



SPICES BOARD

(Ministry of Commerce & Industry Govt. of India)
Sugandha Bhavan
N.H.By-pass
P.B.No. 2277
Palarivattom P.O.
Kochi - 682 025, India

स्पाइसेस बोर्ड

(वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
सुगन्ध भवन
एन.एच.बाईपास
पी. बी. नं. 2277
पालारिवट्टम पी.ओ.
कोच्ची - 682 025, भारत

Circular No: 03/2023-24

Dated: 16th May 2023

Circular

Sub: Potential risk due to the presence of pesticide residues in export consignments of Cumin Seeds to the European Union (EU) -reg

The Directorate General For Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE), of the European Commission has reported the presence of pesticide residues in some consignments of Cumin Seeds originating in India, imported to E.U. member states.

DG SANTE has further stated that it is necessary to require an increased level of official controls on entry of Cumin Seeds from India to E.U and has decided to include Cumin Seeds from India in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793, with a frequency of identity and physical checks set at 20 % of consignments entering the E.U. As stipulated by the Commission, Cumin consignments to EU shall comply with the maximum residue limits for pesticides, prescribed in Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 February 2005 (as amended till date).

The link to the pesticide database of European Commission is given below.

<https://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/pesticides/eu-pesticides-database/start/screen/products>

As European Commission has decided to increase to 20%, the frequency of testing of Cumin Seeds from India at the EU entry ports, there is an increased risk of rejection, if pesticide residues above applicable limits are present in the Cumin consignments.

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It is learnt that the EU Regulation in this regard, is undergoing the process for publication in the Official Journal of the European Union and shall enter into force on the twentieth day following its publication.

All exporters of Cumin Seeds to E.U are therefore requested to ensure compliance with the EU MRLs for pesticides, so as to avoid detention/rejection.

Further, the Board is closely monitoring the situation and if needed, will bring Cumin Seeds to EU under the mandatory testing regime of the Board, wherein consignments of Cumin Seeds will require pre-shipment testing and clearance from Board's Laboratories for the pesticide parameters prescribed by the E.U.



DIRECTOR(MARKETING)

To,

All Exporters of Spices and Spice Products/ Exporters' Associations.

Copy to:

1. Shri Arun Kumar, Deputy Director, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Gol.
2. All Offices/ QELs of Spices Board.
3. Deputy Director, EDP, Spices Board to host in the Board's website.

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(Hindi version follows)