



Annual Report of the

# **PESTICIDE RESIDUES COMMITTEE**

## **2006**



Pesticide Residues Committee

© Crown copyright 2007

**You may reproduce this publication in any way, free of charge, as long as you reproduce it accurately and do not use it in a misleading way. You must make it known that the material is copyright of the Crown and give the title and source of this publication.**

**You can get further copies from:**

Pesticides Safety Directorate  
Information Section  
Mallard House  
Kings Pool  
3 Peasholme Green  
York  
YO1 7PX

Phone: 01904 455775  
Fax: 01904 455733  
E-mail: [information@psd.defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:information@psd.defra.gsi.gov.uk)

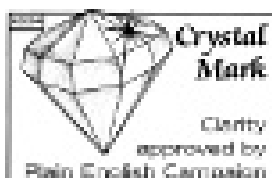
**This document is also available on the Pesticides Safety Directorate website at**

**<http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/prc.asp?id=1937>.**

**Published by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.**

**The photographs on pages 3 and 5 were taken by Paul Ashby and Martin Roberts.**

**Printed in the UK, September 2007, on material containing at least 75% waste paper.**



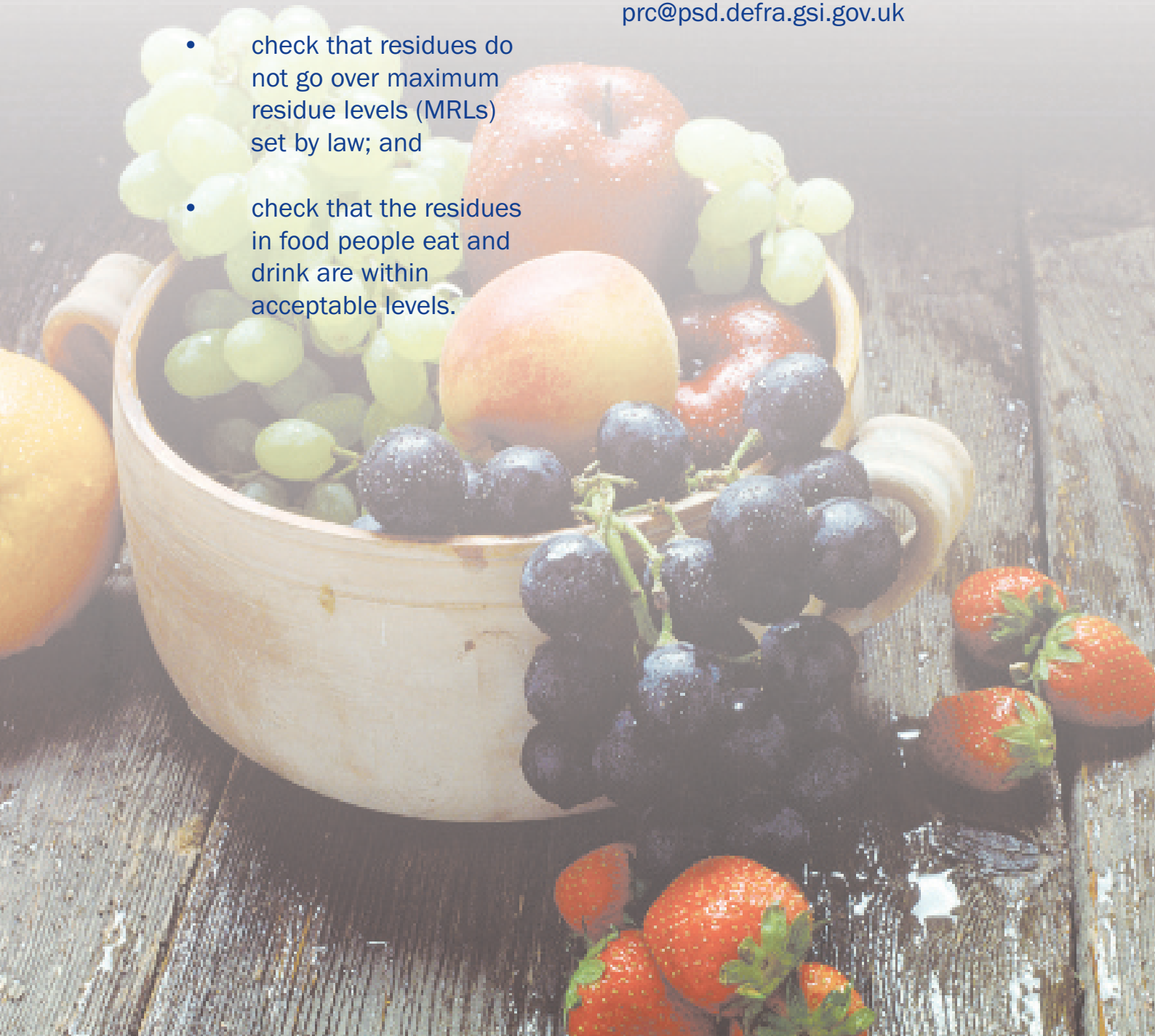
We are the Pesticide Residues Committee. We oversee a programme to check food and drink in the UK for pesticide residues. The purpose of the programme is to:

- back up the legal process of approving pesticides by checking that there are no unexpected residues;
- check that residues do not go over maximum residue levels (MRLs) set by law; and
- check that the residues in food people eat and drink are within acceptable levels.

This report summarises the results from our monitoring of samples collected throughout 2006. It also describes the work we are doing in 2007 and 2008.

Details of all the samples we have collected and tested are available on our website at [www.prc-uk.org](http://www.prc-uk.org)

If you have any comments on this report you can send them to [prc@psd.defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:prc@psd.defra.gsi.gov.uk)



# CONTENTS

	Page	
1	Chairman's foreword	1
2	About us	2
3	Our monitoring programme	4
4	Position of shopping centres	6
5	Food tested in 2006	7
6	Our findings from the 2006 programme	8
7	Results - fruit and vegetables	9
8	Results - starchy foods and grains	11
9	Results - animal products	12
10	Results - baby food	13
11	Results - other groceries	14
12	Results - School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme	15
13	Organic samples	18
14	Residues above MRLs	19
15	Dietary intakes and the risk to people	20
16	Results - information supplied by the food industry	22
17	Follow-up action	23
18	2007 and 2008 programme	24
19	Pesticides law	25
20	Update from the Food Standards Agency	27
21	Communications	29
22	Our committee members	30
	Annex 1. All residues found above the MRL	33
	Contact addresses	35

# 1 Chairman's foreword

Dear reader,

Welcome to our seventh annual report which summarises our work during 2006. We have continued to publish our test results every three months through the year, as well as the results of monthly surveys on grapes, which we pay particular attention to because of high levels of pesticides that have sometimes been found in them. As people become more aware of the environmental and health consequences of how food is produced, they also become more interested in the results of our testing programme. We do not give advice on or discuss different production methods. We do assess how our results show users of pesticides keep to pesticides law and if there are any concerns for people's health.

This annual report continues to show that in most of the food we tested we did not find pesticide residues. Our monitoring programme is aimed mainly at foods where we expect to find residues. Because of this, we cannot assume that our findings represent the UK food supply as a whole and samples with residues may be over-represented. 1.7% of the food we tested contained residues above the maximum residue levels (MRLs) set by law. Although these residues are illegal, they are not always a risk to the health of people who have eaten that food. With such results we carry out a full risk assessment to see if there are any risks to people's health. Our risk assessments always look at the most vulnerable people such as toddlers and infants and we explain our main findings in this report. We also carry out combined risk assessments if we find two or more pesticide residues that may cause the same specific effects on people.

This year, as in recent years, nearly all the residues we found were not likely to affect people's health. However, we must follow up problems we identify and do what we can to deal with them. We appreciate the responses from growers, retailers and importers who have acted quickly and positively to the problems we have written to them about.

During 2006 we also monitored residues in food supplied to schoolchildren as part of the Department of Health's School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme. The scheme provides one piece of fruit or vegetable a day to schoolchildren in England aged four to six (up to Key Stage 2).

I can understand people have concerns about pesticide residues in their food, but as a doctor I cannot overemphasise the importance of continuing to eat at least five portions of fruit and vegetables a day. Scientific evidence shows that the health benefits far outweigh any concerns about pesticide residues.

We want people to find information about the work of our committee and the monitoring programme we oversee. I hope you find our website at [www.prc-uk.org](http://www.prc-uk.org) useful. We would welcome any feedback you have. Our contact details are at the back of this report.

Yours sincerely



**Dr. Ian Brown OBE BSc Agric. FRCP FFOM  
Chairman, Pesticide Residues Committee**



## 2 About us

Our programme monitors pesticide residues in food. The term ‘residue’ means the traces of pesticide which may be found in our food. The agriculture and food industries use pesticides to help them produce food more efficiently by removing unwanted pests such as insects, weeds or fungal infections. The UK Government and EU provide regulations that the agriculture and food industry must work within.

We give advice on:

- planning monitoring programmes for pesticide residues in the UK’s food supply and evaluating the results;
- procedures for taking and processing samples; and
- new methods of analysing samples.

We make our findings and recommendations available in an understandable way and in good time.

We were set up in 2000. We give advice on our monitoring programme to:

- ministers;
- the Chief Executive of the Food Standards Agency (FSA); and
- the Chief Executive of the Pesticides Safety Directorate (PSD).

Our members are appointed jointly by the Chief Executive of the FSA, ministers from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Department of Health, the Scottish Executive, the National Assembly for Wales and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for Northern Ireland. One member of the committee is appointed by the FSA alone.

We meet four times a year. Representatives from various government departments and the FSA come to our meetings. The PSD, an executive agency of Defra, provides our administration. Every year we hold an open meeting where members of the public join us to discuss pesticide residues in food. See [section 21](#) for more details.

More information on our members is given in [section 22](#).

### The Bigger Picture

People are concerned about the way food is produced and are debating the future of food production for both environmental and health reasons. Pesticides have the potential to harm people and wildlife, or spread into the environment, so they must be handled with care. UK government and EU policy allows pesticides to be used in UK agriculture, but within a framework of regulations.

Because regulating pesticides is a complex area, there are a number of different groups involved. We are not responsible for approving pesticides, or for giving advice on dealing with the consequences of using pesticides, for example, incidents affecting wildlife and pets. The Advisory Committee on Pesticides (ACP) is responsible for these areas.

Before a pesticide can be sold and used in the UK it must pass through an approval process carried out by the ACP. If they approve a pesticide, ACP sets the conditions for that approval,

such as which crops it can be used on, how, and at what levels. The ACP also assesses any new information that emerges about any approved pesticide, to see if it should be withdrawn from sale. The ACPs work increasingly takes place as part of the EUs regulatory regime for pesticides.

