CEREALS CANADA

Wheat is Safe to Eat

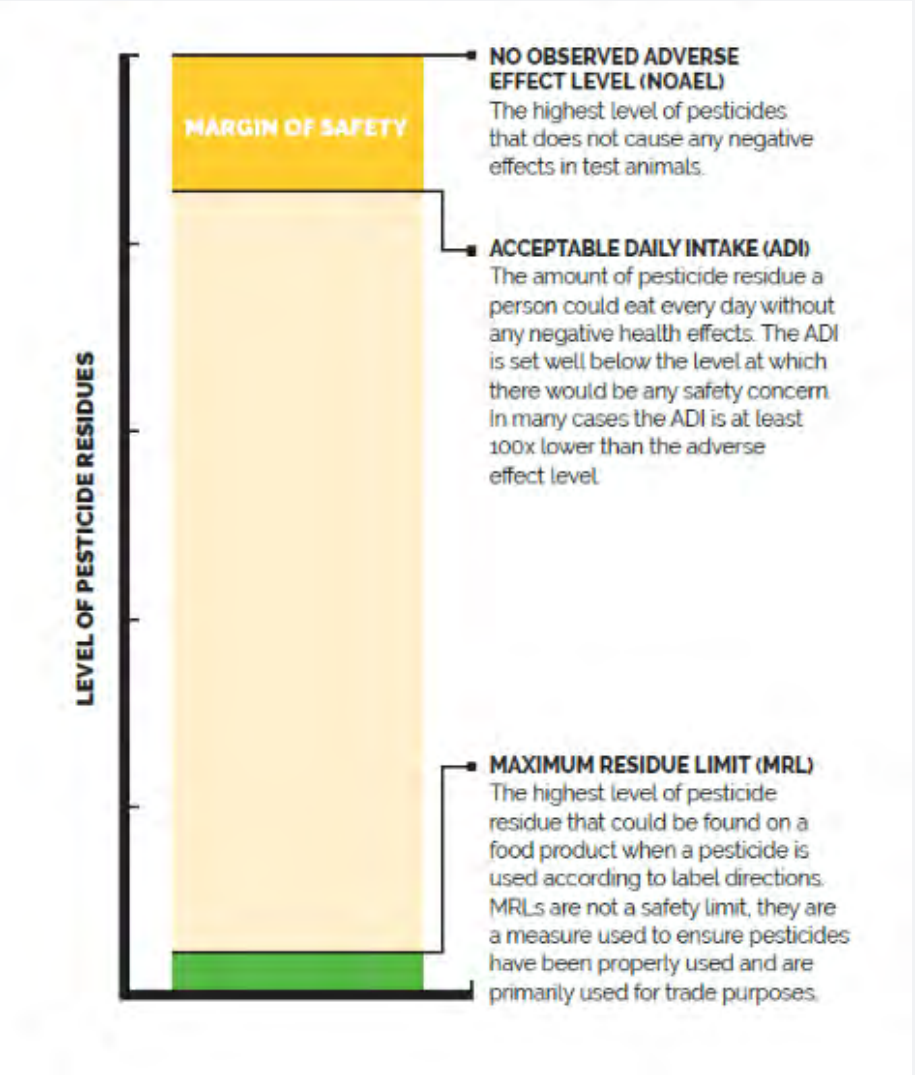
Krista Zuzak

Director, Crop Protection and Production

What is an MRL?

MRL = Maximum Residue Limit

An MRL represents the maximum amount of pesticide residues that are expected to remain on a food product when the pesticide is used according to label directions.



