



SRI
LANKA

Country Update

EU (revision of) Minimum Residue Level: Potential Effects on Exporting MSMEs

Provided by



VERITE RESEARCH
Sri Lanka

Background

Agriculture accounts for 7% of Sri Lanka's GDP and 26% of total employment.¹ Arable land makes up 21% of the land area and 16% of the land area is permanent cropland.² Main crop varieties cultivated in Sri Lanka include paddy, tea, rubber, coarse grains, vegetables, fruits and spices.

The value of total exports of Sri Lanka in 2016 was USD 10.5 billion. Agricultural exports make up 23% of total exports in 2016. Product-wise,

tea makes up the largest proportion of Sri Lankan agricultural exports (13% of total exports), spices (3%), seafoods (2%), and coconuts (2%). The European Union (EU) is an important trade partner for Sri Lanka accounting for 30% of Sri Lanka's exports. Of total agricultural exports of Sri Lanka to the EU, processed foods make up the bulk of agricultural exports (48%), followed by edible fish (32%), processed vegetables, fruits and juices (10%) and fresh fruits & vegetables (7%).³

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¹ Central Bank of Sri Lanka. Annual Report 2017. Available at: <https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/publications/economic-and-financial-reports/annual-reports/annual-report-2017> [Last accessed 15 May 2018].

Department of Census and Statistics. Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey Annual Bulletin 2017. Available at: http://www.statistics.gov.lk/samplesurvey/LFS_Annual%20Bulletin_2017.pdf [Last accessed 15 May 2018].

² Central Bank of Sri Lanka. 2017. Economic and Social Statistics of Sri Lanka 2017. Available at: [https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/sites/default/files/cbslweb_documents/statistics/otherpub/Economic %26 Social Statistics of SL 2017 e.pdf](https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/sites/default/files/cbslweb_documents/statistics/otherpub/Economic%26%20Social%20Statistics%20of%20SL%202017_e.pdf) [Last accessed 15 May 2018].

³ Ayoni, N. Export Promotion and Market Access for Agriculture and Food Products in Major Global Markets – Country Report Sri Lanka. Undated. Available at:

As of September 2016, there were 459 authorized plant protection products (PPPs)/pesticides commercially available in Sri Lanka containing 107 active substances. Of these substances, 27% were not approved for use in the EU.⁴ According to the Office of Registrar of Pesticides (RoP), 35 active substances have been banned, the most recent being glyphosate in 2015.⁵ However, on 10 May 2018, the glyphosate ban was lifted for tea and rubber products for a period of 36 months.⁶ Almost all the pesticides used in Sri Lanka are imported. Pest control in Sri Lanka depends primarily on synthetic pesticides. According to the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)'s data on pesticide consumption between 1995 to 2000 in organophosphates were the highest used pesticide category within insecticides, amides in herbicides and dithiocarbamates in fungicides in Sri Lanka during this period.⁷

Pesticide Control in Sri Lanka

There are a number of pesticide control measures available in Sri Lanka. These measures encompass the registration of products, risk/benefit analysis, field monitoring and enforcement, laboratory testing, imports

regulations, and banning and restricting of pesticides.⁸

Responsible organizations

The Office of the Registrar of Pesticides of the DOA is the key institution responsible for the authorization, control and marketing of PPP, through registration and inspection of retailers, import controls and formulation analysis. In addition, there are several government institutions involved in the authorisation and control of the use of pesticides in Sri Lanka.⁹

Relevant regulations

The key legislation pertaining to pesticide control in Sri Lanka is the Control of Pesticides Act No. 33 of 1980 which is concerned with the licensing of pesticides.¹⁰ The Act also makes provisions for the establishment of national MRL levels.¹¹ In addition, regulations passed under the Act specify the time limits between the use of pesticides, and the maximum pesticide residue limits for over 30 crops/food items and 60 active substances.¹² This amounts to 220 national standards for time limit and MRL.

http://www.ips.lk/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Sri-Lanka_new.pdf [Last accessed 15 May 2018].

⁴ European Commission. 2016. Final Report of an Audit Carried Out in Sri Lanka from 14 September 2016 To 22 September 2016 in order to Evaluate Controls of Pesticides in Food of Plant Origin Intended for Export to The European Union. Available at: ec.europa.eu/food/audits-analysis/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=12781 [Last accessed: 15 May 2018].

⁵ Department of Agriculture. Undated. List of Banned Pesticides in Sri Lanka. Available at: https://www.doa.gov.lk/SCPPC/ROP/Banned_List_1.pdf [Last accessed 15 May 2018].

⁶ Sri Lanka Cabinet approves lifting glyphosate ban for 36 months. ColomboPage. Available at: http://www.colombopage.com/archive_18A/May10_152593_6061CH.php [Last accessed 15 May 2018].

⁷ Ministry of Primary Industries and Ministry of Agriculture. 2016. Pest Management Plan – Agriculture Sector Modernization project. Available at:

http://www.agrimin.gov.lk/web/images/Pest_Management_Plan.pdf [Last accessed 15 May 2018].

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Annexure 1 provides the list of the institutions responsible for controlling the use of PPPs and their residues in produce for export.

