on the market and use of plant protection products

Discussions, according to the co-decision procedure, on a proposal for a new Regulation, which will repeal Directive 91/414/EEC, are currently ongoing at the Council and the Parliament. In parallel and in an effort to ensure a consistent approach by Member States, the Commission Strategy on Sustainable Use of Pesticides, which addresses, among others, issues such as training, certification of users and equipment and the keeping of records is also being discussed. Both proposals will harmonise requirements for control on marketing and use of plant protection products.

In addition, a separate implementing regulation is proposed to strengthen and elaborate the provisions of Article 17 of Directive 91/414/EEC concerning control measures.

With regard to reporting under Article 17 of the Directive, Member States are systematically reminded at the Standing Committee for the Food Chain and Animal Health to report the outcome of their controls.

Control systems for residues in foodstuffs of plant origin

A Regulation the European Parliament and the Council for the setting of maximum residue levels for pesticide residues in food has been adopted. The Regulation will

fully come into force when all Annexes are completed and will result in all MRLs for all agricultural products will be harmonised in the EU.

The Commission adopts on a yearly basis a Commission Recommendation concerning an EU Co-ordinated Monitoring programme to monitor compliance with Community maximum residue levels (MRLs) for pesticide residues in and on cereals and certain products of plant origin, including fruit and vegetables. The Recommendation reflects the need to monitor compliance with MRLs for those pesticides which are more frequently detected or are of particular concern because of their toxicological profile. The list of pesticides to be checked is reviewed annually with the support of the competent authorities of the Member States. The Commission invites the Member States to improve their monitoring capacities, for example, by increasing the number of pesticides to be monitored and/or by increasing the number of samples to be analysed. Since 1996, it has increased 3-fold the number of crop-pesticide combinations to be monitored and has doubled the number of samples to be taken by the Member States. Under the new Regulation, it will be compulsory for Member States to implement the Co-ordinated programme.

The Member States are required to report to the Commission the results of their Monitoring programmes. The Commission analyses and integrates these results into the "Monitoring report of pesticide residues in products of plant origin", which is published annually at the following address:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/specialreports/pesticides_index_en.htm

Since 2006, 4 Community Reference Laboratories have been established for cereals and feedingstuffs; food of animal origin and commodities with high fat content; fruit and vegetables, including commodities with high water and high acid content, and single residue methods. Their responsibilities include promoting research and supporting, through National Reference Laboratories, the laboratories in the Member States by organising proficiency tests, developing guidelines on analytical quality control, developing and validating methods of analysis and sampling and providing the Commission with technical and scientific advice.

The European Food Safety Agency is developing guidance to evaluate the additive and synergistic effects of pesticides. It has organised a workshop on this subject and is due to make further proposals in September 2007.

ANNEX 1 – LEGAL BASIS

The missions were carried out under the general provisions of Community legislation and in agreement with the respective central competent authorities.

In particular, the missions were carried out under Article 5 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 645/2000 setting out detailed implementing rules necessary for the proper functioning of certain provisions of Article 7 of Council Directive 86/362/EEC and of Article 4 of Council Directive 90/642/EEC concerning the arrangements for monitoring the maximum levels of pesticide residues in and on cereals and products of plant origin, including fruit and vegetables, respectively.

Missions, conducted since 1 January 2006, were also carried out under Article 45 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules.