Source: CropLife Canada

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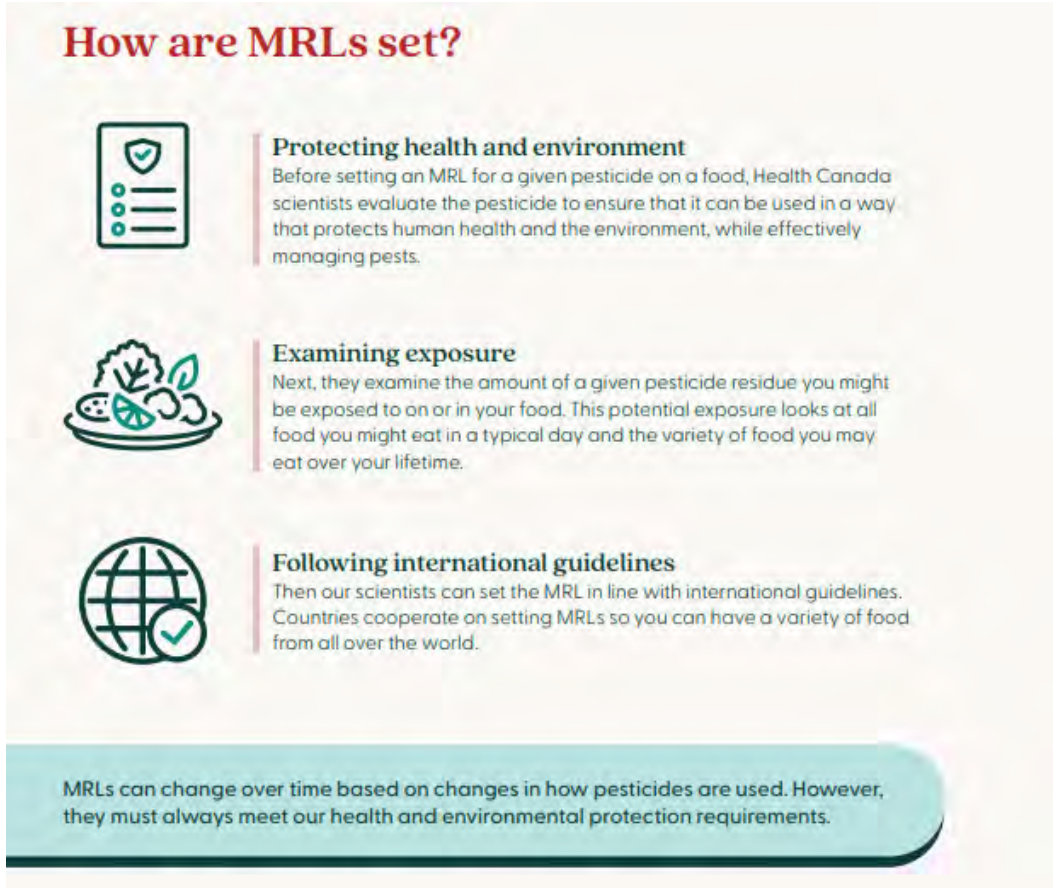
MRLs in Canada

- In Canada, MRLs are set by Health Canada.
- MRLs are often set 100 times or more below levels that would have any impact on human health.
- MRLs ensure that pesticides are being used as they are supposed to be by farmers.
- Not a measure of food safety.
- Used primarily for trade purposes.
- Canadian Crops must meet the MRLs set by the destination country in order to avoid trade disruptions.



Source: PMRA

Can you still eat Girl Scout cookies? Here's what to know about risks to consumers

A lawsuit cites a report from two non-profits – a science group and holistic parenting group – that found traces of lead and a herbicide in Girl Scout cookies. Does that mean we can't eat Thin Mints?

Mike Snider
USA TODAY

Published 7:18 p.m. ET March 13, 2025 | **Updated 2:26 p.m. ET March 14, 2025**

Why Are Parents Concerned About Girl Scout Cookies in 2025?

Laboratory testing revealed that 100% of tested Girl Scout cookies contain glyphosate and toxic metals, with levels exceeding EPA safety limits. Tests commissioned by GMOScience and consumer groups examined 25 cookie samples from California, Iowa, and Louisiana in December 2024. Thin Mints contained glyphosate levels of 111.07 ppb, while Peanut Butter Patties showed lead contamination of 42.5 ppb. The Girl Scouts of USA, an $800 million cookie enterprise, declined requests to discuss these findings.

- All 25 tested cookie samples contained glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup weedkiller
- 96% of samples tested positive for lead contamination, which has no safe exposure level
- 76% exceeded EPA limits for cadmium content
- 88% of samples contained five toxic metals: aluminum, arsenic, cadmium, lead, and mercury
- Thin Mints showed the highest glyphosate levels at 111.07 ppb, 334 times above safety thresholds

