



**2025/2975(RPS)**

8.12.2025

# **DRAFT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION**

pursuant to Rule 115(2) and (3) and (4)(c) of the Rules of Procedure

on the draft Commission regulation amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for acetamiprid, aclonifen, deltamethrin, oxathiapiprolin and potassium phosphonates in or on certain products  
(D110096/02 – 2025/2975(RPS))

**Committee on the Environment, Climate and Food Safety**

Members responsible: Marie Toussaint, Christophe Clergeau, Sirpa Pietikäinen, Michal Wiezik, Anja Hazekamp

## **B10-0000/2025**

### **European Parliament resolution on the draft Commission regulation amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for acetamiprid, aclonifen, deltamethrin, oxathiapiprolin and potassium phosphonates in or on certain products (D110096/02 – 2025/2975(RPS))**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the draft Commission regulation (D110096/02),
- having regard to Regulation xx of the European Parliament and of the Council of X December 20XX xx<sup>1</sup>, and in particular xx thereof,
- having regard to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 February 2005 on maximum residue levels of pesticides in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin and amending Council Directive 91/414/EEC<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 14(1), point (a), thereof,
- having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market and repealing Council Directives 79/117/EEC and 91/414/EEC<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 4(1) and Article 4(2), first subparagraph, point (a), and points 3.6.2, 3.6.4 and 3.6.5 of Annex II,
- having regard to Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety<sup>3</sup>, and in particular Article 5(1) thereof,
- having regard to Articles 11, 13, 168 and 191 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
- having regard to the 2022 statement adopted by EFSA on the active substance acetamiprid<sup>2</sup>,
- having regard to the 2024 statement adopted by EFSA on the toxicological properties and maximum residue levels of acetamiprid and its metabolites<sup>3</sup>,
- having regard to the 2025 EFSA opinion on the modification of the existing maximum residue level for acetamiprid in honey<sup>4</sup>
- having regard to Article 5a(3)(b) of Council Decision 1999/468/EC of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the

---

<sup>1</sup> OJ L xx, 3.12.2025, p. xx, ELI: xx.

<sup>2</sup> <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.2903/j.efsa.2022.7031>

<sup>3</sup> <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.2903/j.efsa.2024.8759>

<sup>4</sup> <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.2903/j.efsa.2025.9300>

Commission<sup>5</sup>,

- having regard to Rule 115(2) and (3) and (4)(c) of its Rules of Procedure,
  - having regard to the motion for a resolution by the Committee on the Environment, Climate and Food Safety,
- A. whereas the draft Commission regulation (D110096/02) proposes, in particular, to raise the MRL for acetamiprid in honey to 1 mg/kg, following a previous increase in July 2025 from 0.05 mg/kg to 0.3 mg/kg.
- B. whereas the request to modify the existing MRL for the active substance acetamiprid in honey was submitted to the Slovenian competent authority by Albaugh Europe Sàrl; whereas Albaugh Europe Sàrl, founded in 2007, operates as the European branch of Albaugh, LLC, a company based in the United States;
- C. whereas acetamiprid was initially approved in 2004 and subsequently re-approved in 2018 for a period of 15 years; whereas, in May 2020, the Risk Assessment Committee (RAC) classified acetamiprid as a reproductive toxicant of category 2 (R2), having concluded that observed reductions in body weight of pups, postnatal survival, and delayed puberty in male rats in a developmental neurotoxicity (DNT) study were sufficient to classify the substance as category 2 for reproductive toxicity, H361d, due to its harmful effects on development<sup>6</sup>;
- D. whereas, under the Biocidal Products Regulation, acetamiprid is classified as a very persistent (vP) substance in water and its authorisation was consequently granted for a limited period of seven years, from 2020 to 2027<sup>7</sup>; Whereas the biocide dossier explains the differences in persistence assessment between the pesticide and biocide regulations, with Germany and Belgium noting that the model used in the pesticide dossier was inappropriate and not aligned with the recommendations of the 2017 PBT guidance update<sup>8</sup>;
- E. whereas in May 2024, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) published a statement on the toxicological properties of acetamiprid, indicating that significant uncertainties remain regarding its potential developmental neurotoxicity (DNT) and that further data are therefore required to support an adequate hazard and risk assessment<sup>9</sup>; whereas EFSA's Working Group consequently proposed lowering both the acceptable daily intake (ADI) and the acute reference dose (ARfD) from 0.025 mg/kg bw/day to 0.005 mg/kg bw/day; whereas this assessment subsequently led the European Commission to reduce a number of maximum residue levels (MRLs) to their limits of determination (LOD), ranging from 0.01 to 0.05 mg/kg, for bananas, currants, asparagus, lettuces, escaroles, chards and spinach;

---

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 184, 17.7.1999, p. 23, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/1999/468/oj>.

