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| **FRUCOM NEWSLETTER 26/08/2024*** FRUCOM ACTIVITIES
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| FRUCOM ACTIVITIES**FRUCOM open discussion and dinner, 14th November, Hamburg - hotel booking and registration details**The FRUCOM event will be held on November 14th in the Grand Elysée hotel. We will start with an open discussion at 6.00 PM and have a cocktail and a dinner at 7.30 PM CET.Please register through the following Eventbrite link: [**https://www.eventbrite.be/e/frucom-open-discussion-and-dinner-registration-993656432137?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl**](https://www.eventbrite.be/e/frucom-open-discussion-and-dinner-registration-993656432137?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl)The secretariat will briefly present the state of play and give the opportunity for members to comment on:1. FRUCOM activities carried out since the 2024 General Assembly2. Main issues related to the working groups:a. dried fruit and nutsb. processed fruit, vegetables and seafoodc. sustainabilityd. nutrition and communication3. AOBThe contribution to cover FRUCOM cocktail and dinner costs of 95 euros is requested. This does not cover hotel accomodation or Waren-Verein events. Please indicate if you have special dietary requirements in the form and we will do our best to accomodate them. Please note that we will not issue invoices and the confirmation of eventbrite is in place of an invoice.On the following day, Friday, 15.11.2024, our members the Waren-Verein will host the European Trade Meeting (ETM) on the topic ''The Future of Import Trade: From AI to Procurement Management'', 09:00 am-03:30 pm CET. Please see the agenda in [Eventbrite link](https://www.eventbrite.be/e/frucom-open-discussion-and-dinner-registration-993656432137?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl).To book your room, please use the form in [Eventbrite link](https://www.eventbrite.be/e/frucom-open-discussion-and-dinner-registration-993656432137?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl). A contingent of guest rooms is available for overnight stays. Book a single room for 210 Euro or a double room for 230 Euro (breakfast for an extra of 30 euro) until 04.10.2024 or until allotment is exhausted. Reservations are accepted under the keyword "Waren-Verein ETM" via reservierung@grand-elysee.com or by telephone at 00 49 40 4141 2222. Cancellation of accomodation free of charge is possible up to 3 working days before arrival. Please note that only a limited number of discounted rooms are available and a room from the contingent cannot be guaranteed.Following the ETM, the traditional annual dinner of the Waren-Verein will take place from 6:00 pm. To register for the Waren-Verein meeting or/and dinner or if you have any questions, please send an e-mail to u.thote@waren-verein.de.**Revised FRUCOM Manifesto for final comments/approval**FRUCOM received a lot of comments: from Christian Wolf (Waren-Verein/Hüpeden), Claudine Michalek (Aquaterra Food), Julie Adams, Elena Hemler, Abhi Kulkarni, Gabriele Ludwig (the Almond Board of California), Louise McKerchar (the American Peanut Council), Ömer Oktay (Voicevale), Sertac Toramanoglu (the Blacksea Association), Remmelt Jongkind (NZV/Princes), Ivan Bartolo (SIPA/Seafish UK), Irene Girones (INC), discussion with Phil Gawland (NDFTA), and input from other members.In particular, members suggested to add more product examples, further proof points on sustainability and ambitious objectives in the field of nutrition. Thank you very much for all your contributions which we did our best to integrate.Members are kindly asked to check the revised version and contact the secretariat with any proposals for changes within the next two weeks (**by 9th September**). We will then format the document for official release in our meeting in October.[FRUCOM Manifesto - Draft Up to date](https://frucom.eu/component/attachments/attachments.html?task=attachment&id=2480)ALL PRODUCTS**FRUCOM Trade with Southeast Asian Countries: Questions from FRUCOM members**FRUCOM members are invited to share any questions or concerns on trade with Southeast Asian countries for an exchange with the Head of Unit in DG TRADE for South and South-East Asia, Australia, and New Zealand.This includes markets with existing trade agreements, such as Vietnam, others where discussions are ongoing, such as the India, the Philippines, Thailand, and those benefiting from market access under the Generalised Scheme of Preferences including Bangladesh, Cambodia, Myanmar, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.Members are especially encouraged to bring questions on product or market specific issues for seafood products, nuts, and processed fruits and vegetables:-quotas-food safety-customs-sustainability**Pesticides: EU notification on non-renewal of tritosulfuron**The EU notified the WTO on its draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the non-renewal of approval of the active substance tritosulfuron. During the evaluation and peer-review of tritosulfuron, areas that could not be finalised were identified. Moreover, the