111.07ppb= 0.11107ppm

National Primary Drinking Water Regulations

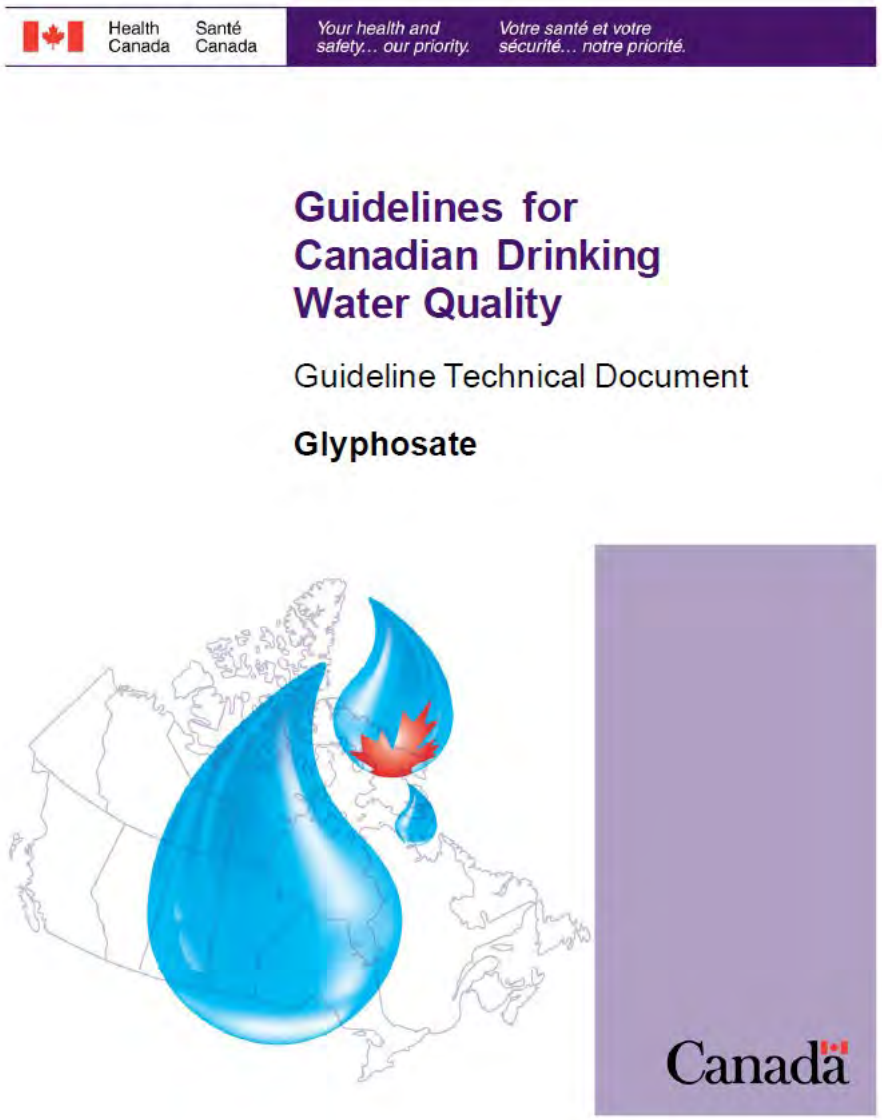
The National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR) are legally enforceable primary standards and treatment techniques that apply to public water systems. Primary standards and treatment techniques protect public health by limiting the levels of contaminants in drinking water.

- Microorganisms
- Disinfectants
- Disinfection Byproducts
- Inorganic Chemicals

Related Info

- Find out how EPA develops drinking water regulations
- Learn about existing EPA drinking water regulations

Glyphosate	0.7	0.7	Kidney problems; reproductive difficulties	Runoff from herbicide use



Guideline

The maximum acceptable concentration (MAC) for glyphosate in drinking water is 0.28 mg/L (280 µg/L).

0.11107ppm < 0.28ppm

JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD CHEMISTRY

pubs.acs.org/JAFC Article

Analysis of Glyphosate Residues in Foods from the Canadian Retail Markets between 2015 and 2017

