

Urgent advice 05-2013 of the Scientific Committee of the FASFC on a proposition of action limit for the nicotine content in cultivated mushrooms (dossier Sci Com 2012/26)

The Scientific Committee was asked to set an action limit for the nicotine content in cultivated mushrooms which guarantees the safety of the consumers.

The Scientific Committee is of the opinion that a provisional action limit equal to 0,04 mg/kg, a value equivalent to the temporary MRL established for wild mushrooms, can be applied. This action limit ensures the safety of consumers.

Endogenous synthesis of nicotine in mushrooms could not be demonstrated after reviewing the scientific literature.

The results of the analysis of different matrices used in the cultivation of mushrooms suggest a contamination of organic growing substrates. Indeed, no scientific evidence could be found in the literature on the uptake and bioaccumulation of nicotine by mushrooms from a with nicotine contaminated growing substrate.

The full text is available on this website in dutch and in french, respectively under the section "Wetenschappelijk Comité/Adviezen" and "Comité scientifique/Avis".