Trade impact of default Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) - the case of Kenya

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by

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Background on horticultural sub-sector

- Kenya horticulture industry has been growing at an annual average rate of 15% from 2001 to 2013.

- The value of horticultural exports in 2015 was 900 million USD in value. Constitute about 30-% of Ag-GDP.

- The European Union is the largest consumer of Kenyan horticultural exports as it takes about 45% of the country’s exports.

- In Jan 2013, Kenyan beans and peas in pods were listed for increased controls at 10% for pesticide residues; EU Regulation 669/2009
Targeted controls – pesticide residues

- In particular residues of: **Dimethoate** (Sum), **Chlorpyriphos**, Acephate, Methamidophos, Methomyl, Diafenthiuron, Indoxacarb; + compounds in multiannual control plan

- Pesticides with MRLs set at LOD
Trend of bean and peas in pods export volumes, 2013-2016

Trend of bean and peas export value, 2013-2016 (M$)
Representation of the number of notifications on beans and peas in pods from 2013 to Sep 2016

75% of cases have MRLs set at LOD.

- Methamidophos
- Chlopyriphos
- Methomyl
- Dimethoate
- Acephate
- Azaconazole
- Nicotine*
- Omethoate
- Imidacloprid*
- Fenthion
- Trifloxystrobin+
- Fenpropadrin
- Folpet
- Tetradifon
- Famoxadone
- Profenofos
- Diafenthiuron*
- Hexaconazole
- Diphenylamine

- Etoxazole
- Lufenurone
- Methomyl
- Chlorothalonil
- Fluopicolide
- Metalaxyl
- Carbofuran*
- Acetamprid
- Oxydemeton-methyl
- Mandipropamid
- Chlorothraniliprole
- Propamocarb
- Carbendazim
- Methoxyfenozide
Risk management measures implemented

• Extensive training of small holder producers in supply chain
• Enhanced pesticide residue monitoring program for beans and peas in pods
• Enhanced checks on pesticide labels and quality / review of pesticide legislation and controls for placement in market
• Stringent official controls in production system

Beans in pods delisted in July 2015; peas still listed.
Concerns moving forward

• Default MRLs not always due to health concerns – minor uses / specialty crops
  – Lack of supporting data for MRL setting
  – Support from agrochemical companies

• Notification of MRLs at default not matched with replacement pesticides
  – Alternative pesticides not readily available

• Crop protection need not matched with research alternatives / notification outcomes

• Limited data generation capacity needs for developing countries
Forward plans

• Harmonization of procedures to increase plant protection product registration

• Joint data generation programs
  – Implement African data generation initiative
  – Strengthen joint work sharing programs

• Creation of regional minor use programs

• Enhanced capacities for developing countries to increase pesticide residue data generation
Thank you for your attention!
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