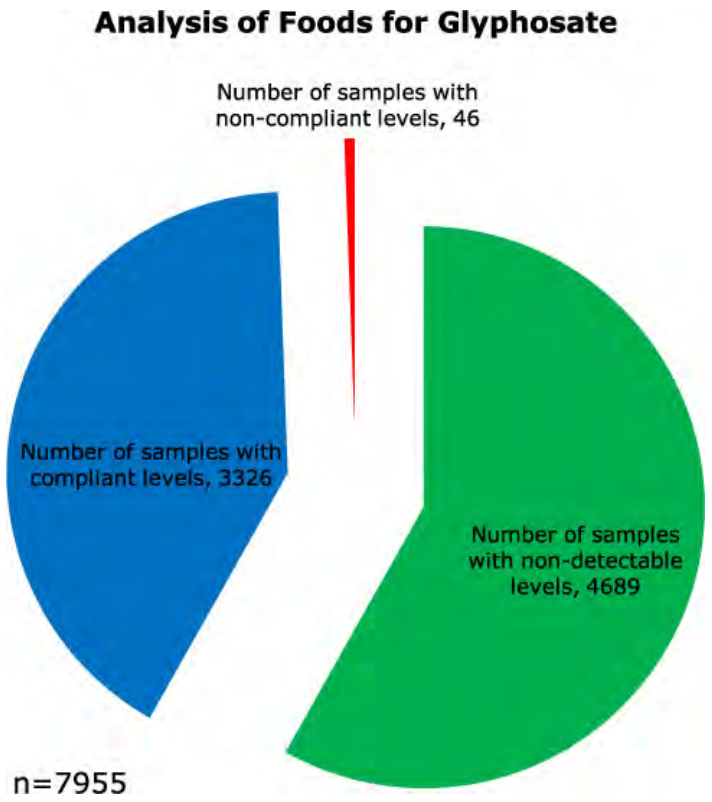
Beata M. Kolakowski,* Leigh Miller, Angela Murray, Andrea Leclair, Henri Bietlot, and Jeffrey M. van de Riet

Cite This: J. Agric. Food Chem. 2020, 68, 5201−5211 Read Online

Table 1. Prevalence and Levels of Glyphosate as a Function of Food Category

food type	MRL	foods	number of samples	number of samples with residues detected: compliant[a]	number of samples with residues detected: noncompliant	range (ppm)[a]
		Foods with a Single Ingredient or Class of Ingredient				
dairy and/or meat	0.08	plain yogurt, plain custard, milk-based infant formula, meat purees	22	0	0	n/a
fresh or processed fruits and vegetables (other than pulses, soybeans, and corn)	0.1	fresh/frozen/canned/pickled/dried fruits and/or vegetables, jams, juices/smoothies/nectars, fruit drinks, wine	1473	170	6	0.0002−0.15
other grains	0.1	whole grains and flour/starch of amaranth, arrowroot, buckwheat, rice, rye, triticale	626	156	35	0.005−5.9
corn and corn products	3	fresh/frozen corn, gluten-free baking mixes/cookies/crackers/pasta, popcorn, corn flour, cornmeal, corn chips, corn bran, corn starch, tacos/tortillas	501	115	0	0.0006−0.45
beans and/or chickpeas and/or lentils and/or peas	4 or 5	fresh/frozen/canned/dried/baked/refried/beans/chickpeas/lentils/peas, chickpea/lentil/pea chips, flours	770	327	5	0.003−13
wheat and wheat products	5 or 15	wheat bran, baking mixes, couscous, wheat flour, wheat germ, bulgur, wheatlets, pasta (except for gluten-free), plain cookies and crackers	807	616	0	0.005−8.5
barley and barley products	10	pot/pearl barley, barley flakes, barley flour	103	51	0	0.0058−2.1
oats and Oat Products	15 or 35	baking mixes, oats, oat bran, oat flour, oatmeal	310	231	0	0.006−3.1
soy and soy products	20	fresh/dried/frozen soybeans/edamame, soy beverages, soy flour, meat alternatives, soy nuts, tofu, soy desserts, miso	204	20	0	0.0051−6.0
		Foods with Multiple Ingredients or Classes of Ingredients				
infant foods	0.1−35 ppm	infant cereals, toddler snacks, granola bars/cereal bars, infant/toddler meals, purees, infant formula, teething biscuits, fruit-flavored yogurt/fresh cheese	927	290	0	0.006−2.5
manufactured foods intended for general population	0.1−35 ppm	cookies, crackers, frozen meals, canned pasta, frozen pizza, soup, gluten-free pasta	2212	1344	0	0.0001−1.9

[a]Compliant refers to detectable levels of glyphosate that are at or below the applicable MRL (i.e., compliant with Canadian regulations).