outcome of the EFSA risk assessment identifies the contamination of groundwater by the relevant metabolite TFA at level likely to be above the regulatory limit of 0.1 ug/L. Therefore, and considering that by letter of 8 May 2024, the applicant informed the Commission of its decision to withdraw the application for the renewal of tritosulfuron, the approval should not be renewed.Existing authorisations will need to be withdrawn. EU Member States must withdraw existing plant protection products containing tritosulfuron at the latest by 6 months from the date of entry into force. A period of grace in line with Article 46 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 is allowed for and shall expire at the latest 12 months from the entry into force (allowing for a final season of use).Tritosulfuron is a herbicide used on spring and winter cereals, spring cereals with undersown grasses and maize (field uses). Its residues are sometimes detected in FRUCOM products.Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): 4 th quarter 2024Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): 4 th quarter 2024More information: <https://docs.wto.org/dol2fe/Pages/SS/directdoc.aspx?filename=q:/G/SPS/NEU790.pdf&Open=True>**EU and Fiji implement of the EU-Pacific interim Economic Partnership Agreement**On 20 August, the Government of Fiji began the implementation of the interim Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between the EU and the Pacific, which also covers Papua New Guinea, Samoa and the Solomon Islands.The EU and Fiji signed the EPA in 2009. While the EU started provisional application immediately afterwards, Fiji decided to start applying it in 2014.Key EU imports from the Pacific region include coconut products and fish.More information: <https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_24_4242>European Union, Trade in goods with Fiji –statistics <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/isdb_results/factsheets/country/details_fiji_en.pdf>**Pesticides: New draft EU MRLs acetamiprid- Feedback needed**The EU notified the WTO on its draft Commission Regulation amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 as regards maximum residue levels for acetamiprid (neonicotinoid). Lowering the MRLs is based on the EFSA statement of March 2024. EFSA proposed in its statement to lower the acceptable daily intake (ADI) and acute reference dose(ARfD) from 0.025 to 0.005 mg/kg body weight (per day). EFSA concludes that for grapes (among many other foods) exceedance of the new ADI and ARfD was identified and for which safe fall-back MRLs and risk assessment values could be identified. Considering the new health-based guidance values derived in the new EFSA statement, a risk for consumers has been identified for 38 MRLs currently in place.New MRLs for acetamiprid (mg/kg):Apples 0.07Pears 0.07Quinces 0.15Medlars 0.3Apricots 0.08Cherries (sweet) 0.8Peaches 0.08Grapes 0.08Blackberries 0.6Raspberries (red and yellow) 0.6Blueberries 0.7Cranberries 0.7Currants (black, red and white) 0.01Gooseberries (green, red and yellow) 0.7Elderberries 0.5Table olives 0.9Miscellaneous fruits with inedible peel, large 0.01· A shortened transition period of 3 months (instead of 6 months as usual) is proposed.Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): 1 February 2025Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): 2 February 2025**We have learned that acetamiprid has been used as an insecticide in some  countries during this growing season. According to our pesticide data the draft MRLs, this seems not to cause significant problems. However, we would like to clarify with our members whether these new levels could cause exceedances in your products? If they would cause problems, could you please provide data to the secretariat?**More information: [https://frucom.eu/circulars/4849:pesticides-eu-notifies-new-mrls-for-acetamiprid-neonicotinoid.html](https://frucom.eu/circulars/4849%3Apesticides-eu-notifies-new-mrls-for-acetamiprid-neonicotinoid.html)**RASFF NOTIFICATION: 2024/34 (19/08/2024 - 25/08/2024)**Please find below a FRUCOM report compiling RASFF notifications of week 2024/34 (19/08/2024 - 25/08/2024).Information provided in the report is based on RASFF notifications published on the DG SANTE’s online database.[FRUCOMRASFF2024\_Week34](https://frucom.eu/component/attachments/attachments.html?task=attachment&id=2478)DRIED FRUIT & NUTS**Hazelnuts, Prunes and Raisins Sustainability Best Practices – updates from FRUCOM members**FRUCOM has added more members to showcase sustainability best practices for hazelnuts and prunes on the FRUCOM Sustainability page.The best practices include social and environmental interventions in South Africa, Türkiye, the United States, and Chile.FRUCOM members across all product categories are invited to share their sustainability best practices to be highlighted in the sustainability page.More information:Hazelnuts: <https://frucom.eu/sustainability.html?pid=3>Raisins (dried vine fruits): <https://frucom.eu/sustainability.html?pid=6>Prunes: <https://frucom.eu/sustainability.html?pid=11> |

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