

Glossary of Terms

<i>Chain / Retail chain</i>	A group of one or more stores that have the same name, sell the same products, and follow the same corporate policies. Chains can be local, regional, national, or international.
<i>Chain of custody</i>	The movement and location of sample(s) (evidence) from the time it is collected (obtained) to the time transfer of possession is acknowledged by the analytical laboratory for the purpose of chemical analysis (presented in court). Chain of custody requires documentation (testimony) of continuous possession by each individual having possession, together with documentation (testimony) by each that the sample (evidence) remained in substantially the same condition during its presence in their possession.
<i>Channels of trade</i>	The path through interconnected intermediaries, such as importers, brokers, wholesalers, distributors agents, and retailers, through which a product travels to reach the consumer.
<i>Discretionary sample</i>	Original samples are divided into “discretionary” and “targeted”. Discretionary samples are any type of raw agricultural commodity from any country of origin not specifically listed on the fiscal year target commodity list.
<i>Emergency exemption</i>	See “Section 18”.
<i>Franchise</i>	Independently owned business model. A franchised chain is owned independently and takes on financial responsibilities of the business but maintains certain guidelines set up by the parent company.
<i>Follow-up sample</i>	Follow-up samples are for-cause, meaning that the sample collector has cause to suspect that lot of produce being sampled contains an illegal residue.
<i>Gas chromatography / Tandem Mass (GC-MS /MS)</i>	Gas chromatography coupled to tandem mass spectrometry GC-MS/MS) using a triple quadrupole (QQQ) analyzer.
<i>Illegal residue</i>	There are two instances when a pesticide residue is illegal: Over Tolerance (OT) and No Tolerance Established (NTE). (See definitions)

Glossary of Terms

<i>Lead RO</i>	The Regional Office (RO) that services the county in which a lot of contaminated produce was collected.
<i>Limit of Detection (LOD)</i>	The lowest concentration of a chemical that a given analytical procedure can <i>detect and identify</i> , but not necessarily quantitate as an exact value. For pesticide analysis, the LOD is expressed in ppm or ppb. The LOD may be lower than the Limit of Quantitation (LOQ), because the analytical procedure might be able to detect and identify trace amounts.
<i>Limit of Quantitation (LOQ)</i>	The lowest concentration of a chemical that a given analytical procedure can <u>measure</u> (quantitate) with suitable precision and accuracy. For pesticide analysis, the LOQ is expressed in ppm or ppb. The LOQ may be higher than the Limit of Detection (LOD), because the analytical procedure might be able to detect and identify trace amounts of a chemical even when the concentration is too low to quantitate.
<i>Liquid chromatography / Tandem Mass (LC-MS /MS)</i>	Liquid chromatography coupled to tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) using a triple quadrupole (QQQ) analyzer.
<i>Lot</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) All containers of a single product that are marked with the same lot number by the producer, importer, or packer.(2) In the absence of clear lot numbers, all containers of a single commodity from a single production field harvested on a single date; or all containers packed during a single run of a single packing facility.(3) In the absence of clear evidence for definition #2, all containers of a single product marked with the same brand name or logo and delivered via a single shipment. After the initial delivery, portions of the shipment might later be transported to separate locations. The decision of whether those portions are distinct lots is at the discretion of DPR staff.
<i>Neutral-Scheme</i>	Select at random with no presumption of a violation.
<i>Notification of Illegal (NIR)</i>	In lieu of sending a PSS letter an “NIR” shall be sent to <i>Residue</i> restaurants, food trucks and other entities which received contaminated produce for purposes of meal preparation or other processing but not for resale.

Glossary of Terms

<i>No tolerance established (NTE)</i>	A pesticide residue that is illegal because U.S. EPA has not established any tolerance for that pesticide on the commodity on which the residue was found and has not exempted the pesticide from the requirement for a tolerance. Contrast to “Over tolerance”.
<i>Organic produce</i>	Produce grown in accordance with the United States Department of Agriculture’s National Organic Program, generally without the use of synthetically manufactured pesticides and fertilizers.
<i>Original sample</i>	Original samples are neutral-scheme, meaning that the sample collector has no reason to suspect that the lot of produce being sampled contains an illegal pesticide residue. Original samples are divided into “targeted” and “discretionary” original samples. (See definitions)
<i>Over tolerance (OT)</i>	A pesticide residue that is illegal because, even though U.S. EPA has established a tolerance for that pesticide on the commodity on which the residue was found, the level of the residue exceeds the tolerance (is above or “over” the tolerance). Contrast to “No tolerance established”.
<i>Parts per billion (ppb)</i>	An expression of concentration (for example, of a pesticide residue). One ppb is equivalent to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 milligram of pesticide per 1,000 kilograms of produce, or• 0.001 parts per million.
<i>Parts per million (ppm)</i>	An expression of concentration (for example, of a pesticide residue). One ppm is equivalent to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 milligram of pesticide per kilogram of produce, or• 1,000 parts per billion. One percent is equal to 10,000 ppm.
<i>Pesticide</i>	FAC Section 12753 defines pesticide as (a) Any spray adjuvant. (b) Any substance, or mixture of substances which is intended to be used for defoliating plants, regulating plant growth, or for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest, as defined in FAC Section 12754.5, which may infest or be detrimental to vegetation, man, animals, or households, or be present in any agricultural or nonagricultural environment whatsoever.