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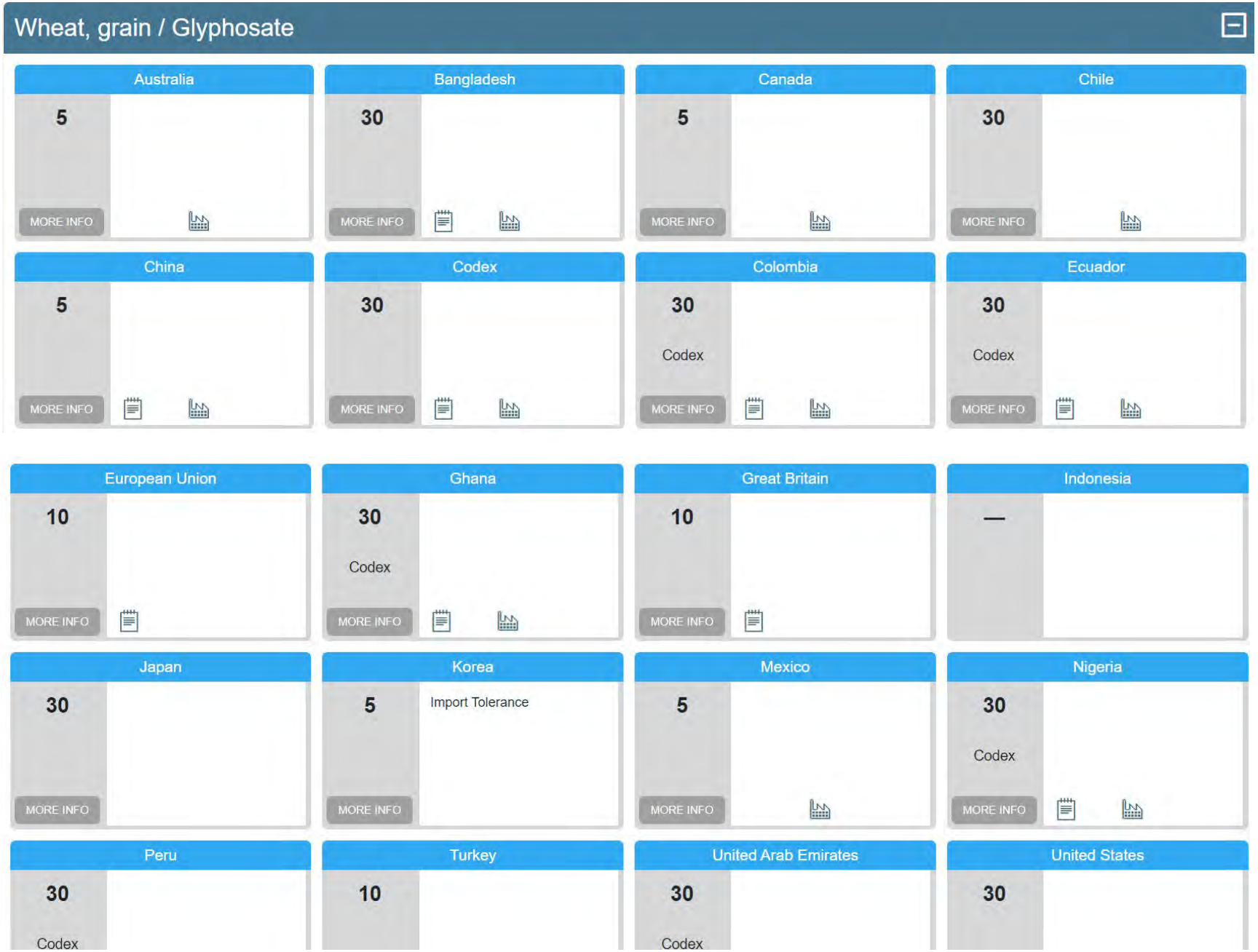

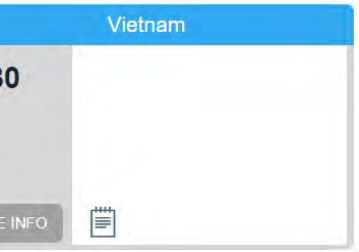

0.11107ppm

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“A health assessment by Health Canada has also confirmed there are no risks of concern to human health when glyphosate-containing products are used properly according to product label instructions.”

“In 2022, the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) carried out a hazard assessment of glyphosate and concluded that it did not meet the scientific criteria to be classified as a carcinogenic, mutagenic or reprotoxic substance. EFSA used ECHA’s hazard classification for the purposes of the EU risk assessment on glyphosate.”