Our role within this process is to check on the system. We assess whether residues of pesticides are at levels higher than has been set by the regulatory bodies, and if so whether they are likely to damage human health (based on current evidence).

We are open in how we work, for instance by publishing the brand names of our test results. As long as we work within the current policy and regulatory system set by the Government, we hope to encourage producers and retailers to be responsible in their use of pesticides.

Most residues come from pesticides being used on crops. To work effectively, pesticides must be used in appropriate amounts and at the right time. The amount of residue in a food depends on:

- the amount of pesticide used;
- when the pesticide was used;
- the chemical properties of the pesticide; and
- the type of crop and how it is grown.

Residues can occasionally result from contamination in the environment.

## MRLs

Maximum residue levels (MRLs) are the maximum levels of pesticide expected in crops which have been treated in line with good agricultural practice. Some pesticides may not be used at all on some crops in Europe. In these cases, the MRL may be set at the lowest level that can be routinely detected, known as the 'limit of determination' (LOD). Finding a residue above the MRL does not always mean there is a problem with the safety of that food.

## Regulations

MRLs are set by law in:

- the Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels in Crops, Food and Feeding Stuff) (England and Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended);
- the Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels in Crops, Food and Feeding Stuff) (Scotland) Regulations 2005 (as amended); and
- the Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels in Crops, Food and Feeding Stuff) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006.

These regulations list all MRLs set in the EC. The regulations change as MRLs are set for increasing numbers of pesticides and MRLs that already exist are changed.

There are a number of pesticides which do not yet have MRLs set by law. If there is no MRL set by law for a particular pesticide, we advise food suppliers to keep to any appropriate levels set by the Codex Alimentarius Commission (a United Nations body which promotes worldwide food standards). MRLs set by Codex have not been set by law but they provide a guide for international trade. We use them to check whether food meets trading standards.

## 3 Our monitoring programme

We are interested in whether food meets international and national trading standards for residue levels (see section 14). We check that the residues people eat and drink are not a risk to their health. We also need to monitor food available in the UK to make sure that there are no unexpected residues.

### Survey categories

We have reported the results in the following groups.

- Fruit and vegetables (including potatoes) – section 7
- Starchy foods and grains – section 8
- Animal products – section 9
- Baby food – section 10
- Other groceries – section 11

We also have included sections on organic samples, residues we found above the MRL and the risk assessments we considered in 2006.

### European Union surveys

All European Union (EU) countries monitor food for pesticide residues. To co-ordinate activities, each year the European Commission proposes a number of surveys to be carried out by all member states. The surveys are usually of fruit and vegetables. The number of samples to be analysed is greater for the countries with larger populations (such as the UK). Results from EU surveys are published as a single report on the Commission's website ([www.europa.eu.int/comm/food/fvo/specialreports/pesticides\\_index\\_en.htm](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/food/fvo/specialreports/pesticides_index_en.htm)).

The EU surveys may be aimed at different pesticides than the UK surveys, partly because they often focus on checking residues against recently set MRLs. We sometimes extend the range of pesticides we are looking for in a particular survey to also cover uses of pesticides specific to the UK.

EU surveys in 2006 were of aubergines, bananas, cauliflower, grapes, orange juice, peas, peppers and wheat. We report on the EU surveys in the relevant section for that type of food.

### Collecting and analysing samples

EU law tells us the size of sample we need to check. For example, for apples the sample must be made up of at least 10 apples and it must weigh at least 1 kilogram.

We sent the samples to one of the following laboratories to be analysed.

- Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI), Belfast
- Central Science Laboratory (CSL), Defra, Sand Hutton, York
- Eurofins Laboratories, Wolverhampton
- LGC Ltd, Teddington
- Scottish Agricultural Science Agency (SASA), Edinburgh



## Reasons for choosing foods

There is a wide range of food available in the UK throughout the year. To make the most of resources and make sure a range of food is tested, our programme changes from year to year.

The food we choose to include in our surveys takes account of:

- the foods covered by the EU programme of surveys;
- how important the food is in our diets;
- evidence of or information on residues in earlier surveys;
- information on pesticides approved for various foods;
- the time that has passed since the food was last tested;
- the balance of food types (for example, fruit and vegetables, cereals, and so on); and
- cost.

See the centre pages of this report to find out more about how we choose foods.

## Reasons for choosing pesticides we test for

The pesticides we choose to test for depends on:

- what we know about the pesticides being used on various types of crops in different countries;
- what we know about the pesticides being found in various types of crops in different countries;
- the potential risks from residues of that pesticide; and
- maximum residue levels (MRL) set.

**Section 19** sets out the pesticide laws we keep to.

We publish detailed results from the programme every three months. The following reports are available on our website ([www.pesticides.gov.uk/prc.asp?id=1937](http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/prc.asp?id=1937)).

<b>Report</b>	<b>When samples were collected</b>
Quarter 1 2006	January to March 2006
Quarter 2 2006	Up to June 2006
Quarter 3 2006	Up to September 2006
Quarter 4 2006	Up to December 2006

You can also get copies of these reports from PSD.

**E-mail: [information@psd.defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:information@psd.defra.gsi.gov.uk) Phone: 01904 455775**

## 4 Location of shopping centres

Each year, we change the places we get samples from. We make sure that all regions of the United Kingdom are represented. We collected most of our samples (over 3000) from shops and market stalls in 24 towns and cities throughout the UK. Defra inspectors also collected about 500 samples from ports, wholesalers and import points. We publish the details of where we collect our samples from in our reports every three months.



## 5 Food tested in 2006

For some surveys, we collect samples over a three-month period. However, when the source of a particular food changes with the seasons, so there may be different pesticide residues at different times of the year, we may collect samples over six, nine or 12 months. This makes it more likely that we sample food that has been treated with different pesticides for different reasons. This is the case for most fruit and vegetables. Sometimes we report the results of six months' sampling together. Our reports do not contain the same number of samples. This is why the reports for quarter 1 and quarter 3 do not have as many types of food as the reports for quarter 2 and quarter 4. These are the foods we tested in 2006.

<b>Quarter 1 report</b> (January to March 2006, results published September 2006)	<b>Quarter 2 report</b> (Up to June 2006, results published December 2006)	<b>Quarter 3 report</b> (Up to September 2006, results published March 2007)	<b>Quarter 4 report</b> (Up to December 2006, results published June 2007)
Baby leaf salad	Apples	Baby leaf salad	Apples
Grapes	Aubergines	Blueberries	Aubergines
Lamb	Bacon	Cherries	Bacon
Lettuce	Bananas	Dried fruits	Bananas
Milk	Cauliflower	Grapes	Cauliflower
Sea fish	Cheese	Infant food	Cheese
Speciality fruit	Cooked or cured pork	Lamb	Cherries
	Grapefruit	Milk	Cooked or cured pork
	Grapes	Ordinary bread	Flour
	Lemons	Plums	Grapefruit
	Lettuce	Shellfish	Grapes
	Milk	Speciality bread	Lemons
	Orange juice	Speciality fruit	Milk
	Pears		Orange juice
	Peas		Ordinary bread
	Peppers		Pears
	Plums		Peas
	Potatoes		Peppers
	Shellfish		Plums
	Soya milk		Potatoes
	Speciality fruit		Sea fish
	Spinach		Speciality bread
			Soya pieces and tofu
			Tinned plums
			Wheat
			Yams

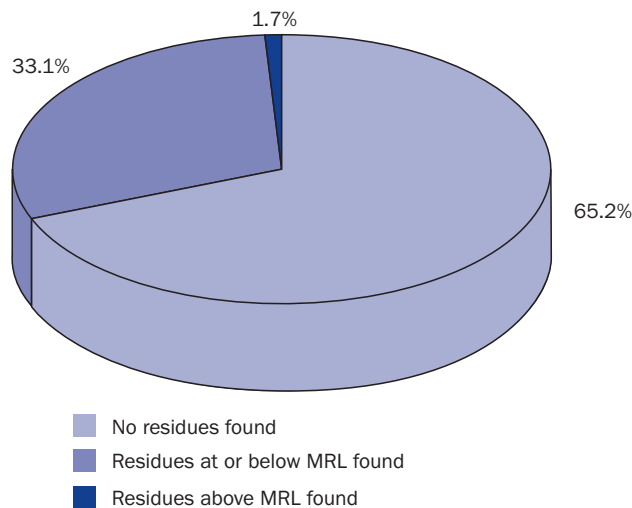
## 6 Our findings from the 2006 programme

We analysed 3562 samples. Of the pesticides we looked for, we found no residues in 65.2% of samples, residues were below the MRL in 33.1% of samples, and residues were above the MRL in 1.7% of samples. The results are summarised in [sections 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11](#).

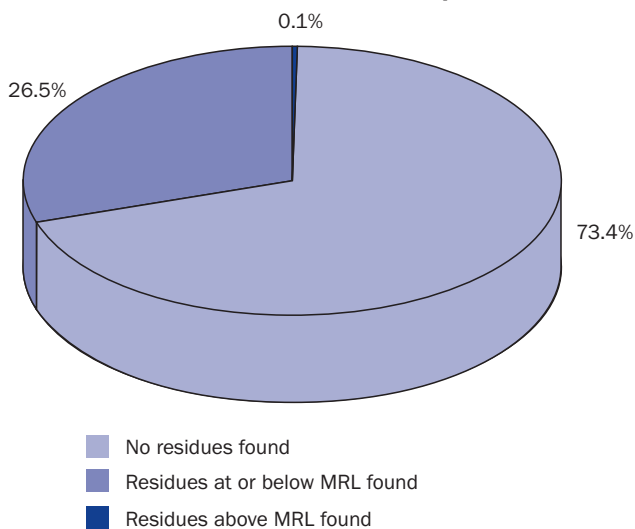
We tested each sample for many different pesticides. In total we carried out tests on over 202,000 pesticide/sample combinations.

The monitoring programme looks at certain foods where we expect to find residues (see “[How we decide what to sample each year](#)”). Because of this, we cannot assume that our findings represent the UK food supply as a whole and samples with residues may be over-represented.

