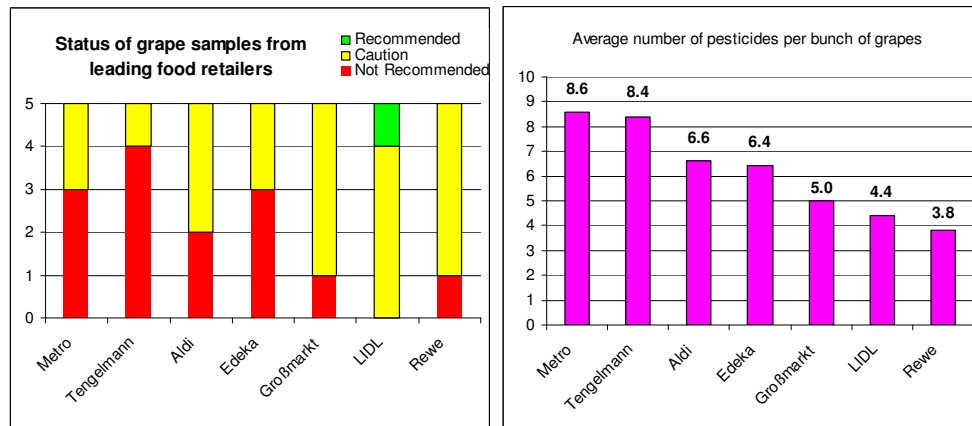


## GERMANY

### Analysis of grapes sold by leading food retailers

Thirty four samples of grapes purchased in Germany were contaminated with pesticides. On average 6.2 different pesticides were detected per sample of grapes. Sixty percent of grape samples contained five or more pesticides. Forty six different pesticide substances were detected in total.



Fourteen samples of grapes (40%) were classified as 'Not Recommended' under the Greenpeace evaluation system, while 20 samples (57.1%) received 'Caution' status – denoting contamination. One sample of grapes (2.9%) purchased contained no pesticides and received 'Recommended' status.

#### Which supermarkets sold the best grapes?

LIDL was the best performing supermarket in Germany. It was the only supermarket where no grapes were classified as 'Not Recommended'. It was also the only supermarket where one sample was classified as 'Recommended'. Additionally, LIDL showed the second lowest average number of pesticides per sample of grapes. Rewe also performed comparatively well. One sample was classified as 'Not Recommended' – the other four received 'Caution' status. Grapes from Rewe had the lowest average number of pesticides.

#### Which supermarkets sold the worst grapes?

Tengelmann sold the worst grapes with four receiving 'Not Recommended' status. Rewe also showed high average numbers of pesticides per sample. Metro and Edeka also performed badly each having three grape samples classified as 'Not Recommended'.

#### Pesticides at concentrations above the Acute Reference Dose (ARfD)

Grapes bought from international food wholesaler Metro were shown to contain the fungicide procymidone at double the Acute Reference Dose (ARfD) established by the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment and the World Health Organisation. Ingesting pesticides above the ARfD even once can be acutely damaging to human health, especially young children.

Procymidone is officially recognised by the EU as a carcinogen and reproductive toxin, and has endocrine disrupting properties.

While this grape sample breached international safety standards on pesticides, the pesticide procymidone was not present in excess of maximum EU legal limits. Thus it was sold perfectly legally. This finding demonstrates that EU legal limits do not provide protection for consumers' health, and provides material evidence in support of an urgent reevaluation of all EU maximum legal limits on pesticides.

### **Pesticides at concentrations above the maximum legal limits**

	<b>Origin</b>	<b>Pesticide</b>	<b>Hazard</b>	<b>MRL (mg/kg)</b>	<b>Residue (mg/kg)</b>	<b>Percentage of MRL</b>
Großmarkt, Hamburg	Turkey	Imazalil	likely carcinogen	0.02	0.086	430%

One of the grape samples purchased from the Großmarkt in Hamburg contained over four times the maximum legal level of the fungicide imazalil.

### **Which supermarket sold the bunch of grapes with the highest total number of pesticides?**

The grape sample with the highest number of pesticides was purchased from Metro and contained 13 different pesticides. These grapes were grown in Turkey. Other grapes containing high numbers of pesticides included three samples with 12 pesticides bought from Tengelmann, Edeka, and the Großmarkt in Hamburg.

### **Aldi: not delivering on its commitments**

Aldi promises customers in Germany that no food product will contain pesticides at concentrations above 80% of the summarized maximum residue limit (MRL). Analysis of grapes purchased from Aldi found that one sample from Italy did exceed the 80% limit. The summarised %MRL of the eight pesticides totalled 154%. Also, three samples exceeded the maximum number of five residues per sample. They all contained eight different pesticides. These results indicate that Aldi is not delivering on its commitments.

### **Rewe: delivering on its 70% MRL commitment**

Rewe promises customers in Germany that no food product will contain pesticides at concentrations above 70% of the maximum residue limit (MRL). Analysis of grapes purchased from Rewe found 19 residues all of which were below 70% of the legal limit. The highest residue was present at 36.5% of the MRL. These grapes indicate that Rewe is delivering on its commitment. With an average of 3.8 pesticides per sample, Rewe also sells grapes with the least residues.

### **LIDL: not delivering on its 33% MRL commitment**

LIDL promises customers in Germany that no food product will contain pesticides at concentrations above one third of the legal maximum. Analysis of grapes purchased from LIDL found 22 pesticide residues, including one residue present at 46% of the maximum legal limit. All others were below 33%

of the legal limit. These grapes indicate that LIDL has more work to do if it is to deliver on its 33% MRL commitment.

**Edeka: not delivering on its 70% MRL commitment**

Edeka promises customers in Germany that no food product will contain pesticides at concentrations above 70% of the maximum residue limit (MRL). Analysis of grapes purchased from Edeka found 32 residues, including one residue present at 100% of the MRL, and a second residue in a different sample present at 90% of the MRL. These grapes indicate that Edeka has more work to do if it is to deliver on its 70% MRL commitment.

**Proposals for an EU blacklist**

Four pesticides detected among the grape samples purchased in Germany would be withdrawn from use in food production if current proposals for an EU blacklist of hazardous pesticides are adopted by the European Union. These pesticides are procymidone (carcinogen, reproductive toxin and endocrine disruptor), and bifenthrin, deltamethrin, and lambda cyhalothrin (all endocrine disruptors). Grape samples containing these pesticides were purchased from Aldi, Edeka, Metro, Tengelmann and the Großmarkt in Hamburg