“EPA scientists performed an independent evaluation of available data for glyphosate and found no risks of concern to human health from current uses of glyphosate. Glyphosate products used according to label directions do not result in risks to children or adults.”

The Dose makes the Poison

Substance	Toxic Category	Lethal Dose* LD50 (mg/kg)**
Botulin	Super Toxic	0.00001
Vitamin D	Extremely Toxic	10
Caffeine	Very Toxic	192
Copper Sulphate pesticide used in organic production	Very Toxic	481
Acetaminophen pain killer	Moderately Toxic	1,944
Sodium Chloride table salt	Moderately Toxic	3,000
Glyphosate weed killer	Slightly Toxic	5,600
Ethanol alcohol	Slightly Toxic	7,000
Sucrose sugar	Practically Non-Toxic	30,000

* *Acute toxicity/one time dose. Smaller numbers = greater toxicity*

DITCH GIRL SCOUT COOKIES

1/3

@IAMJASYRA

100% POSITIVE FOR GLYPHOSATE
100% POSITIVE FOR TOXIC METALS
88% POSITIVE FOR ALL 5 TOXIC METALS
76% POSITIVE FOR LEVELS OF CADMIUM THAT EXCEED EPA LIMITS IN WATER
96% POSITIVE FOR LEAD

9,462

360

19.6K

iamjasyra

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People ENTERTAINMENT CRIME HUMAN INTEREST LIFESTYLE ROYALS STYLEWATCH SHOPPING

LIFESTYLE > HEALTH

Chemical That May Cause Infertility Found in Cheerios, Quaker Oats

80% of Americans tested were found to have been exposed to chlormequat, which has been linked to issues with puberty and reproduction, a study claims

By Cara Lynn Shultz | Updated on February 19, 2024 07:01PM EST

Box of Cheerios. PHOTO: GABBY JONES/BLOOMBERG/GETTY

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Canadian farmers blamed for ag chemical in U.S. oat foods
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Feb 16, 2024 NEWS

Crop carryout high this year
Feb 16, 2024 CROPS

New farm income record set in 2023, estimates suggest
Feb 16, 2024 CROPS

Bill to ban flights for live horses now in committee
Feb 16, 2024 LIVESTOCK

WATCH NOW | WELCOME TO THE FARM SHOW

Canadian farmers blamed for ag chemical in U.S. oat foods

By Robert Arnason

Published: February 20, 2024
Crops, News

Reading Time: 3 minutes

The amount of chlormequat found in urine and oat foods may be very low, but public perception is reality when it comes to pesticides. | File photo

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EWG finds little-known toxic chemical in four out of five people tested

By **Anthony Lacey** (EWG), **Alexis Temkin, Ph.D.** (EWG)