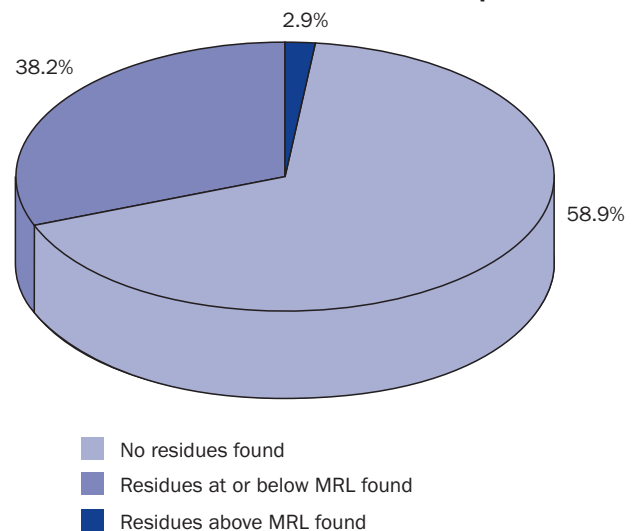
**Overall findings 2006**



**Food from the UK - 1547 samples**



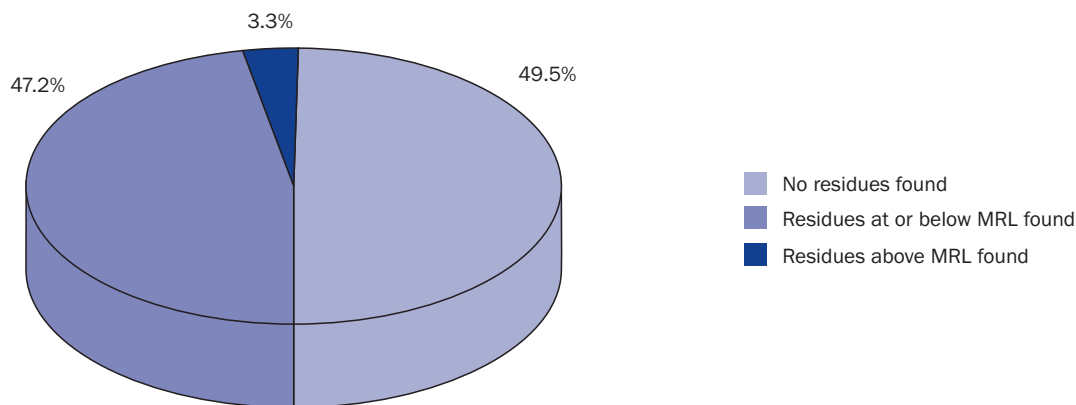
**Food from outside the UK - 2015 samples**



## 7 Results - fruit and vegetables

We analysed 1791 samples for up to 129 pesticides, resulting in over 150000 pesticide/sample combinations.

We found residues in 845 of those 1791 samples. 59 samples contained residues above the MRL. **Section 17** explains the follow-up action that we took.



### Main findings

- We didn't find any residues that we looked for in any of the samples of cauliflower.
- We found residues **above the MRL** in apples, aubergines, grapes, lettuce, plums, speciality fruits, and yams. Where we found residues above MRLs, we told suppliers and relevant authorities.
- A relatively high percentage of samples of **speciality fruit** and **yams** contained residues above the MRL. However, the MRLs for these crops are at the lowest level that can be routinely detected. They are not grown in Europe so no-one has supplied information to set a higher level (see page 3). This is a particular issue with produce grown in developing countries.
- One Spanish sample of **peppers** contained residues of isofenphos methyl which is not approved for use in the European Union. We told the European Union about this finding in a Rapid Alert (see Section Follow-up action)

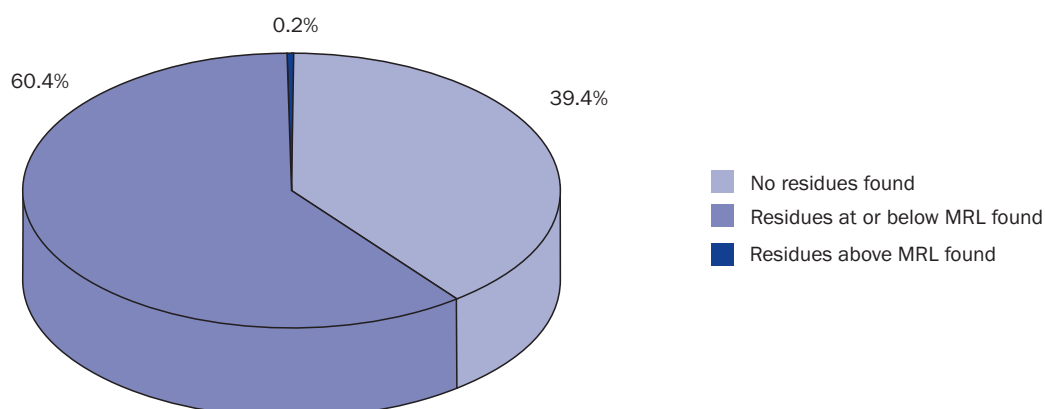
## Findings by foods

Food	Number of samples analysed	Number of these samples containing residues at or below the MRL	Number of these samples containing residues above the MRL	Number of these samples containing more than one residue
Apples	119	85	2	49
Aubergines	96	30	2	7
Baby leaf salad	72	53	0	25
Bananas	96	78	0	37
Blueberries	49	3	0	0
Cauliflower	96	0	0	0
Cherries	70	38	0	13
Grapefruit	72	70	0	65
Grapes	298	191	5	134
Lemons	72	60	0	46
Lettuce	95	39	4	22
Pears	98	75	0	56
Peas	97	9	0	1
Peppers	72	9	0	0
Plums	72	27	1	4
Potatoes	139	53	0	7
Speciality fruit	95	15	22	18
Spinach	48	10	0	0
Yams	35	0	23	5

## 8 Results – starchy foods and grains

We analysed 404 samples for up to 43 pesticides, resulting in over 12,000 pesticide/crop combinations.

Out of these 404 samples, we found residues in 245 samples. One sample of flour contained a residue above a Codex MRL.



## Main findings

- The pesticides found are commonly used on cereal crops, and residues have been found in other cereal products, so these findings are not surprising. These results follow the trend of previous years. The number of samples where pesticide residues are found in wheat, flour and bread is relatively high. When we carried out risk assessments on the residues found, we did not expect them to have any effect on health.
- Out of 71 samples of **speciality bread**, 40 contained one or more residues of chlormequat, glyphosate, pirimiphos-methyl or malathion. Speciality bread types this year were bagels, brioche, chapatti, ciabatta, naan, pita, rye, soda and wraps.
- Out of 144 samples of **ordinary bread**, 91 contained one or more residues of chlormequat, glyphosate, mepiquat or pirimiphos-methyl.
- Out of 70 samples of **wheat flour**, 46 contained residues of chlormequat, three contained residues of glyphosate and four contained residues of pirimiphos-methyl.
- Out of 70 samples of **wheat**, 59 contained one or more residues of chlormequat, chlorpyrifos-methyl, glyphosate, malathion or pirimiphos-methyl.

## Findings by foods

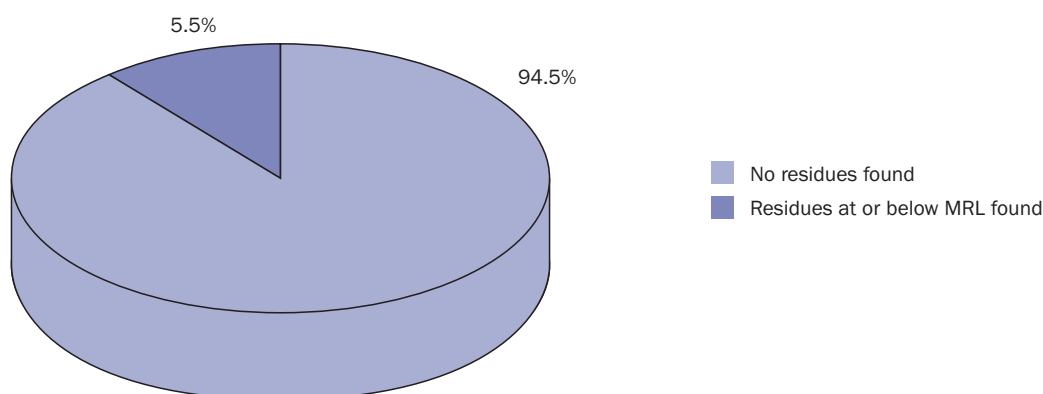
Food	Number of samples analysed	Number of these samples containing residues at or below the MRL	Number of these samples containing residues above the MRL	Number of these samples containing more than one residue
Ordinary bread	145	91	0	12
Rice cakes	48	3	0	0
Speciality bread	71	40	0	4
Wheat	70	59	0	14
Wheat Flour	70	52	1	1



## 9 Results – animal products

We analysed 1007 samples for up to 13 pesticides, resulting in over 12,000 pesticide/sample combinations.

Out of these 1007 samples, we found residues in 55 animal products we tested. No samples contained residues above MRLs.



### Main findings

- We didn't find any residues that we looked for in any samples of **bacon, cheese, milk** and **shellfish**.
- Out of 119 samples of **sea fish**, 25 samples contained residues, all at low levels. The pesticides found were chlordane, dieldrin, DDT and hexachlorobenzene. These pesticides are persistent contaminants in the environment and can build up in fatty tissues and so can be found in foods that are high in fat.
- Out of 120 samples of **lamb**, 27 samples contained residues, all at low levels. The pesticides found were diazinon, dieldrin, and DDT. Diazinon can be used as a sheep dip as well as a pesticide. We told the Veterinary Residues Committee about these findings.
- Out of 120 samples of **cooked or cured pork**, one sample of salami contained residues of DDT at low levels, another sample of salami contained residues of lindane, and a sample of chorizo also contained lindane.

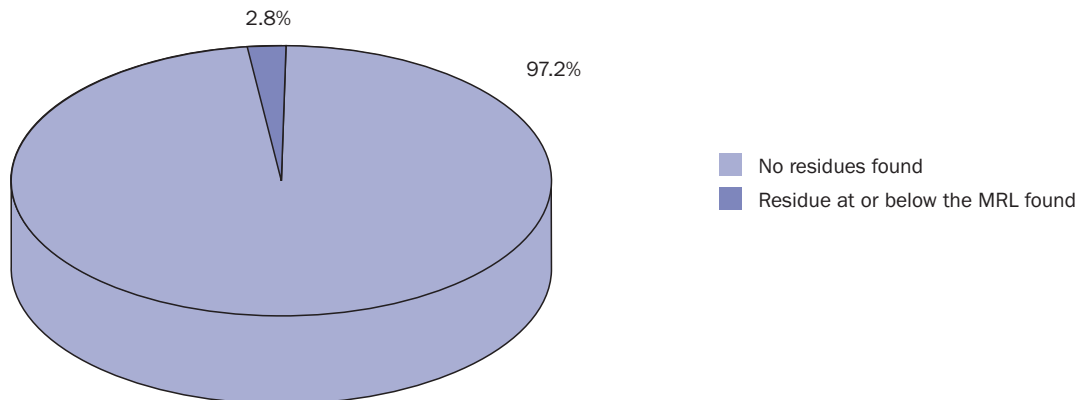
### Findings by foods

Food	Number of samples analysed	Number of these samples containing residues at or below the MRL	Number of these samples containing residues above the MRL	Number of these samples containing more than one residue
Bacon	120	0	0	0
Cheese	144	0	0	0
Cooked or cured pork	120	3	0	0
Lamb	120	27	0	0
Milk (cow's and goat's)	300	0	0	0
Sea fish	119	25	no MRLs	0
Shellfish	84	0	0	0



## 10 Results – baby food

This year we analysed fruit- and vegetable-based baby food. Out of 72 samples, we found residues in two samples. No samples contained residues above the MRL. The EC MRL for all pesticide residues in baby food is 0.01 mg/kg.