<sup>6</sup> <https://echa.europa.eu/information-on-chemicals/cl-inventory-database/-/discli/details/26276>

<sup>7</sup> Commission implementing regulation (EU) 2018/1129 of 13 August 2018 approving acetamiprid as an existing active substance for use in biocidal products of product-type 18 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32018>

<sup>8</sup> <https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/fd927384-b921-8d32-5313-1f7e897a2d13>

<sup>9</sup> <https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2024.8759>

- F. whereas, since 2013, EFSA has been urging the Commission to require industry to conduct a developmental neurotoxicity (DNT) study, in light of concerns regarding potential effects on foetal and infant brain development; whereas in January 2022, the EFSA PPR Panel concluded that there was no conclusive evidence of higher hazards from acetamiprid compared to previous assessments with respect to genotoxicity, developmental toxicity, neurotoxicity including developmental neurotoxicity and immunotoxicity<sup>10</sup>; whereas the Commission failed to take action for more than a decade and has only recently requested such data; whereas EFSA validated the corresponding study plan in September 2024<sup>11</sup>;
- G. whereas, since EFSA's 2024 statement<sup>12</sup>, number of peer-reviewed studies have been published demonstrating adverse effects on human health; whereas, with respect to developmental neurotoxicity alone, new in vivo studies further strengthen an already extensive and growing body of evidence of negative effects of acetamiprid on brain development<sup>13</sup>;
- H. whereas acetamiprid's high toxicity to bees and wild pollinators is well documented<sup>14</sup>; whereas, in the last two years alone, numerous peer-reviewed studies have reported harm to bees at field-realistic exposure levels; whereas these findings include, inter alia, greater susceptibility to acetamiprid in solitary bee species, which constitute majority of the bee

<sup>10</sup> <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.2903/j.efsa.2022.7031>

<sup>11</sup> <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.2903/j.efsa.2025.9639>

<sup>12</sup> <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.2903/j.efsa.2024.8759>

<sup>13</sup> See for example:

- Shamsi, M., Soodi, M., Shahbazi, S. *et al.* Effect of Acetamiprid on spatial memory and hippocampal glutamatergic system. *Environ Sci Pollut Res* **28**, 27933–27941 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-020-12314-6>
- Benchikh I, Ziani K, Benalia A, Djebbar AA, Argoub H, Khaled MB. Thirty-day oral exposure to acetamiprid induces biochemical and histological alterations in rat pancreas: protective effects of carnosine supplementation. *Toxicol Mech Methods*. 2024 Dec 3:1-11. doi: 10.1080/15376516.2024.2435350. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 39627
- Hassanzadeh R, Joursaraei GA, Hejazian LB, Feazi F, Najafzadehvarzi H. Evaluation of the protective effect of melatonin on oocyte, embryo and ovarian tissue parameters in female mice exposed to acetamiprid. *JBRA Assist Reprod*. 2023 Sep 12;27(3):407-413. doi: 10.5935/1518-0557.20220068. PMID: 37257062; PMCID: PMC107
- Longoni V, Kandel Gambarte PC, Rueda L, Fuchs JS, Rovedatti MG, Wolansky MJ. Long-lasting developmental effects in rat offspring after maternal exposure to acetamiprid in the drinking water during gestation. *Toxicol Sci*. 2024 Feb 28;198(1):61-75. doi: 10.1093/toxsci/kfad122. PMID: 3801
- Lee CLM, Brabander CJ, Nomura Y, Kanda Y, Yoshida S. Embryonic exposure to acetamiprid insecticide induces CD68-positive microglia and Purkinje cell arrangement abnormalities in the cerebellum of neonatal rats. *Toxicol Appl Pharmacol*. 2025 Feb;495:117215. doi: 10.1016/j.taap.2024.117215. Epub 2024 Dec 22. PMID: 39719252
- Longoni V, Kandel Gambarte PC, Rueda L, Fuchs JS, Rovedatti MG, Wolansky MJ. Long-lasting developmental effects in rat offspring after maternal exposure to acetamiprid in the drinking water during gestation. *Toxicol Sci*. 2024 Feb 28;198(1):61-75. doi: 10.1093/toxsci/kfad122. PMID: 3801

<sup>14</sup> See for example:

- O'Reilly AD, Stanley DA. Solitary bee behaviour and pollination service delivery is differentially impacted by neonicotinoid and pyrethroid insecticides. *Sci Total Environ*. 2023 Oct 10;894:164399. doi: 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2023.164399. Epub 2023 May 26. PMID: 37245
- Reiß F, Schuhmann A, Sohl L, Thamm M, Scheiner R, Noll M. Fungicides and insecticides can alter the microbial community on the cuticle of honey bees. *Front Microbiol*. 2023 Oct 30;14:1271498. doi: 10.3389/fmicb.2023.1271498. PMID: 37965543; PMCID: PMC10642971.
- Tadei R, Castor RES, Malaspina O, Mathias da Silva EC. Effect of neonicotinoid and fungicide strobilurin in neotropical solitary bee *Centris analis*. *Environ Pollut*. 2024 Nov 1;360:124712. doi: 10.1016/j.envpol.2024.124712. Epub 2024 Aug 10. PMID: 39134169.
- Malladi S, Sukkar D, Bonnefoy A, Falla-Angel J, Laval-Gilly P. Imidacloprid and acetamiprid synergistically downregulate spaetzle and myD88 of the Toll pathway in haemocytes of the European honeybee (*Apis mellifera*). *Environ Toxicol Pharmacol*. 2023 Nov;104:104323. doi: 10.1016/j.etap.2023.104323. Epub 2023 Nov 22. PMID: 37995888.

