

**Advice 31-2007 of the Scientific Committee of the FASFC: exposure of the Belgian consumer to pesticide residues via the consumption of fruit and vegetables.**

In this advice, the exposure of the Belgian consumer via the consumption of fruit and vegetables was determined based on data collected in the Belgian food consumption survey performed by the Scientific Institute for Public Health (WIV, 2006) and data of the 2005 pesticide monitoring programme of the Belgian Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain (FASFC, 2006).

A first screening of the exposure was performed by a deterministic approach in which the exposure was determined by point estimates for each variable in the model. In this study, the average residue concentration was multiplied with the average consumption and with the 97.5<sup>th</sup> percentile of consumption. In a second phase, the exposure to a number of pesticide residues was evaluated in more detail by a probabilistic approach in which the complete distribution of the different variables was taken into account.

Based on the results, the chronic exposure to pesticide residues of the Belgian consumer via fruit and vegetable consumption seems to be relatively low. For most pesticides the exposure was hundred times lower than the ADI ('acceptable daily intake'). The highest exposure was observed for chlorpropham, followed by imazalil and dimethoate.

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