### Main findings

- Out of 72 samples of **baby food**, two contained a residue of diphenylamine. Both residues were below the MRL for pesticides in infant food.

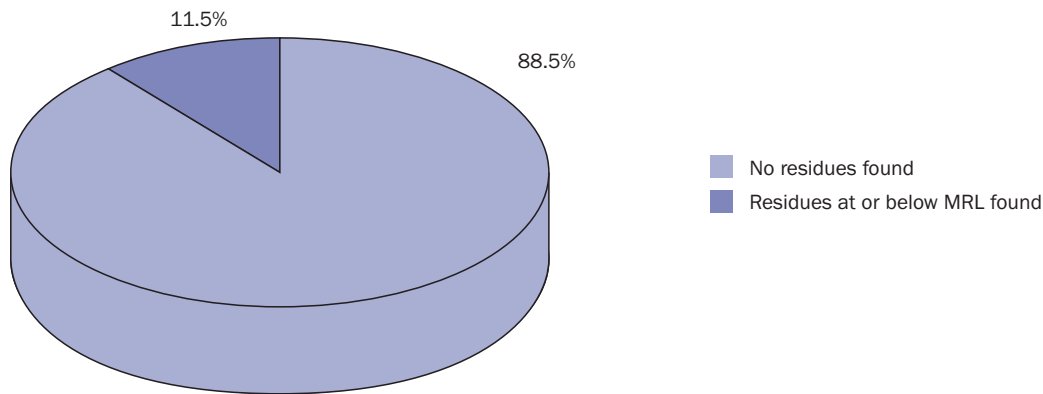
### Findings by foods

Food	Number of samples analysed	Number of these with no residues found	Number of these samples containing residues at or below the MRL	Number of these samples containing residues above the MRL	Number of these samples containing more than one residue
Baby food (fruit- and vegetable-based)	72	70	2	0	0



# 11 Results - other groceries

The other groceries we sampled this year were dried fruits (currants, raisins and sultanas), orange juice, rice cakes, tinned plums, soya milk, and soya pieces and tofu. Out of 288 samples, we found residues in 33. No samples contained residues above the MRL.



## Main findings

- Out of 72 samples of **orange juice**, one contained residues of imazalil.
- Out of 60 samples of **soya milk**, five samples contained endosulfan.
- Out of 48 samples of **dried fruits (currants, raisins and sultanas)**, eight contained residues of pesticides that we also found in grapes.
- Out of 60 samples of **soya pieces and tofu**, 11 contained residues of glyphosate, five contained residues of endosulfan and one contained residues of diazinon.

## Findings by foods

Food	Number of samples analysed	Number of these with no residues found	Number of these samples containing residues at or below the MRL	Number of these samples containing residues above the MRL	Number of these samples containing more than one residue
Dried fruits (currants, raisins and sultanas)	48	40	8	0	6
Orange juice	72	71	1	0	0
Soya milk	60	55	5	0	0
Soya pieces and tofu	60	43	17	0	0
Tinned plums	48	46	2	0	0

## 12 School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme

The School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme is part of a 5 A DAY programme to increase the amount of fruit and vegetables children eat. Under the scheme, all four to six-year-old schoolchildren (up to key stage 2) in local authority maintained infant, primary and special schools in England are entitled to a free piece of fruit or vegetable each school day. In 2006, the scheme distributed 400 million pieces of fruit to over 16,000 schools.

One of the main quality-control measures for fruit and vegetables supplied under the scheme relates to pesticide residues. In common with other foods supplied to the general public, residues in these fruit and vegetables must stay within MRLs. The scheme buys produce from suppliers whose growers follow UK assurance schemes or equivalent schemes if the fruit is imported.

The Pesticides Safety Directorate manages the collection of samples of fruit and vegetables from the scheme's distribution depots and then has them analysed for residues at the Central Science Laboratory (CSL). We compare the results of each sample with the relevant MRLs and assess whether any residues found would be likely to affect the health of children.

We publish our findings on our website at [www.prc-uk.org](http://www.prc-uk.org)

### Findings by foods

Food	Number of samples	Number of these with no residues found	Number of these samples containing residues at or below the MRL	Number of these samples containing residues above the MRL	Number of these samples containing more than one residue
Apples	36	6	28	1	14
Bananas	29	1	28	0	17
Carrots	12	12	0	0	0
Cucumbers	5	5	0	0	0
Pears	5	0	5	0	4
Soft citrus	29	0	29	0	29
Strawberries	5	0	5	0	5
Tomatoes	17	15	2	0	1

# How we decide what

## How important the food is in our diet

Some foods are 'staple foods' (those that are part of most people's diet each day). The staple foods are bread, milk and potatoes. We monitor these every year.

Other foods are commonly eaten by various groups of people. These foods are apples, pears, grapes and lettuce. We test these every year.



Other foods may not be eaten by everyone, but people who do eat them might eat a lot of them. So we also test these regularly.

## Information on pesticide approvals for foods



If a pesticide is no longer approved for a food, we will check those foods to make sure farmers are not using it any more.

## The balance of food types

We include animal products, fruit and vegetables, cereal grains and other groceries in our plan.



# What to test each year

## Information from earlier surveys

If our monitoring reveals a problem with a certain food, we will often do a follow-up survey the next year.

If our monitoring finds no residues in a food, we might choose not to test that food as often.



## EU programme of surveys

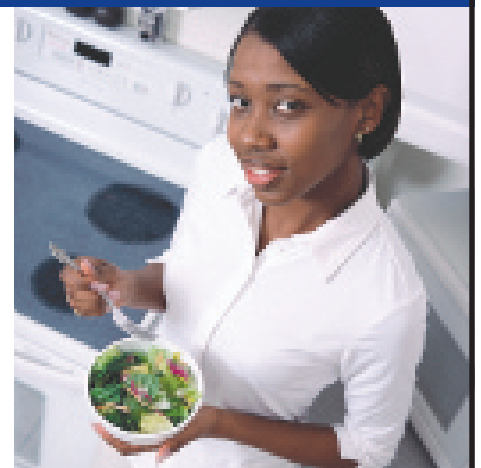
Every year the European Union lists nine foods that member states should test that year.



## The time that has passed since the last food was tested

We test certain foods every year or every other year because they are an important part of people's diets or we have found problems with them before.

Other foods we monitor less frequently, but we keep a list so that we can consider them when choosing what to test each year.



## 13 Organic samples

In 2006, out of 3562 samples, 220 (6%) were labelled as organic. Our reports produced each quarter provide full details of all these organic samples.

We do not specifically target organic samples in our surveys. We test them as part of our monitoring programme because they are available for people to buy.

### Residues in organic samples

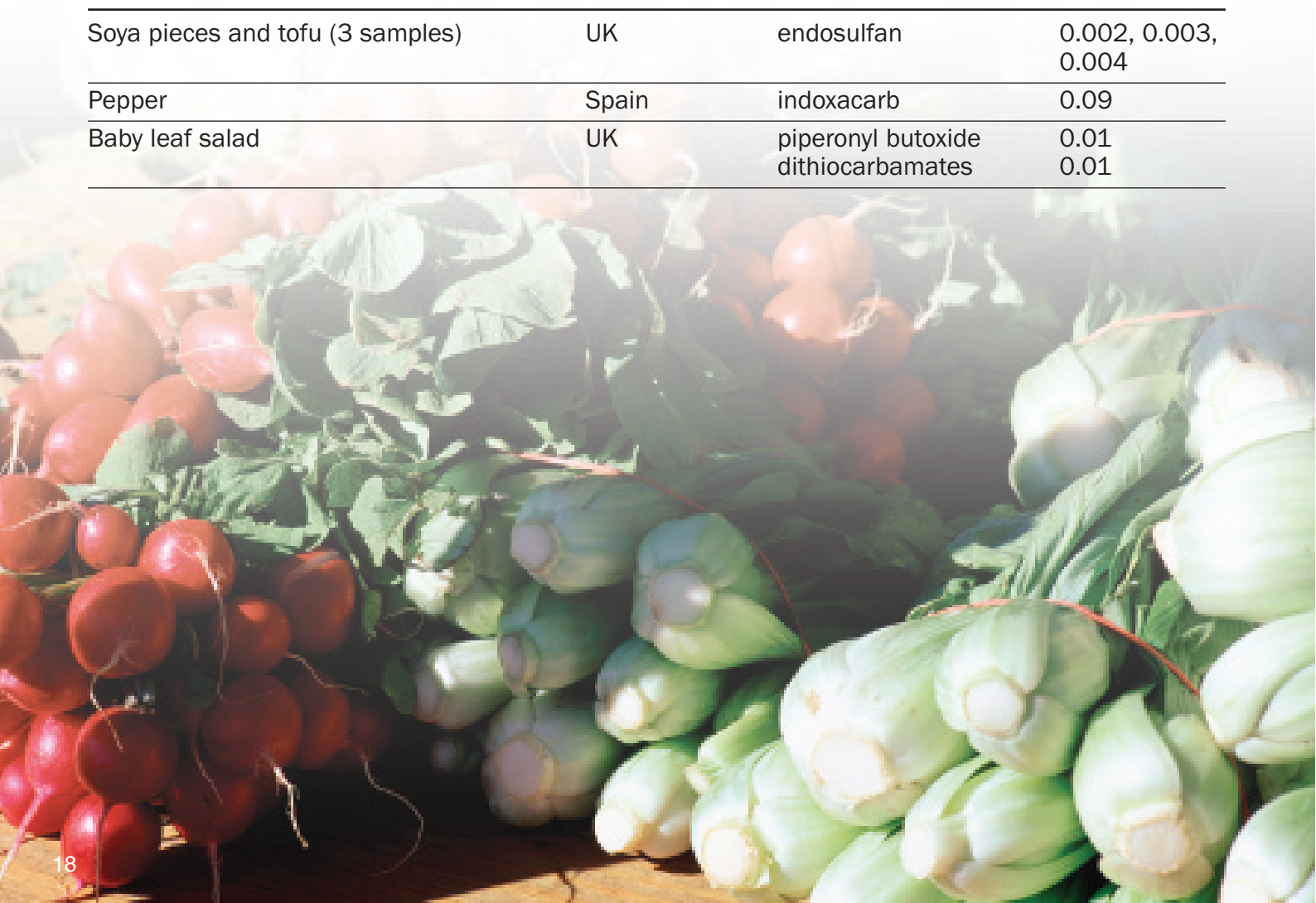
Five samples contained pesticide residues. There was no MRL for these pesticides in those foods. However, use of these pesticides would not normally be allowed in organic produce except for piperonyl butoxide.

