

**Chemicals Regulation
Directorate**

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Date: 10 February 2014

Your Reference: 2014/001A

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/>

[relevant CRD website(s)]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about pesticide residues in salmon in 2013, which we received on 21 January 2014.

I can confirm that your request is being dealt with under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) and having considered the matter carefully we have reached the conclusion that some of this information can be disclosed. Copies of the requested information are therefore enclosed with this letter.

General guidance on how the Health & Safety Executive deals with requests under the Freedom of Information Act and Environmental Information Regulations can be found on the HSE website at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/foi/index.htm>

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the decisions made by CRD you may ask for an internal review by writing to me within two calendar months of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow

Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545700
Fax: 01625 524510
Email: mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk
Website: <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>

Yours sincerely

Chemicals Regulation Directorate

ENC.

Annex I

You have requested information about residues found in salmon in 2013. To date, we only have data for samples collected until September.

It may help to explain that there is a two stage review of the data. The laboratories submit their data for a peer review meeting with the Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues in Foods Analytical Sub Group. The members of the sub group are from all of the laboratories which submit data to the programme plus CRD experts and a Defra assessor. The data are reviewed to make sure they are fit for purpose and any technical difficulties resolved with the experts.

Once the data are reviewed the laboratories submit the data electronically to CRD. CRD then produce tables of figures and a draft report for consideration by the PRiF at their quarterly meetings. Any amendments are taken on board, actions followed up by CRD and the report published soon after.

I have provided:

- Data and an extract from the minutes of the Analytical Sub Group (ASG) meetings where salmon samples were discussed. In the ASG data, there are some chromatograms. Chromatograms are the pattern of separated substance obtained by chromatography. They show the level that certain results were recovered at.
- The draft summary tables and brand name annex (BNA) of the Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues in Food (PRiF) draft quarter 3 2013 report. A draft of the quarter 3 report has been reviewed by the committee but is not due to be published until early March, therefore while the data will not change some of the wording in the report may change.

I have not provided:

- The draft commentary on these results by the Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues in Food that will appear in Section. This is still being worked on, on balance we think the public interest falls on the side of not releasing this information to you while the Committee is deliberating how to explain issues arising.
- Forms completed by samplers. These do not as a rule contain more information than that included in the Brand Name Annex. Due to the forms having no information about any residues tested for or found in the samples they do not relate to your request.

Other documents that contain salmon results in 2013 can be found on our website. The Quarter 1 report has been published on our website (http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/guidance/industries/pesticides/advisory-groups/PRiF/PRiF_Results_and_Reports/2013++Programme) the salmon results are on page 13 in the report and page 22 in the brand name annex. The minutes from the PRiF meeting in which the quarter 1 report was discussed can be found at <http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/Resources/CRD/PRiF/Documents/Other/2013/Minutes%20170713%20Final.pdf>, fish is discussed at 8.4.

The information provided has had all names and personal details removed in accordance with Regulations 12(3) and 13 of EIR.

As we have found no residues which our risk assessment identified would have an effect on health, we have not written to any of the brand name owners in 2013 with regards to the salmon samples. Some of the residues found were from pesticides that are no longer approved for use, such as DDT, however the form of residue that was found strongly suggest that the residue is due to historical use of the pesticides which are known to stay in the environment for many years. We do not follow such results up as a matter of routine.

I have also included a glossary, which shows the meanings for the terms we use in the report.

As mentioned in my previous letter, we do not hold any laboratory reports as all our results are sent to us in flat data files. But the results and reporting limits are all published in our reports.