

Guidance 1418/ 14 Jan 2013 Mandatory Compliance with the Pesticide MRLs in Food

This document is a follow-up to SFDA guidance 3965/30 Oct 2011 "Approved Procedures for dealing with Pesticide Residue Limits in foodstuff imported to KSA". It falls within the framework of SFDA's continuous efforts to control the safety of food products coming through the Saudi ports of entry and to ensure their compliance with the maximum residue limits of pesticides as approved in Saudi Arabia. In addition to the aforementioned objectives, this document is intended to safeguard public health, prevent loss of national capitals, and avoid rejection of food products destined to the Saudi market. Thus, SFDA would like to advise all food importers on the following:

1. It is mandatory to fully comply with the terms and procedures stated in the above SFDA guidance No. 3965/30 Oct 2011 " Approved Procedures for dealing with Pesticide Residue Limits in foodstuff imported to KSA".
2. In order to speed up the clearance process, food importers are recommended to accompany each shipment with test results, from laboratories which are internationally accredited and certified with ISO 17025, confirming its compliance with the limits stated above in Article (1).
3. It is necessary for food importers, when entering into agreements with their respective exporters, to incorporate terms which protect their rights. As far as SFDA is concerned, the food importer, to whom the consignment is addressed, shall be the only party held accountable if any incident of non-compliance with the relevant approved technical regulations and standards are found or if the documents accompanying the consignment proved inconsistent.

Your cooperation is highly appreciated