We told the relevant authority in the country the food came from, and the organic team in Defra, about these results.

None of the residues gave us any concerns for the health of any group of people who might have eaten the foods.

The following organic samples we tested contained residues.

Food	Origin	Pesticide found	Residue found (mg/kg)
Soya pieces and tofu (3 samples)	UK	endosulfan	0.002, 0.003, 0.004
Pepper	Spain	indoxacarb	0.09
Baby leaf salad	UK	piperonyl butoxide dithiocarbamates	0.01 0.01

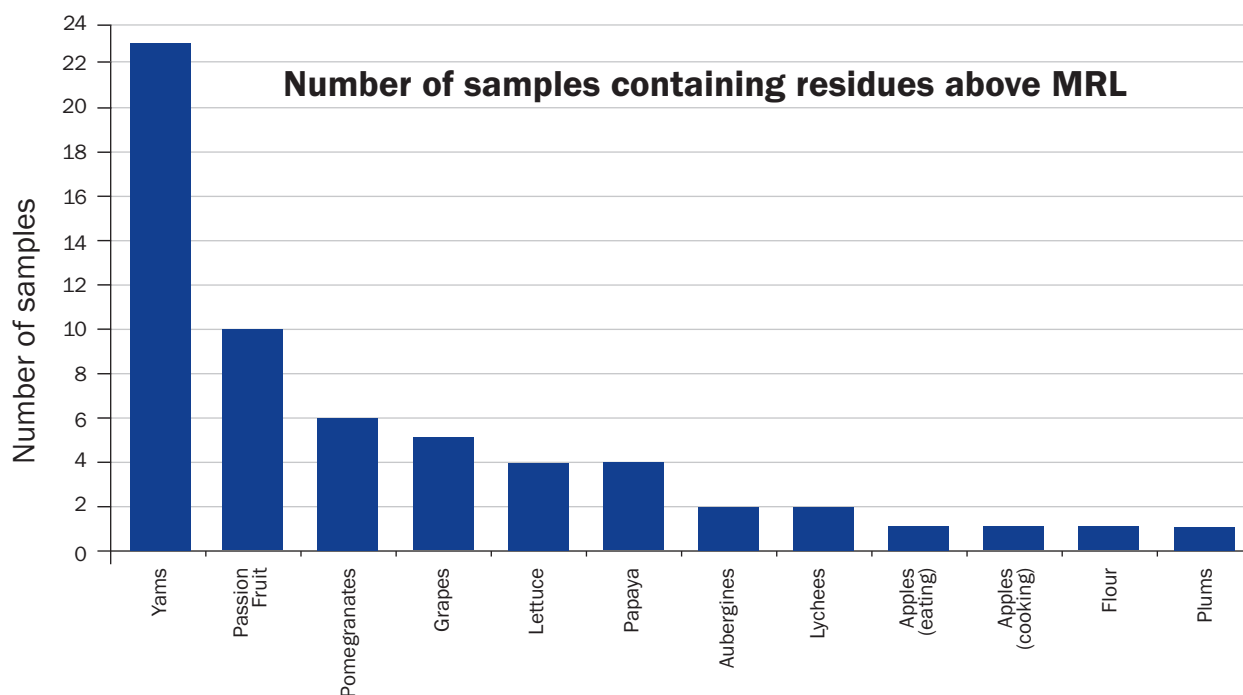


## 14 Residues above MRLs

Among the 3562 samples we tested, 60 contained a residue that was above the MRL.

### Main findings

- We found residues above MRLs in 1.7% of the 3562 samples we tested. However, they do not automatically give rise to concerns about people's health. When we found residues above an MRL, we considered a risk assessment. A very small percentage of samples contained levels of residues that could be a risk to health. We explain about these samples in more detail in [section 14](#).
- The samples containing residues above the MRL were all in fruit or vegetables apart from one flour sample.
- Detailed findings are in the reports we produce every quarter, and residues above the MRL are summarised in [annex 1](#).



### UK samples with residues of pesticides not approved for use on that crop

Occasionally, we find residues of pesticides which are not approved for use on a particular crop. If residues are very low, they may have arisen by accident (for example, through spray drifting off course or equipment not being cleaned properly between uses). On 28 June 2006 PSD withdrew all approval for carbendazim to be used on apples and pears. It is possible that the residues we found of carbendazim in apples from the UK came from pesticide being used properly before 28 June 2006. Up to 0.1 mg/kg of tecnazene in potatoes can arise through contamination during storage. The contamination is likely to come from small amounts of the pesticide (too small to be measured) remaining in the potato stores from previous approved use.

Food	Pesticide found	Residue found (mg/kg)	MRL (mg/kg)
Apples (2 samples)	iprodione	0.02, 0.03	10
Apples (3 samples)	carbendazim	0.07, 0.1, 0.3	0.2
Apple	carbendazim	0.5	2
Potato	tecnazene	0.04	0.05

## 15 Dietary intakes and the risk to people

As in previous years, we have considered risk assessments carried out by the Pesticides Safety Directorate (PSD) when:

- there is no MRL for that residue in the particular product;
- the level found is above the MRL; or
- the residue found could have come from a use which is not approved in the UK.

This year we have considered extra risk assessments for the following.

- Residues of dithiocarbamates, carbendazim, aldicarb and some other pesticides being reviewed in Europe for which lower MRLs are likely to be set.
- Residues of more than one organophosphate or carbamate pesticide. These two groups of pesticides can have similar effects on people and so we check to see what the implications are if these effects are added together.

We considered 156 risk assessments during 2006. The full text of these risk assessments is in our reports that we issue every quarter (you can download these from our website ([www.prc-org.uk](http://www.prc-org.uk))). In most cases the risk assessment predicted intakes below the Acute Reference Dose (ARfD – the amount that can be eaten at one meal or in one day without affecting people's health) or the Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI – the amount that can be eaten every day for a lifetime without harming health). The ARfD and ADI values that are used in our risk assessments are set by national and international expert committees, such as the Advisory Committee on Pesticides (ACP) in the UK and the Joint Food and Agriculture/World Health Organization Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR).

In a small number of cases, the risk assessments showed that intakes could be above the ARfD. In these cases we considered specific advice on possible health effects.

### Aldicarb in potatoes

We found a residue of aldicarb in one sample of potatoes. The risk assessment shows a reduction of the usual safety margin, but occasional intakes at the level found were unlikely to affect anyone's health.

### Chlorpropham in potatoes

We found a residue of chlorpropham (at 47 mg/kg) in one sample of potatoes. There was no MRL at the time the sample was taken. An MRL of 10 mg/kg will apply from 2007. The highest calculated intake of chlorpropham from the potatoes was four times the ARfD for infants, which was less than 3% of a dose that tests had shown had no effect in animal studies. We concluded that residues at this level reduced the usual safety margin but occasional intakes at the level found were unlikely to affect anyone's health. Although, if someone ate a lot of potatoes containing residues at this level they might feel some nausea.

PSD worked with the Food Standards Agency (FSA) to tell all EU member states about this using the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF), which is co-ordinated through the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).



### Carbendazim and thiophanate-methyl in yams

We considered a combined risk assessment of carbendazim and thiophanate-methyl in yams because these pesticides act in the same way. The highest calculated intake of the two pesticides in yams was 2.3 times the ARfD for females of childbearing age. Most of the residues would be on the surface of the yams and many people would usually peel yams before cooking them. This would lower the intake of these pesticides. Residues at this level reduced the usual safety margin but occasional intakes at the level found were unlikely to affect anyone's health.

PSD worked with the Food Standards Agency (FSA) to tell all EU member states about this using the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF), which is co-ordinated through the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

### Dithiocarbamates in lettuce, pears and apples

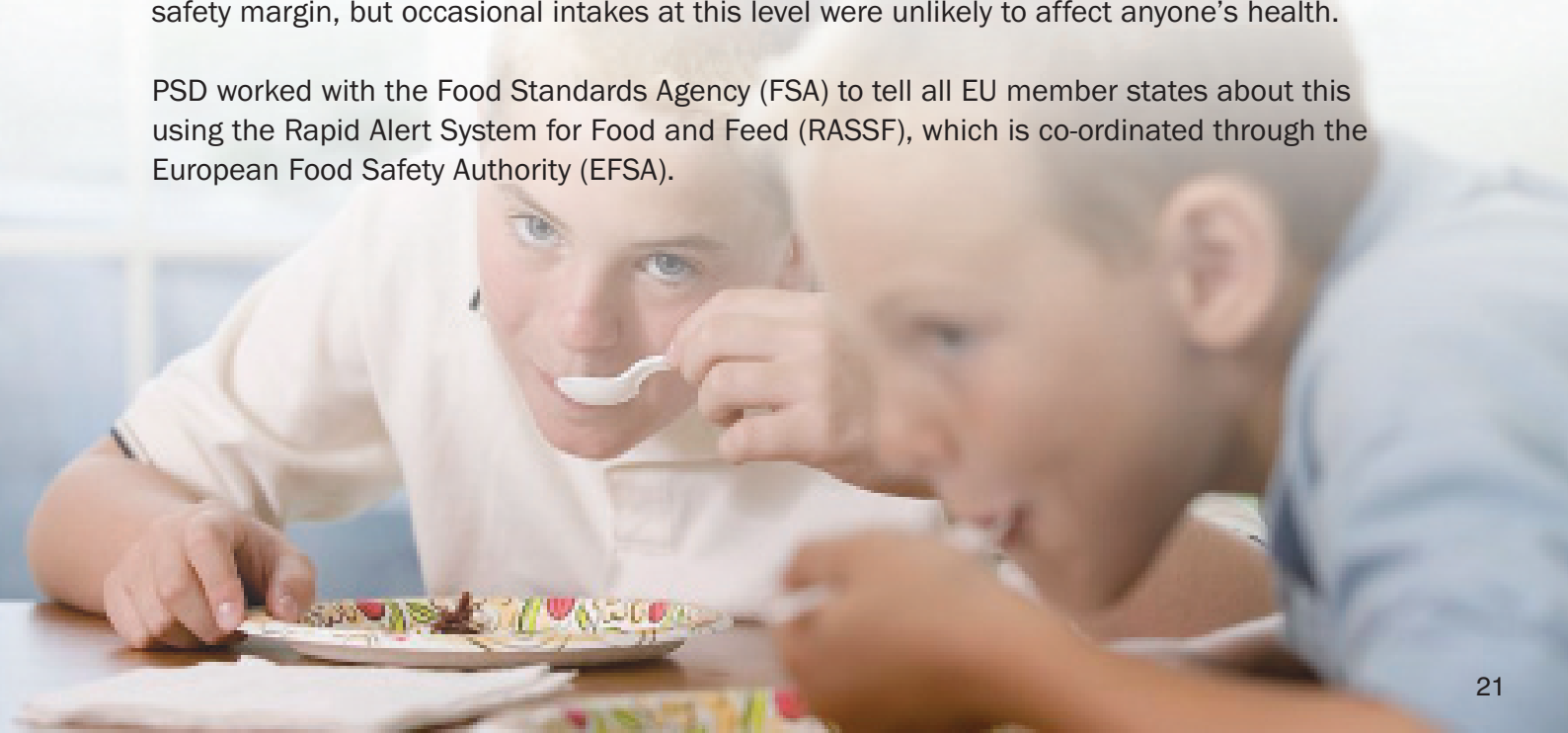
We considered several risk assessments of dithiocarbamates residues in lettuce, pears and apples. The risk assessments for pears and apples found that the levels of residues found was not expected to affect people's health. The highest calculated intakes of dithiocarbamates from the lettuce was 4.9 times the ARfD for children aged four to six, but this was still only 5% of the dose that tests had shown had no effect after repeated doses. Residues at this level reduced the usual safety margin, but occasional intakes at the level found were unlikely to affect anyone's health.

