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### **HELLENIC MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD**

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**DIRECTORATE OF PLANT PRODUCE PROTECTION**

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**HELLENIC MULTI ANNUAL CONTROL PROGRAMME FOR PESTICIDE RESIDUES**

**MONITORING 2022-2024**

[**http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/en/citizen-menu/foodsafety-menu**](http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/en/citizen-menu/foodsafety-menu)

**According to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and the Council**

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

The Multiannual National Control Programme for pesticide residues (Monitoring) 2021-2023 has been established according to the terms and conditions of Articles 26-35 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and the Council, of 23.02.2005 (Reg.2017/625 Art. 155).

The planned controls on pesticide residues, consisting of sampling and laboratory analysis, will be carried out in order to enforce compliance with Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 in accordance with the relevant provisions of EU law relating to official controls for food and feed.

The Hellenic Ministry of Rural Development and Food (MRDF) (Directorate of Plant Produce Protection) is the national authority responsible for coordinating the implementation of Regulation (EC) 396/2005 (national law 4036/2020, GG8/2012).

The General Directorate of Agriculture of MRDF is the Central Competent Authority for the implementation of article 4 paragraph 1 of Regulation (EC) 2017/625 for pesticide residues of plant origin food and non processed products as defined in Regulation (EC) 852/2004 while for the processed products the responsible authority is EFET (Hellenic Food Authority). For the implementation of article 1 paragraph 3 of Regulation (EC) 2017/625, the Central Competent Authority for controls of pesticide residues is the MRDF (Directorate of Plant Produce Protection) (national law 4691/2020, GG108/2020). The contrοls of pesticide residues in wine are organised by the General Chemical State.

The programme is risk-based and the distribution of the samples intends to ensure that the results are representative of the market. It aims at assessing consumer exposure and compliance with current legislation in order to achieve a high level of protection and application of good agricultural practice in all stages of production and harvest of agricultural products.

The Multiannual Control Programme according to Commission Regulation (EU) 2021/601 to ensure compliance with maximum residue levels of pesticides and to assess the consumer exposure to pesticide residues in and on food of plant and animal origin, has been incorporated in the multiannual national control programme for 2022-2024.

Updates of the multiannual national control programme for pesticide residues will be submitted annually.

Sampling strategy will be based on “from the farm to the fork” rationale, taking into account the specificities of each region of the country. The sampling methods, necessary for carrying out such controls of pesticide residues, are those provided for in JMD 91972/2003 (Directive 2002/63/EC) and in additional circulars issued which are published at the official web site of the Hellenic Ministry of Rural Development and Food (<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-farmer-2/crop-production/fytoprostasiamenu/elenxoifitoprostateytikonmenu/527-odigies-ele-arxes/879-katefintiriesarxes>).

Samples will be taken by domestic production and imports, proportionally, covering points of collection, storage, packing and trade of products of plant origin (retailers, wholesalers, packaging, customs, manufacturers, etc). For feed, sampling and analysis is carried out according to Regulation (EC) 152/2009/EC as amended.

The official laboratories analysing samples for pesticide residues which are the Laboratory of Pesticides Residues of Benaki Phytopathological Institute (BPI), the Laboratory of Pesticide Residues of the Regional Centre of Plant Protection and Quality Control of Thessaloniki (RCPP&QC), and the General Chemical State Laboratory (GCSL) are accredited and participate in the Community Proficiency Tests. The methods of analysis used by the laboratories comply with the criteria set out in relevant EU law provisions and other adopted technical guidelines.

Effective, proportionate and dissuasive sanctions, predicted in national legislation, will be imposed in any case of infringement of the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. (<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-farmer-2/crop-production/fytoprostasiamenu/elenxoifitoprostateytikonmenu/745-apotelesmata-elegxon>).

The control programs for pesticide residues and the report of results of the national residue monitoring are published on the official web site of the Hellenic Ministry of Rural Development and Food on an annual basis (<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-farmer-2/crop-production/fytoprostasiamenu/ypoleimatafyto>).

**2. CRITERIA APPLIED IN DRAWING UP THE PROGRAMME**

Based on a risk approach, the criteria and factors applied in drawing up the programme include:

* Number of samples (domestic and imported) for each product
* Agricultural produce
* Cultivation area per culture
* Expected imports
* Results from previous years’ monitoring programmes and EFSA’s recommendations
* Dietary intake contribution of each product
* Sampling location
* Pesticides used in practice by the farmers
* Community control programme
* Relevant RASFF notifications for pesticide residues
* Personnel and analytical capacity of the official laboratories

**3. NUMBER, PRODUCTS OF PLANT AND ANIMAL ORIGIN TO BE SAMPLED AND PESTICIDES TO BE ANALYSED**

1) Based on the above mentioned criteria, the products of plant and animal origin to be sampled during 2022, 2023 and 2024 according to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005, are mentioned in detail in the attached excel file.

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2) The number of analytes presented in the attached file is increased annually based on a priority list which is prepared taking into account the latest EFSA Scientific report on pesticide residues in food, the detections of analytes in the EU, RASFF Notifications, the scope of the laboratories as well as the new authorizations of plant protection products in the country or import tolerances.