

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Revised National Food Safety Standard Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides in Foods Published

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Report Highlights:

On February 12, 2026, China published revised GB 2763 National Food Safety Standard MRLs for Pesticides in Foods, it entered into force on March 1, 2026. The final standard contains 10,749 MRLs and 350 testing methods for 585 pesticides in foods. It replaces the previous standard of GB2763-2021 and its supplementary regulation of GB2763.1-2022. The report outlines the changes to MRLs in the revised standard. Stakeholders should conduct their own review of the regulations to assess any market or regulatory impacts on their business.

FAS China provides this reporting and analysis as a service to U.S. farmers, ranchers, rural communities, and agribusinesses in support of a worldwide agricultural information system and a level playing field for U.S. agriculture.

On February 12, 2026, China's National Health Commission (NHC), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA), and the State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) jointly released [Announcement No. 2 \(2026\)](#) (link in Chinese) to publish GB 2763-2026 National Food Safety Standard Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for Pesticides in Foods, which entered into force on March 1, 2026.

The Announcement stated the final standard can be downloaded via the [Center of Agro-products Safety and Quality](#) website (link in Chinese). The final standard contains 10,749 MRLs and 350 testing methods for 585 pesticides used in foods, and it replaced the following standards:

- [National Food Safety Standard of Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides in Foods](#) (GB2763-2021), which entered into force on September 3, 2021.
- [National Food Safety Standard of Maximum Residue Limits for 112 Pesticides in Foods](#) (GB2763.1-2022), which is a supplementary standard of GB2763-2021 and entered into force on May 11, 2023.

The revised standard covers lists of MRLs for pesticides in foods, their main usages, residue substances, average daily intake (ADI), the detection methods, and applicable food categories in China. It introduces 370 new MRLs indicators. Those indicators apply to existing pesticides used in additional crops. The new MRLs fall mainly under vegetables categories.

The standard also revises 23 existing MRLs for certain foods such as fruits, oilseeds (mostly peanut kernels), grains (including paddy rice, barley, rice, wheat and corn), as well as cocoa and coffee beans, most of which have been made more stringent, while a few have been relaxed.

Food Categories and Parts Analyzed (Appendix A) serve to define the scope of application for MRLs for pesticides; this classification applies exclusively to the context of this document. When an MRL for a specific pesticide is established for a particular food category, it applies to all food items falling under that category, unless otherwise specifically stipulated. The List of Pesticides Exempt from the Establishment of Maximum Residue Limits in Food (Appendix B) serves to define the scope of pesticides for which the established MRLs in foods are not required.

The classification of certain MRL values for over 100 pesticides has been changed from provisional to permanent, while certain MRL values for 7 pesticides have been changed from permanent to provisional. Provisional MRLs are still mandatory indicators, but they might be subject to revisions by evaluation. The standard also lists testing methods for residues of specific pesticides across varieties of foods and agricultural products.

In the Announcement, it stated the standard has been updated in the following three areas:

- **Development Methodology:** The update incorporates scientific research data and feedback collected from industry stakeholders, research institutions, consumers, and regulatory authorities.
- **Product Coverage:** The revised standard includes more MRLs for vegetables and fruits, which now represent over 50% of all established limits.
- **Methodological Alignments:** The update includes 14 new testing method standards to align established limits with specific testing protocols and enforcement procedures.

The new edition of the standard integrates all pesticides approved for use in foods, together with the listing of all major plant-based agricultural products into a single framework. This unified system provides the parameters for pesticide application, the established limits and testing methods for laboratory analysis, and the data used for regulatory inspections and enforcement. This structure aligns with current regulatory requirements for supply chain management and food safety protocols.

China notified below two draft regulations of MRLs for pesticides in foods before finalizing the standard:

- On December 19, 2025, notified 598 new or revised MRLs for 126 pesticides in foods to WTO under [G/SPS/N/CHN/1356](#), please see FAS GAIN Report [CH2026-0004](#) for detailed information.
- On December 9, 2025, notified 209 new or revised MRLs covering 93 pesticides in foods to WTO under [G/SPS/N/CHN/1355](#), please see FAS GAIN Report [CH2025-0253](#) for more information.

Agricultural products exported to China must comply with the MRLs of pesticides specified in this standard. The newly published standard has broadened the scope of products covered and established stricter limits for certain commodities. Stakeholders should conduct their own review of the regulations to assess any market or regulatory impacts on their business.

Attachments:

[GB 2763-2026.pdf](#)