PSD worked with the Food Standards Agency (FSA) to tell all EU member states about this using the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF), which is co-ordinated through the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

### Methomyl in grapes

A sample of grapes contained methomyl at 0.04 mg/kg, and thiodicarb at 0.09 mg/kg. Thiodicarb breaks down into methomyl so we considered the risk from these two residues together. The residues we found are equal to an overall methomyl residue of 0.1 mg/kg. We considered a risk assessment that used the methomyl ARfD that has been suggested by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) (which is the most conservative ARfD available). The highest intakes of methomyl in grapes was 2.4 times the ARfD for toddlers. This is 6.25% of the single dose that a test had shown to have no effect. Residues at this level reduced the safety margin, but occasional intakes at this level were unlikely to affect anyone's health.

PSD worked with the Food Standards Agency (FSA) to tell all EU member states about this using the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF), which is co-ordinated through the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).



## 16 Follow-up action

If we find a residue above the relevant MRL, this could be a one-off. However, if residues above the MRL are repeatedly found in a single survey, or in successive surveys of the same food, this suggests that:

- the pesticide's approval is not in line with the MRL (UK approvals are rarely out of line with MRLs, but this may be the cause of a problem with imported produce);
- the MRL is set at the limit of determination (the lowest amount that can be routinely detected); or
- growers may be misusing pesticides.

### Main actions

- We reported all the samples with residues above the MRL, or of a pesticide not approved for use on that product, to the retailers, suppliers or growers involved. We asked them to provide explanations, and we published any we received. The PSD carried out any necessary follow-up action.
- Where we found residues above the MRL in imported produce, we wrote to the relevant authorities in the countries the produce was exported from.
- Where the residues found could be a risk to health, we told FSA who told other member states using the EU's Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF). In total we told the FSA about 10 samples.
- We reported residues found in organic samples to the organic team in Defra. See section 13.
- We continued our rapid response survey of grapes. Defra Horticultural Marketing Inspectors collected samples twice a month through the year from markets, ports and distribution points. Shoppers from a market research company bought samples from shops. The samples were tested for 76 pesticides and the results were published on our website ([www.pesticides.gov.uk/prc.asp?id=1793](http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/prc.asp?id=1793)).
- In December we were told that there could be residues of an unapproved pesticide in imported peppers. We carried out further tests on some samples and identified residues of this pesticide in one sample. As a result of this investigation we are analysing peppers again in 2007.

If we are concerned about any finding, we can also take the following action.

- In serious cases involving another EU member state, inspectors from the European Commission's Food and Veterinary Office will investigate the problem.
- If we suspect illegal use of a pesticide on food produced in the UK, PSD may carry out a special survey and then consider prosecuting any growers or suppliers they find breaking the law.

## 17 2007 and 2008 programme

Our 2007 programme started in January 2007. We will publish the results for each three-month period on our website ([www.prc-uk.org](http://www.prc-uk.org)), together with monthly reports for grapes and peppers, each month that they are tested.

### Food and drink monitored in 2007

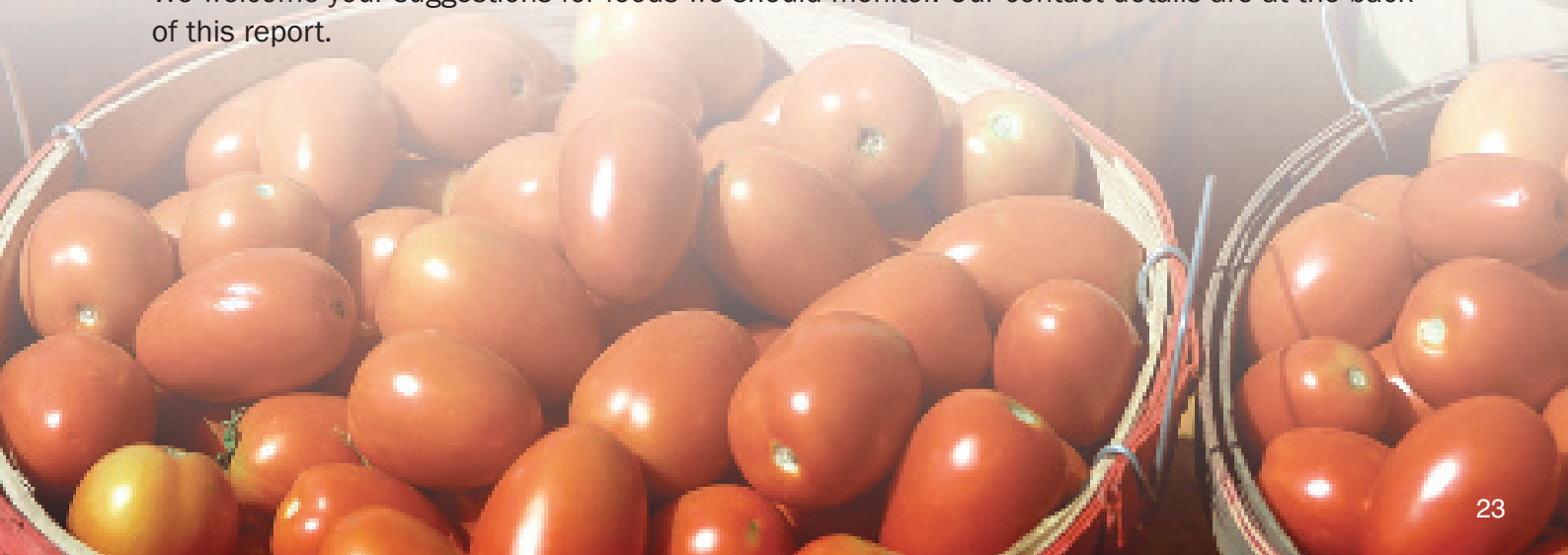
Milk	Apple juice	Apples (EU survey)	Peppers
Pork	Bottled water	Cabbages (EU survey)	Raspberries and
Beef	Chocolate	Celery	Soft citrus fruits
Bread	Cider	Grapes	Squash
Rye and oats (EU survey)	Noodles (wheat or rice based)	Herbs	Strawberries (EU survey)
Turkey	Spices	Kiwi fruit	Sweet potatoes
Potatoes	Aubergines	Leeks (EU survey)	Sweetcorn
Farmed fish	Sunflower and pumpkin seeds	Lettuce (EU survey)	Tomatoes (EU survey)
Yogurt	Tinned peaches	Peaches and nectarines (EU survey)	Pears

### Food and drink to be monitored in 2008

We are planning our programmes for 2008 and future years and have agreed that we will monitor the following in 2008.

Potatoes (EU survey)	Marrows and courgettes	Apples	Infant Food
Melon	Parsnips	Coffee	Nuts
Carrots (EU survey)	Chinese cabbage	Pineapple	Chicken
Cucumber (EU survey)	Bulb onions	Yams	Cooking oils
Oranges (EU survey)	Grapes	Bread	Wine
Pears (EU survey)	Lettuce	Rice (EU survey)	Milk
Spinach (EU survey)	Wholegrain-based cereals	Sausages	Duck
Non-wheat flour	Oily fish	Liver	Prawns
Beans (EU survey)	Blackcurrant, white currant, red currant	Apricots	Smoothies (fruit and vegetable-based)

We welcome your suggestions for foods we should monitor. Our contact details are at the back of this report.



## 18 Results – information supplied by the food industry

This year we have again worked with the Veterinary Residues Committee (VRC) to gather information from the food and farming industry.

The food industry produces a lot of monitoring information. We encouraged them to share their information with us because it is useful for our monitoring. We are grateful to those who have contributed to this exercise. We also welcome developments such as major retailers publishing results of their own residues testing on their websites.

If we are sent unexpected results, or information showing residues above the MRLs, PSD assess the risk to people's health.

The information given to us together with PSD's comments on their intake calculations is available on our website at [www.pesticides.gov.uk/prc.asp?id=1937](http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/prc.asp?id=1937).

### Main findings

- In general, the residues found were similar to those found by us.
- The residues in raisins found by the food industry were similar to our survey of dried fruit.
- The range of pesticides the food industry found in **apples** were similar to our findings.
- The industry reported a residue of **imidacloprid**, at a level above the MRL, in aubergines. We also found two residues of imidacloprid above the MRL in aubergines.
- The industry continued to report residues above the MRL in **green beans**. We will analyse these types of green beans again in 2008.
- We did not find any of the residues we looked for in **cauliflower**, but information from the food industry shows one residue below the MRL in this food.
- The information from the food industry shows a range of pesticides in **grapes**. We will continue to monitor grapes in 2007 and will report the results every month.
- Chlorpropham was reported in **potatoes** at levels similar to our results, (apart from the one exceptional case already mentioned in **section 15**). We survey potatoes every year. Chlorpropham was also reported in a sample of potato crisps and a sample of potato waffles.
- A range of residues were reported in **chilli powder**. Five residues were found in one sample. We will be surveying chilli powder and other spice mixtures in 2007.



