

## Action level for dioxins/furans and dioxin-like PCBs in food

(Recommendation (2011/516/EU))

Dioxins (sum of polychlorinated dibenzo-para-dioxins (PCDDs) and polychlorinated dibenzofurans (PCDFs), expressed as World Health Organisation (WHO) toxic equivalents using the WHO-toxic equivalency factors (WHO-TEFs)) and dioxin-like polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), expressed as WHO toxic equivalent using the WHO-TEFs. WHO-TEFs for human risk assessment based on the conclusions of the World Health Organization (WHO) – International Programme on Chemical Safety (IPCS) expert meeting which was held in Geneva in June 2005 (Martin van den Berg et al., The 2005 World Health Organization Re-evaluation of Human and Mammalian Toxic Equivalency Factors for Dioxins and Dioxin-like Compounds. Toxicological Sciences 93 (2), 223-241 (2006))

Food	Action level for dioxins and furans (WHO-TEQ) (1)	Action level for dioxin-like PCBs (WHO-TEQ) (1)
Meat and meat products (excluding edible offal) <sup>(2)</sup> of the following animals <sup>(2)</sup> :		
- bovine animals and sheep,	1,75 pg/g fat <sup>(3)</sup>	1,75 pg/g fat <sup>(3)</sup>
- poultry,	1,25 pg/g fat <sup>(3)</sup>	0,75 pg/g fat <sup>(3)</sup>
- pigs.	0,75 pg/g fat <sup>(3)</sup>	0,5 pg/g fat <sup>(3)</sup>
Mixed fats	1,00 pg/g fat <sup>(3)</sup>	0,75 pg/g fat <sup>(3)</sup>
Muscle meat of farmed fish and farmed fishery products	1,5 pg/g wet weight	2,5 pg/g wet weight
Raw milk <sup>(2)</sup> and dairy products <sup>(2)</sup> , including butter fat	1,75 pg/g fat <sup>(3)</sup>	2,0 pg/g fat <sup>(3)</sup>
Hen eggs and egg products <sup>(2)</sup>	1,75 pg/g fat <sup>(3)</sup>	1,75 pg/g fat <sup>(3)</sup>
Fruit, vegetables and cereals	0,3 pg/g product	0,1 pg/g product

<sup>(1)</sup> Upper-bound concentrations; upper-bound concentrations are calculated assuming that all the values of the different congeners less than the limit of quantification are equal to the limit of quantification.

<sup>(2)</sup> Foodstuff listed in this category as defined in Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin. (OJ L 139, 30.4.2004, p. 55).

<sup>(3)</sup> The action levels are not applicable for food products containing < 2 % fat.

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