species in Mediterranean areas and which are not considered model species in the current bee risk assessment<sup>15</sup>; sublethal effects on behaviour, the microbiome, olfactory learning and memory<sup>16</sup> or immunity, newly identified in relation to acetamiprid also for queens<sup>17</sup>; increased susceptibility to *Varroa destructor* following exposure; synergistic effects with certain fungicides, particularly through microbiome disruption; and demonstrated negative impacts on pollination services delivered by solitary bees<sup>18</sup>.

- I. whereas, in the draft Commission regulation, the Commission proposes setting the MRL for acetamiprid in honey at 1 mg/kg, whereas this increase in the MRL is likely to lead to higher use of acetamiprid, in particular as a seed treatment on crops such as rapeseed, thereby exposing pollinators through nectar, consistent with the systemic properties of neonicotinoids; where this would result in exposure levels that have been demonstrated to be toxic to honeybees, as documented in scientific studies<sup>19</sup>;
- J. whereas recital (5) of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 provides that residues should not be present at levels presenting an unacceptable risk to humans and, where relevant, to animals;
- K. whereas Article 1(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council provides that the purpose of that Regulation is to ensure a high level of protection of both human and animal health and the environment; and whereas Article 4(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 provides that residues of plant protection products shall not have any harmful effects on human health, and any unacceptable effect on the environment;
- L. whereas Article 5(1) of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 provides that food law is to pursue one or more of the general objectives of a high level of protection of human life and health and the protection of consumers' interests, taking into account, where appropriate, the protection of animal health and welfare, plant health and the environment;
- M. whereas the Commission must protect the environment and European citizens on the basis of the available scientific information, using the obligations and legal possibilities that Regulations (EC) No 396/2005 and (EC) No 178/2002 provide for to ensure a high level of protection of human and animal health and the environment; Whereas the Commission

---

<sup>15</sup> Roberto Catania, Rodrigo Cupertino Bernardes, Marta Bonforte, Lívia Maria Negrini Ferreira, Maria Augusta Pereira Lima, Dariusz Teper, Lucia Zappalà, Gaetana Mazzeo, Susceptibility of solitary bees to agrochemicals highlights gaps in bee risk assessment, *Environmental Toxicology and Pharmacology*, Volume 113, 2025, 104614, ISSN 1382-6689, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.etap.2024.104614>.

<sup>16</sup> Abuagla, M.I.B.; Iqbal, J.; Raweh, H.S.A.; Alqarni, A.S. Insight into Olfactory Learning, Memory, and Mortality of *Apis mellifera jemenitica* after Exposure to Acetamiprid Insecticide. *Insects* 2024, 15, 473. <https://doi.org/10.3390/insects15070473>

<sup>17</sup> Tomas Erban, Martin Markovic, Bruno Sopko, Sublethal acetamiprid exposure induces immunity, suppresses pathways linked to juvenile hormone synthesis in queens and affects cycle-related signaling in emerging bees, *Environmental Pollution*, Volume 349, 2024, 123901, ISSN 0269-7491, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2024.123901>.

<sup>18</sup> Alison D. O'Reilly, Dara A. Stanley,

Solitary bee behaviour and pollination service delivery is differentially impacted by neonicotinoid and pyrethroid insecticides, *Science of The Total Environment*, Volume 894, 2023, 164399, ISSN 0048-9697, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2023.164399>.

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048357525000331>

must apply the precautionary principle;

1. Opposes adoption of the draft Commission regulation;
2. Considers that the proposal for a Council regulation exceeds the implementing powers provided for in Regulation (EC) No 396/2005;
3. Considers that the draft Commission regulation is not compatible with the aim and content of Regulations (EC) No 396/2005 and (EC) No 178/2002, as well as with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009, including points 3.6.2 of its Annex II;
4. Considers, that in the light of the scientific uncertainty regarding the toxicity of acetamiprid, in particular regarding its developmental neurotoxicity, including on solitary bees, and other than worker bees of *A. mellifera*, including queens, the Commission should apply the precautionary principle;
5. Calls on the Commission to withdraw the draft regulation to submit a new draft regulation to the committee lowering MRLs for acetamiprid;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission, and to the governments and parliaments of the Member States.