## 19 Pesticides law

There are legal controls on selling, supplying, using, storing, importing and advertising agricultural pesticides. There are also controls on the pesticide residues allowed in food. The main rules on selling and using pesticides and on residues in food are increasingly being set in European Community law.

### EC Directive on authorising pesticides

Directive 91/414/EEC governs the authorisation of pesticide products. This Directive:

- sets up a list of active substances approved for use in pesticide products in the European Community;
- sets rules for adding active substances to the list; and
- sets common rules under which member States can authorise products containing active substances on the list.

Active substances are gradually being added to the list through a long-term review programme. This programme, which is due to be completed by the end of 2008, is considering all the active substances which were already approved in one or more of the 27 member states. Any new active substance has to be checked by scientists from all the member states and the European Food Safety Authority before it is added to the list of approved active substances. Member states may authorise products containing approved active substances as long as they meet further safety requirements laid down in the directive.

The European Commission presented a proposal for a regulation to replace Directive 91/414/EEC during the summer of 2006.

### Pesticide approvals

Detailed rules on how each pesticide product may be used, such as the rates and timing of applications, are laid down in each pesticide product's authorisation. But there are also more general controls on pesticide use, such as rules on the training people who apply them must have had.

Most of this area is currently governed by UK rules, but the European Commission proposed a new directive during the summer of 2006. The aim of the directive is to significantly reduce the risks arising from using pesticides while not reducing the protection given to crops. The proposals cover, for example, the training to be given to people who use pesticides professionally, requirements to certify and regularly test spray machinery, and special protection measures required in conservation areas.

## Maximum residue levels

There are controls on the amount of pesticide residues allowed in food. These controls are based on a system of maximum residue levels (MRLs) which set maximum levels of individual pesticides allowed in specific foods. MRLs are trading levels that are based on the highest residue of a pesticide that is expected to be in food when the relevant product is used in line with the terms of its approval. MRLs will always be set below the level considered to be safe for people. It is illegal to sell food with residues above the MRL.

European Community law on MRLs is currently laid down in four directives. The directives are continually amended as new MRLs are set. A new European Community Regulation was adopted in April 2005 (EC Regulation 396/2005). This will replace the directives with a single regulation governing MRLs. The new regulation is expected to come into force around the middle of 2008. The European Commission and member states are currently discussing the MRLs that will be set under the new regulation.



## 20 Update on the Food Standards Agency

### Assessing the risk from mixtures of pesticides and similar substances

In March 2005, the Food Standards Agency (FSA) published an action plan on the risk assessment of mixtures of pesticides and similar substances. The action plan, which is updated each year, was produced in consultation with those agencies and departments responsible for agricultural pesticides, biocides (non-agricultural pesticides) and veterinary medicines. The action plan covers four main areas – regulation, surveillance, research and public information.

The action plan takes forward recommendations published in the 2002 Report of the Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment (COT). The report was a response to a request from the FSA. The report made several recommendations for further work, although it found that the risk to people's health from mixtures of pesticide residues is likely to be small.

The FSA has commissioned 17 research projects. Most of the work so far has been on:

- assessing how chemicals can act in combination with each other;
- finding ways to estimate exposure from different sources, including non-food sources (for instance, from pesticides used in the home, at work and from being in the immediate area);
- looking at how processing (for example, different methods of cooking and storing) changes pesticide residues in foods; and
- identifying pesticides that act in a chemically similar way.

The FSA and other government departments are also developing guidelines for:

- when to perform risk assessments of mixtures of pesticides;
- identifying groups of pesticides that act in a similar way; and
- techniques for estimating exposure to mixtures.

This programme of work is long-term, and final reports will be published when individual projects are completed.

The action plan, COT report and timescales of events are also published on the FSA website at [www.food.gov.uk/safereating/chemsafe/pesticides/pestmixbranch/](http://www.food.gov.uk/safereating/chemsafe/pesticides/pestmixbranch/)

Summaries of the research are given on the website at

[www.food.gov.uk/science/research/researchinfo/foodcomponentsresearch/mixturesresearch/](http://www.food.gov.uk/science/research/researchinfo/foodcomponentsresearch/mixturesresearch/)

### Reducing pesticide residues

The FSA's policy is to reduce pesticide residues in food. That is because people prefer residues levels to be kept to a minimum (even below current safe levels), not because residues are considered a problem in UK produced food.

In November 2006, the FSA published crop guides for cereals, apples, pears, tomatoes and potatoes. The guides were drafted following discussions with people in the food industry and non-government organisations. They have been reviewed following a public consultation. They bring together information on best practice, promote awareness of the issue across the food industry, and support the industry to deliver current initiatives to reduce residues.

The published guides include links to sources of information wherever possible. You can find more information on the crop guides and FSA's policy on reducing pesticide residues at [www.food.gov.uk/safereating/chemsafe/pesticides/pesticidesminimisehome/cropguides](http://www.food.gov.uk/safereating/chemsafe/pesticides/pesticidesminimisehome/cropguides).

### Consumer research

In November 2006, the FSA published its latest research into what information people need about pesticides and to find out what the FSA and other organisations could do to provide the information. The results of this latest research were used to improve the presentation and content of information on the FSA's website. You can find the research report at [www.food.gov.uk/safereating/chemsafe/pesticides/pestresconsumerresearch/](http://www.food.gov.uk/safereating/chemsafe/pesticides/pestresconsumerresearch/).





## 21 Communications

We are keen for as many people as possible to find out about our work and to understand what we do. For these reasons:

- every three months we publish all our results on our website;
- every month we publish the results of our survey of grapes;
- we publish this annual report and make sure it is written in plain English;
- one of our four meetings each year is open to members of the public;
- we hold an annual one-day workshop for members of the public; and
- our chairman is available for interviews with the media.

We have developed a communications action plan and we are working at increasing the number of ways we tell people about the aims and results of our surveillance programme.

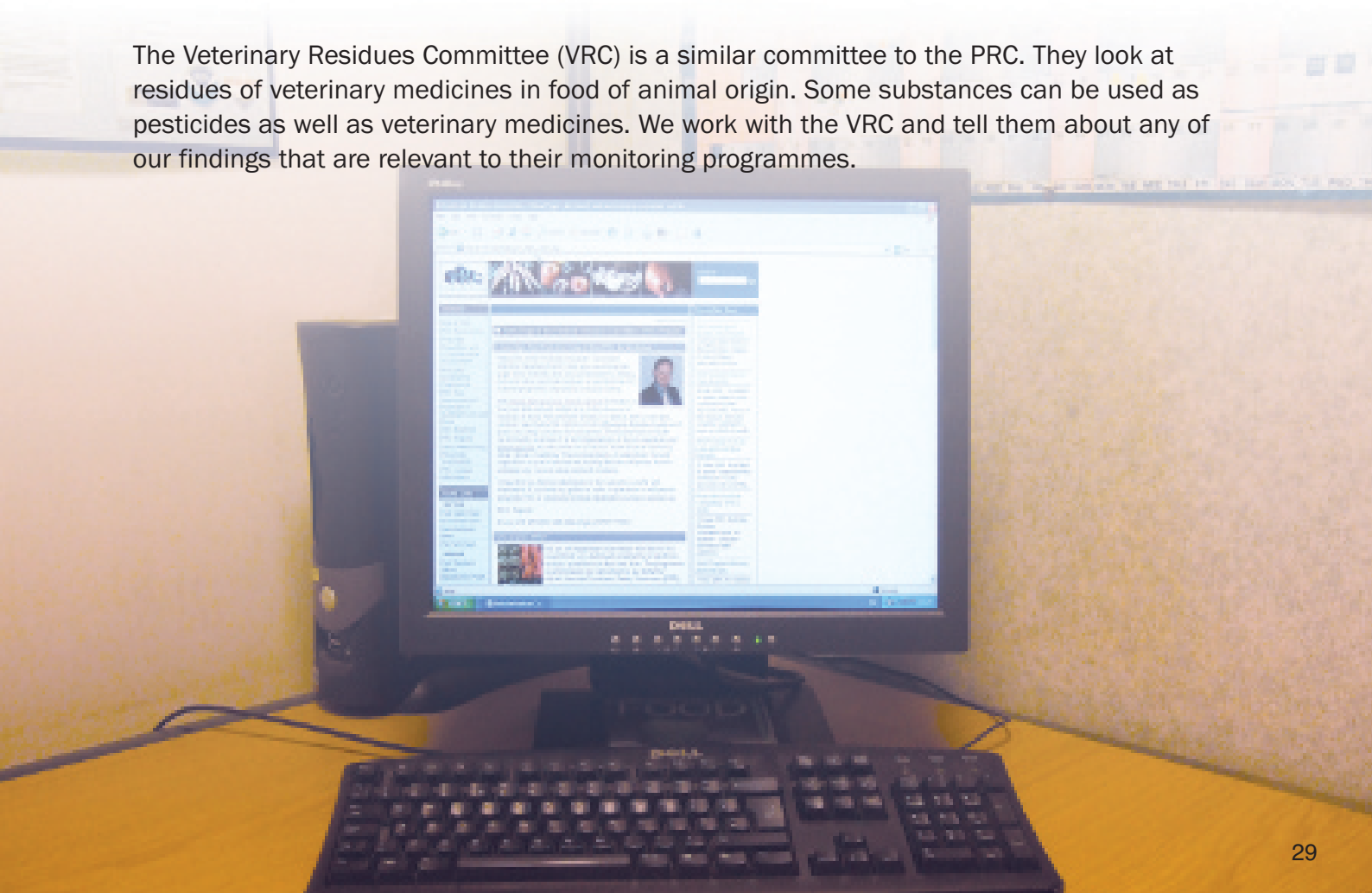
In 2006 we changed the style of our quarterly reports. We made these changes to make the reports easier for people to read.

In May 2006 we held a **one-day workshop** in Bristol. Speakers explained a wide range of issues relating to pesticide residues. During 2007 we will hold a further workshop in York.

In October 2006, we held an **open business meeting** in York. At this meeting, members of the public could see the committee in action and ask us questions. We are holding another open business meeting in York in October 2007.

If you would like to come along to one of our meetings or workshops, please check our website or contact our secretariat (contact details are at the back of this report).

The Veterinary Residues Committee (VRC) is a similar committee to the PRC. They look at residues of veterinary medicines in food of animal origin. Some substances can be used as pesticides as well as veterinary medicines. We work with the VRC and tell them about any of our findings that are relevant to their monitoring programmes.