FEBRUARY 15, 2024

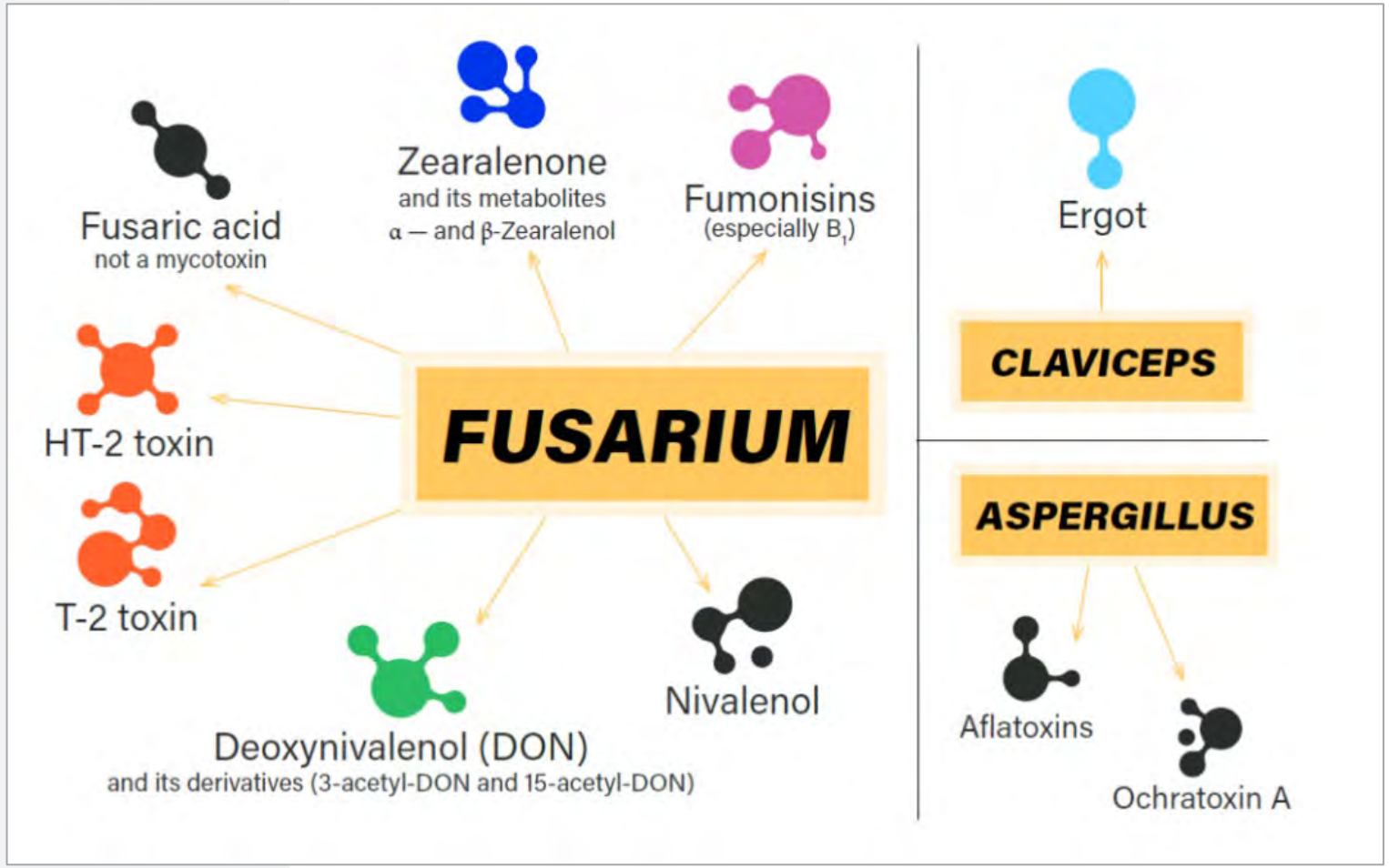
Oat, grain | Chlormequat

Canada		China		Codex		European Union	
Oats	40	Oat	10	Oats (GC 0647)	4	Oat	15
DETAILS		DETAILS		DETAILS		DETAILS	

Japan		United States	
Other cereal grains	6	Oat, grain • Import Tolerance	40
DETAILS		DETAILS	

What about MLs?

- Apply to food contaminants
- Include contaminants like deoxynivalenol (DON) and other mycotoxins and heavy metals



Ergot

Cereals and cereal products, derived from cereal grains, from roots and tubers, pulses, legumes and pith or soft core of palm tree, including bakery wares

COLLAPSE SECTION

European Union — Ergot

Published Commodity	Limit	Status
1.8.1.1 Unprocessed cereal grains except products listed in 1.8.1.2	200 ppm	Current
1.8.1.2 Unprocessed rye grains	500 ppm	Current
1.8.1.2 Unprocessed rye grains	200 ppm	Pending

European Union — Ergot alkaloids

Published Commodity	Limit	Status
1.8.2.1 Milling products of barley, spelt and oats (with an ash content lower than 900 mg/100 g dry matter)	0.05 ppm	Current
1.8.2.1a Milling products of wheat (with an ash content lower than 900 mg/100 g dry matter)	0.1 ppm	Current
1.8.2.1a Milling products of wheat (with an ash content lower than 900 mg/100 g dry matter)	0.05 ppm	Pending
1.8.2.2 Barley, wheat, spelt and oats grains placed on the market for the final consumer	0.15 ppm	Current
1.8.2.2 Milling products of barley, wheat, spelt and oats	0.15 ppm	Current
1.8.2.3 Rye milling products: Rye placed on the market for the final consumer	0.25 ppm	Pending
1.8.2.3 Rye placed on the market for the final consumer	0.5 ppm	Current
1.8.2.4 Wheat gluten	0.4 ppm	Current

Keep It Clean Program

Keep it Clean is a joint initiative that provides growers and crop advisers with resources for growing market-ready crops.

This includes providing timely updates on potential market risks and resources for on-farm practices to ensure crops meet the standards of domestic and export customers.

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