¹⁰ For the Control of Pesticides Act No. 33 of 1980, please refer: https://www.doa.gov.lk/images/act/pesticides/control_of_pesticides_act_no_33_of_1980.pdf [Last accessed: 15 May 2018].

¹¹ Ministry of Primary Industries and Ministry of Agriculture. 2016. Pest Management Plan – Agriculture Sector Modernization project. Available at: http://www.agrimin.gov.lk/web/images/Pest_Management_Plan.pdf [Last accessed: 15 May 2018].

¹² Control of Pesticides Regulations (Time Limits) 01st of 2017. 14 June 2017. Available at: http://www.documents.gov.lk/files/egz/2017/6/2023-34_E.pdf [Last accessed: 15 May 2018].

In preparing this note, input from relevant stakeholder institutions and importers were obtained to understand the challenges and concerns faced by the respective parties. The following sections will outline the key findings obtained through these stakeholder consultations.

Inputs from Stakeholders

Discussions were held with relevant stakeholder institutions to understand their awareness of EU MRL specifications, and the challenges they face in meeting these requirements.¹³

Accredited institutions & knowledge of EU MRL specifications

Availability of accredited laboratories

There are 45 laboratories that have been accredited by the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB) to carry out chemical testing. However, only three of the 45 listed laboratories are accredited to test for pesticide residue in agricultural produce. However this does not cover the entire list of pesticides that are covered in the EU MRL regulations. These institutions are

1. Analytical laboratory of the Registrar of Pesticides
2. Bureau Veritas Consumer Products Services Lanka (Pvt) Ltd.
3. Chemical Laboratory of SGS Lanka (Pvt) Ltd.

In addition, certain laboratories such as the Jafferjee Brothers Tea Laboratory, International Laboratories (Pvt) Ltd., and Chemical &

Microbiology Laboratory of the Industrial Technology Institute (ITI) are accredited to test for the percentage of moisture, total ash, water soluble ash, alkalinity of water soluble ash, water extract and crude fibre in black and green tea.¹⁴

While the ITI has the capability to conduct MRL tests for Sri Lankan exports, they are not accredited to conduct testing. ITI does carry out tests for exporters who are not seeking testing by an accredited laboratory.¹⁵ In an event the foreign buyer specifies the necessity to have MRL testing done by an accredited laboratory, the exporters need to send their samples abroad for testing.

Awareness of EU MRL requirements

Most government institutions and private chambers and associations contacted during the period 23 April – 11 May 2018 demonstrated an awareness of EU MRL requirements for pesticides¹⁶.

Challenges

1. Lack of adequate accredited testing facilities

Despite the existence of institutions such as the ITI, Tea Board, the Registrar of Pesticides, and other private testing laboratories which can test samples for MRLs, they are accredited to do so for only for certain limited types of chemicals. The scope of analysis is therefore limited. For example, ITI has the capability to test the MRLs in most raw and processed foods for pesticide level but is accredited to test only water. ITI expects to receive accreditation to conduct tests for other food products in the upcoming

¹³ The list of institutions contacted are available in Annex 2.

¹⁴ Sri Lanka Accreditation Board. Accredited Laboratories. Available at: <http://www.slab.lk/AccOrgChemicalTesting.aspx> [Last accessed: 15 May 2018].

¹⁵ Key Person Interview. Industrial Technology Institute. 23 April – 27 April 2018.

¹⁶ The level of awareness of these organisations are summarised in Annexure 3.

months.¹⁷

Another problem is the lack of capacity of accredited institutions to meet the testing demands of exporters. For example, even though the Sri Lanka Tea Board has laboratory facilities to test for pesticide, priority is given to testing imported tea, rather than tea of Sri Lankan origin to be exported.

Issues such as these leave exporters with no option but to send samples to other countries for the required testing.

2. High testing fees

According to the Department of Commerce (DOC), the fees for laboratory testing of MRLs locally are relatively high. Local laboratories do not have the capability to test for certain chemicals and these tests are outsourced to overseas laboratories, resulting in the high charges.¹⁸

The EU MRL pesticide list covers approximately 600 pesticides and MRL testing for these pesticides requires LC – MS/MS technology. However, according to SGS Lanka (Pvt) Ltd., Sri Lanka does not have the necessary equipment for this testing, and samples must be sent to Vietnam and Germany, even for preliminary tests such as screening produce for the presence of pesticides. The cost per sample tested depends on the nature of the pesticide being tested, type of test (screening for the pesticide/testing the actual level of pesticide), and courier costs involved in sending samples to laboratories abroad.¹⁹ Most exporters find it difficult to bear the cost of testing prior to exporting. Hence, relevant authorities are unable to impose MRL testing as a mandatory

requirement for exporting.