## 22 Our committee members

**Dr Ian Brown OBE**  
Chairman



- Consultant Physician in Occupational Medicine and Toxicology at Southampton University Hospitals NHS Trust
  - Registered Toxicologist (Institute of Biology and the British Toxicology Society)
  - Graduate in medicine and agricultural biochemistry and nutrition
  - Member of the Advisory Committee on Toxic Substances (ACTS) of the Health and Safety Commission
  - Former member and chairman of the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs (ACAF)
- 

**Anne Clayson**



- Senior lecturer in environmental health at Manchester Metropolitan University
- 

**Dr Derek Cull**



- Technical Director of Produce Global Solutions Limited, with overall responsibility for food safety, quality assurance and customer relations
  - Very wide experience of fresh produce exports from developing countries, and has travelled widely in Africa, the Middle East and the Far East, and Central and South America
  - Undertaken international projects for the World Bank, COLEACP (Liaison Committee Europe –Africa –Caribbean –Pacific) and the European Union
- 

**Dr Morven McEachern**



- Lecturer in marketing and consumer behaviour at the University of Lancaster
  - Background in agricultural production
- 

**Ian Finlayson**



- Managing Director of Practical Solutions International (a product- quality and product-safety consultancy working with retailers and suppliers worldwide)
- Has worked with many companies and organisations on strategies for pesticide reduction and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) including the Food and Agriculture Organisation, International Institute of Biological Control and Australian government

**Hazel Phillips**



- Head of Public Affairs for The Wildlife Trusts
  - Worked at the National Consumer Council as well as in the House of Commons on a range of topics including food safety and agriculture
- 

**Professor  
Andrew Renwick OBE**



- Emeritus Professor of the School of Medicine at the University of Southampton
  - Has been a member of:
    - the Committee on Toxicity;
    - the Committee of Carcinogenicity;
    - the Medicines Commission in the UK; and
    - the Contaminants Panel of the European Food Safety Authority
  - An advisor at meetings of the Joint Food and Agriculture Organization and World Health Organization Expert Committee on Food Additives
- 

**Graham Ward OBE**



- Company Secretary to Snaith Salad Growers, a growers' marketing co-operative
  - Director of Stockbridge Technology Centre Ltd
  - Chairman of the NFU North-East region Horticulture and Potatoes Board
- 

**Maura Wilson**



- Freelance consultant on education for people over 16
  - Served on a range of regional and national committees in the field of education
  - Graduate in Food Science and worked in the food industry on quality assurance and flavour chemistry
  - Previously taught science in schools and colleges
  - Keen allotment gardener
- 

You can inspect the Register of Interests, which lists organisations and issues members have declared a particular interest in (including any financial interest), on our website ([www.pesticides.gov.uk/prc.asp?id=835](http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/prc.asp?id=835)).

## Analytical Subgroup

We are advised by a technical group whose main function is to review results of analysis of all the contributing laboratories before they send them to the PSD. They do this to make sure we are using reliable results. The group is made up mainly of members drawn from the laboratories which carry out analysis for us. The group's members are as follows.

- Helen Kyle – PSD (Chair of the group)
- Dr Sadat Nawaz – CSL
- Stewart Reynolds – CSL
- Dr Sam Mitchell – AFBI
- George Merson – LGC Ltd
- Andrew Wyeth – LGC Ltd
- David Lindsay – SASA
- Eleanor Long – Eurofins Ltd
- Matthew Whetton – Eurofins Ltd
- Colin Allchin – Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science
- Dr Jack Kay – Veterinary Medicines Directorate
- Peter Maynard – Kent Scientific Services

## Cost of our surveys

Our programme in 2006 cost £2.1 million. 60% of these costs came from a levy (charge) on the sales of pesticides by approval holders (pesticide manufacturers and suppliers) and the rest came from the Government. We spent most of the money on analysing samples for pesticide residues.

PSD pays members an attendance fee for each meeting they go to. Our secretariat is provided by the PSD. The PSD publish an annual report and accounts of all their income and spending each year. The table gives the main areas that we spent money on in 2006.

### Area of work

### Amount spent to nearest £500

2005 annual report and other communications	£5,000
Meetings including our open meeting and member's fees	£20,500
Collecting samples	£200,000
Analysing samples	£1,900,000

## Annex 1 All residues found above the MRL in 2006

The table below shows all the samples where the residues found were above the MRL. An asterisk (\*) next to a number in the MRL column means that the MRL used is the LOD.

Our reference number of the sample	Food	origin	Pesticides found	Residue	
				found (mg/kg)	MRL (mg/kg)
2031/2006	Apples (cooking)	UK	carbendazim	0.3	0.2
0355/2006	Apples	France	dimethoate	0.04	0.02*
			omethoate	0.05	0.02*
2959/2006	Aubergines	the Netherlands	imidacloprid	0.3	0.2 (Codex MRL)
3590/2006	Aubergines	Spain	imidacloprid	0.3	0.2 (Codex MRL)
4233/2006	Grapes	USA	methomyl	0.2	0.05*
1201/2006	Grapes	India	methomyl	0.06	0.05*
3142/2006	Grapes	Spain	methomyl	0.06	0.05*
0452/2006	Grapes	Spain	thiodicarb	0.09	0.05*
0330/2006	Grapes	Turkey	fenvalerate	0.2	0.02*
			imazalil	0.2	0.02*
4003/2006	Lettuce	Spain	dithiocarbamates	6.4	5
4022/2006	Lettuce	Spain	dithiocarbamates	8	5
4063/2006	Lettuce	Spain	dithiocarbamates	9.2	5
4312/2006	Lettuce	Spain	dithiocarbamates	11	5
1556/2006	Lychees	Thailand	prochloraz	0.6	0.05*
1583/2006	Lychees	Thailand	prochloraz	0.6	0.05*
1528/2006	Papaya	Brazil	dithiocarbamates	0.1	0.05*
4576/2006	Papaya	Brazil	dithiocarbamates	0.4	0.05*
3329/2006	Papaya	Brazil	dithiocarbamates	0.4	0.05*
1514/2006	Papaya	Ecuador	dithiocarbamates	0.2	0.05*
1530/2006	Passion fruit	Kenya	carbendazim	0.2	0.1
3481/2006	Passion fruit	Colombia	cypermethrin	0.15	0.05*
3303/2006	Passion fruit	Colombia	dithiocarbamates	0.12	0.05*
4496/2006	Passion fruit	France	dithiocarbamates	0.2	0.05*
0971/2006	Passion fruit	Kenya	dithiocarbamates	0.2	0.05*
1580/2006	Passion fruit	Kenya	cypermethrin	0.2	0.05*
			dithiocarbamates	0.5	0.05*
			profenofos	0.2	0.05*
4673/2006	Passion fruit	South Africa	dithiocarbamates	1.2	0.05*
3520/2006	Passion fruit	South Africa	dithiocarbamates	0.8	0.05*
4527/2006	Passion fruit	Spain	dithiocarbamates	0.5	0.05*
1923/2006	Passion fruit	Colombia	lambda-cyhalothrin	0.1	0.02
0526/2006	Pomegranate	India	acephate	0.05	0.02*
1582/2006	Pomegranate	India	carbendazim	0.2	0.1
4976/2006	Pomegranate	India	dithiocarbamates	0.06	0.05*
4704/2006	Pomegranate	India	dithiocarbamates	0.07	0.05*
4541/2006	Pomegranate	India	dithiocarbamates	0.08	0.05*
4676/2006	Pomegranate	India	omethoate	0.04	0.02*

Our reference number of the sample	Food	origin	Pesticides found	Residue	
				found (mg/kg)	MRL (mg/kg)
2695/2006	Flour (wholemeal wheat)	UK	glyphosate	0.8	0.5 (Codex MRL)
4899/2006	Plums	Chile	iprodione	5.9	5
2369/2006	Yams	Brazil	prochloraz	0.1	0.05*
3612/2006	Yams	Brazil	prochloraz	0.7	0.05*
0203/2006	Yams	Ghana	carbendazim	0.7	0.1*
3371/2006	Yams	Jamaica	thiophanate-methyl	5	0.1*
			carbendazim	0.3	0.1*
3372/2006	Yams	Ghana	thiophanate-methyl	0.5	0.1*
			carbendazim	0.5	0.1*
3614/2006	Yams	Ghana	thiophanate-methyl	1.4	0.1*
			carbendazim	0.9	0.1*
1979/2006	Yams	Jamaica	thiophanate-methyl	2.2	0.1*
			azoxystrobin	0.8	0.05*
			carbendazim	0.2	0.1*
0204/2006	Yams	Brazil	thiabendazole	0.09	0.05*
			prochloraz	0.4	0.05*
			prochloraz	0.3	0.05*
2370/2006	Yams	Brazil	prochloraz	0.6	0.05*
2635/2006	Yams	Brazil	prochloraz	0.7	0.05*
2660/2006	Yams	Brazil	prochloraz	0.5	0.05*
2690/2006	Yams	Brazil	prochloraz	0.4	0.05*
2962/2006	Yams	Brazil	prochloraz	0.6	0.05*
2978/2006	Yams	Brazil	prochloraz	0.9	0.05*
2999/2006	Yams	Brazil	azoxystrobin	0.1	0.05*
3154/2006	Yams	Brazil	prochloraz	0.7	0.05*
3253/2006	Yams	Brazil	prochloraz	0.3	0.05*
3588/2006	Yams	Brazil	prochloraz	0.3	0.05*
3962/2006	Yams	Brazil	prochloraz	0.3	0.05*
4848/2006	Yams	Brazil	prochloraz	0.6	0.05*
0206/2006	Yams	Brazil	prochloraz	0.2	0.05*
2017/2006	Yams	Brazil	prochloraz	0.2	0.05*

## Contact addresses

---

### **Pesticide Residues Committee**

---

Pesticide Residues Committee  
c/o Pesticides Safety Directorate  
Consumer Safety and European Policy Branch  
Mallard House  
Kings Pool  
3 Peasholme Green  
York  
YO1 7PX

Website: [www.prc-uk.org](http://www.prc-uk.org)  
Phone: 01904 455775 (PSD Information Section)  
Fax: 01904 455733  
E-mail: [prc@psd.defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:prc@psd.defra.gsi.gov.uk)

---

### **Pesticides Safety Directorate**

---

Pesticides Safety Directorate  
Information Section  
Mallard House  
Kings Pool  
3 Peasholme Green  
York  
YO1 7PX

Website: [www.pesticides.gov.uk](http://www.pesticides.gov.uk)  
Phone: 01904 455775  
Fax: 01904 455733  
E-mail: [information@psd.defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:information@psd.defra.gsi.gov.uk)

---

### **Food Standards Agency (England)**

---

Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Branch  
Primary Production Division  
Aviation House  
125 Kingsway  
London  
WC2B 6NH

Website: [www.food.gov.uk](http://www.food.gov.uk)  
Phone: 020 7276 8521  
E-mail: [helpline@foodstandards.gsi.gov](mailto:helpline@foodstandards.gsi.gov)

---