European Legislation	Official Journal	Title
Directive 76/895/EEC	OJ L 340, 09/12/1976, p. 0026 - 0031	Council Directive 76/895/EEC of 23 November 1976 relating to the fixing of maximum levels for pesticide residues in and on fruit and vegetables.
Directive 79/117/EEC	OJ L 33, 08/02/1979, p. 0036 - 0040	Council Directive 79/117/EEC of 21 December 1978 prohibiting the placing on the market and use of plant protection products containing certain active substances.
Directive 86/362/EEC	OJ L 221, 07/08/1986, p. 0037 - 0042	Council Directive 86/362/EEC of 24 July 1986 on the fixing of maximum levels for pesticide residues in and on cereals.
Directive 90/642/EEC	OJ L 350, 14/12/1990, p. 0071 - 0079	Council Directive 90/642/EEC of 27 November 1990 on the fixing of maximum levels for pesticide residues in and on certain products of plant origin, including fruit and vegetables.
Directive 91/321/EEC	OJ L 175, 04/07/1991, p. 0035 - 0049	Commission Directive 91/321/EEC of 14 May 1991 on infant formulae and follow-on formulae.
Directive 91/414/EEC	OJ L 230, 19/08/1991, p. 0001 - 0032	Council Directive 91/414/EEC of 15 July 1991 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market.
Directive 96/5/EC	OJ L 49, 28/02/1996, p. 0017 - 0028	Commission Directive 96/5/EC, Euratom of 16 February 1996 on processed cereal-based foods and baby foods for infants and young children.
Directive 1999/45/EC	OJ L 200, 30/07/1999, p. 0001 - 0068	Directive 1999/45/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 May 1999 concerning the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous preparations.
Regulation (EC) No 645/2000	OJ L 78, 29/03/2000, p. 0007 - 0009	Commission Regulation (EC) No 645/2000 of 28 March 2000 setting out detailed implementing rules necessary for the proper functioning of certain provisions of Article 7 of Council Directive 86/362/EEC and of Article 4 of Council Directive 90/642/EEC concerning the arrangements for monitoring the maximum levels of pesticide residues in and on cereals and products of plant origin, including fruit and vegetables, respectively.
Regulation (EC) No 178/2002	OJ L 31, 01/02/2002, p.0001 - 0024	Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety.

European Legislation	Official Journal	Title
Directive 2002/63/EC	OJ L 187, 16/07/2002, p. 0030 - 0043	Commission Directive 2002/63/EC of 11 July 2002 establishing Community methods of sampling for the official control of pesticide residues in and on products of plant and animal origin and repealing Directive 79/700/EEC.
Regulation (EC) No 2076/2002	OJ L 319, 23/11/2002, p. 0003 - 0011	Commission Regulation (EC) No 2076/2002 of 20 November 2002 extending the time period referred to in Article 8(2) of Council Directive 91/414/EEC and concerning the non-inclusion of certain active substances in Annex I to that Directive and the withdrawal of authorisations for plant protection products containing these substances.
Regulation (EC) No 882/2004	OJ L 165, 30/04/2004. Corrected and re-published in OJ L 191, 28/05/2004 p. 0001 - 0052	Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules.

ANNEX 2 - DETAILS OF MISSIONS UNDERTAKEN

Mission reference number	Member State	Dates of mission	Web Link
DG(SANCO)/9246/2003	Ireland	15–18 September 2003	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=3523
DG(SANCO)/9250/2003	Portugal	13 – 17 October 2003	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=3483
DG(SANCO)/9260/2003	Austria	1 – 5 December 2003	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4293
DG(SANCO)/7070/2004	Germany	22 – 26 March 2004	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4023
DG(SANCO)/7071/2004	Denmark	24 - 28 May 2004	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4124
DG(SANCO)/7072/2004	Netherlands	21 - 25 June 2004	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4185
DG(SANCO)/7313/2004	Estonia	19 – 21 July 2004	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4399
DG(SANCO)/7319/2004	Spain	13-17 September 2004	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4351
DG(SANCO)/7318/2004	Italy	27 September – 1 October 2004	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4521
DG(SANCO)/7330/2004	Cyprus	18 – 22 October 2004	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4551
DG(SANCO)/7333/2004	Greece	15 – 19 November 2004	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4566
DG(SANCO)/7562/2005	United Kingdom	31 January – 4 February 2005	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4579
DG(SANCO)/7564/2005	Hungary	28 February – 4 March 2005	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4893
DG(SANCO)/7631/2005	Slovakia	4 – 8 April 2005	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4680
DG(SANCO)/7628/2005	Czech Republic	25 – 29 April 2005	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4718
DG(SANCO)/7654/2005	Latvia	27 June – 1 July 2005	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4826
DG(SANCO)/7665/2005	Poland	4 – 8 July 2005	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4854
DG(SANCO)/7667/2005	Lituania	5 – 9 September 2005	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4922
DG(SANCO)/7668/2005	Slovenia	19 – 23 September 2005	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=4938
DG(SANCO)/7671/2005	Malta	3 - 6 October 2005	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=5049
DG(SANCO)/8099/2006	Luxembourg	9 – 13 January 2006	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=5192

Mission reference number	Member State	Dates of mission	Web Link
DG(SANCO)/8103/2006	Belgium	27 February – 3 March 2006	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=5387
DG(SANCO)/8108/2006	Finland	24 – 28 April 2006	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=5431
DG(SANCO)/8114/2006	France	29 May – 2 June 2006	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=5472
DG(SANCO)/8115/2006	Sweden	12 – 16 June 2006	http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=5540