Glossary of Terms

<i>Pesticide chemical</i>	Any substance that is used in the production, storage, or transportation of produce that is a pesticide as defined in FAC section 12753.
<i>Pesticide residue</i>	Any pesticide chemical remaining on the produce at the time harvest or thereafter. Usually measured via laboratory analysis, and expressed in units of parts per million (ppm).
<i>Point of entry</i>	A location where produce from other states or countries enters California. Includes airports, seaports, and roadway border crossings.
<i>Point of origin</i>	A site where California-grown produce is packed prior to shipment. The point of origin may be located at the production field for commodities such as lettuce, strawberries, or table grapes; or at a packing shed for commodities such as citrus or melons.
<i>Produce</i>	The word “produce” is defined in Food and Agricultural Code (FAC Division 7, Chapter 1.5, section 12504) ...any food in its raw or natural state which is in such form as to indicate that it is intended for consumer use without any or further processing
<i>Quarantine</i>	Within this manual, the term “quarantine” is used interchangeably with “seize” (verb) or “seizure” (noun) in the sense that “seize”, and “seizure” are used within Division 7, Chapter 1.5, Article 5 of the California Food and Agricultural Code (FAC sections 12601 – 12615).
<i>QA/QC</i>	Quality Assurance/Quality Control; QA defines the standards/methodology to be followed to meet the customer requirements. QC ensures that the defined standards are followed at every step.
<i>Raw Agricultural Commodity (RAC)</i>	Raw agricultural commodities include, among other things, fresh fruits, whether or not they have been washed and colored or otherwise treated in their unpeeled natural form; vegetables in their raw or natural state, whether or not they have been stripped of their outer leaves, waxed, prepared into fresh green salads, etc.; grains, nuts, eggs, raw milk, meats, and similar agricultural produce. It does not include foods that have been processed, fabricated, or manufactured by cooking, freezing, dehydrating, or milling.

Glossary of Terms

<i>Reconditioning</i>	<p>The act of modifying produce that contains an illegal residue, in order to make the produce legal for sale. There are two main options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Converting the contaminated produce into “byproducts” that may lawfully contain the pesticide residue that was detected (FAC section 12607), or2) Treating the contaminated produce in some way to reduce or eliminate pesticide residues. The treatment may consist of simply holding the produce in storage longer to allow time for the pesticide to break down or may consist of some active intervention such as washing or removing the tops of the produce.
<i>Regional Office (RO)</i>	<p>An office of DPR’s Enforcement Branch that services a geographic portion of the state of California. DPR divides California into three regions (Northern, Central, and Southern), each serviced by a separate Regional Office.</p>
<i>Repeat Offender</i>	<p>A vendor with three or more illegal cases within a 12-month period and/or one potential acute dietary risk case.</p>
<i>Section 18</i>	<p>An emergency exemption of a pesticide product from the provisions of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). Named for Section 18 of FIFRA, which allows a State to issue such exemptions if it is determined that an emergency exists. Emergency exemptions are for pesticide uses for which U.S. EPA has not established any tolerance or exemption from tolerance. For the emergency exemption, U.S. EPA will issue a temporary tolerance that expires on a specific date (called a time-limited tolerance).</p>
<i>Section 24(c)</i>	<p>Also called a Special Local Need (SLN) registration. Named for Section 24(c) of the FIFRA (the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act). That section allows states to provide registration for additional uses of pesticides that are already federally registered. The key difference with a Section 18 is U.S. EPA must already have established a tolerance for the pesticide on the commodity for which the 24(c) registration will be provided.</p>
<i>Sampling Plan</i>	<p>The yearly list of target commodities (See definition “target commodities”)</p>

Glossary of Terms

<i>Sell</i>	Includes offer for sale, expose for sale, possess for sale, exchange, barter, or trade
<i>T-case number</i>	An internal DPR tracking number identifying a specific case in which an illegal pesticide residue has been confirmed detected on a produce commodity.
<i>Targeted sample</i>	Commodities identified for each fiscal year that have either a history of violations, are known carcinogens, are known to cause birth defects, are highly consumed in children’s diets, and/or highly consumed in ethnic diets.
<i>Time-limited Tolerance</i>	U.S. EPA issued temporary tolerance that expires on a specific date (See “Section 18”).
<i>Tolerance</i>	The highest residue level of a particular pesticide that is legally allowed on a particular commodity. Tolerances for a pesticide are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and are based on crop residue trial data and the potential risks the pesticide poses to human health.
<i>Vendor</i>	A person, company or entity offering produce for sale
<i>Wholesale</i>	Person or firm that buys large quantity of goods from various producers or vendors, warehouses them, and resells to retailers.

Glossary of Terms

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