3. Lack of proper mechanisms to respond to RASFF alerts

The DOC receives RASFF notifications for other food products. DOC informs exporters regarding the violation of EU regulations. However, there is no mechanism in place – such as that in NPQS and Ministry of Fisheries – to take any follow-up measures. The lack of a corresponding private sector association to coordinate with the DOC was cited as a possible reason for the DOC's lack of follow-up measures.²⁰

4. Prevalence of different MRL levels in different regions

According to the Tea Research Institute (TRI), the existence of different MRL levels for tea between Japan and EU makes it difficult for exporters to adhere to a single standard.²¹ The standards/guidelines set by the Sri Lanka Tea Board for tea imports and exports take the lowest MRL level, of the MRL levels specified by Japan and the EU.

5. Naturally occurring chemical compounds and high pesticide levels in soil

According to the Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB), certain naturally occurring chemical compounds in Sri Lanka are considered to be pesticides by the EU. This increases the difficulty for exporters attempting to meet EU MRL regulations, especially for certain tea and vegetable products.²² Further, due to years of pesticide use, soil in Sri Lanka can have higher levels of residue, even when pesticide use is controlled. This is an additional factor that increases the difficulty in meeting

¹⁷ Key Person Interview. Industrial Technology Institute. 23 April – 27 April 2018.

¹⁸ Key Person Interview. Department of Commerce. 1 May - 11 May 2018.

¹⁹ Key Person Interview. SGS Lanka (Pvt) Ltd. 1 May – 11 May 2018.

²⁰ Key Person Interview. National Plant Quarantine Service. 1 May – 11 May 2018.

²¹ Key Person Interview. Tea Research Institute. 1 May – 11 May 2018.

²² Key Person Interview. Sri Lanka Export Development Board. 1 May – 11 May 2018.

MRL levels stipulated by the EU.

6. Lack of technical knowledge of farmers

The Registrar of Pesticides highlighted that one of the main challenges in meeting MRL levels is the lack of sufficient farmer education regarding the proper application of pesticides, especially with regard to calibration of spraying equipment. This had hitherto impeded the ability of exporters to ensure stringent compliance with EU requirements.

The Sri Lanka Good Agricultural Practices (SL-GAP) certification was introduced to fill this knowledge gap. The programme registers all farmers/growers whose produce is destined to the EU to guarantee that the pesticide requirements are being met.²³

Cases of rejected exports

Some of the exporters contacted during this study reported instances where their exports were rejected as a result of non-compliance with EU MRL requirements.

During the period 2013 – April 2018, EU RASFF system lodged 21 notifications relating to pesticides residues of agricultural food products originating from Sri Lanka. Of these notifications, eight are classified as serious offences in which the shipments were either been recalled from the customers, detained, or destroyed. Seven of the notifications relate to *centella* (pennywort) and four to tea and green tea. Other food items which exceeded the pesticide limits were long beans, green chillies, chilli peppers, spinach leaves, bitter lemon, ponnakani, *alternathera sessilis* (Mukunuwenna), papaya and passion fruits.²⁴

It should be noted that the majority of these

notifications took place in 2014 and 2015 (16 notifications). There were no notifications recorded in 2016 or 2017. However, there were two cases of rejected exports recorded in 2018:

1. 22 January 2018 - A shipment of long beans contained the unauthorized substance carbofuran. The incident was notified by Denmark and was deemed serious.
2. 26 March 2018 - A shipment of tea contained the unauthorised substance tolfenpyrad and detained. The incident was notified by Finland.²⁵

Inputs from Exporters

Awareness and methods of monitoring/measuring MRL

A total of 19 exporters were contacted during the period 23 April – 14 May 2018 to understand the level of awareness of exporters regarding the EU requirements for MRLs and also the challenges they faced in this regard. The exporters contacted were involved in the exporting of a range of products, including coconut products, organic herbs, spices, fruit, vegetables, tea, seafood and biscuits.²⁶

Exporters who do not export to the EU were also contacted to assess if the EU MRL requirement was a barrier which prevented their access to the EU market. However, no exporter identified the EU MRL requirement as a reason for not exporting to the EU.

Exporters to the EU used both the available local testing facilities and international testing facilities in countries such as Germany to test

²³ Key Person Interview. The Office of the Registrar of Pesticides. 1 May – 11 May 2018.

²⁴ The detailed list of cases of rejected agricultural goods to EU are given in Annexure 4.

²⁵ European Commission, "Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) Portal", available at:

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/rasff-window/portal/> [Last accessed: 15 March 2018]

²⁶ The list of exporters contacted are available in Annexure 5.

samples for MRLs. The services of an international testing services are generally obtained at the request of the buyer to provide test results from an accredited laboratory.

Challenges

1. *Lack of sufficient testing facilities*

The lack of necessary testing facilities to carry out extensive testing was repeatedly highlighted as a key constraint to exporters' ability to adhere to MRL requirements. In most cases, exporters stated that Sri Lankan laboratories are equipped to test chemicals only at one decimal level of accuracy (for example 0.1) but not at two decimal levels (for example 0.05).

Producers of organic food particularly highlighted the lack of a facility to obtain regular testing. These producers need to ensure that products have zero residue levels. Currently, no laboratory in Sri Lanka provide such facilities.

2. *High costs of testing and certification leading to high costs of production*

A key challenge raised by exporters in terms of meeting the EU MRL requirement is the high cost of tests. As mentioned in the previous section of this note, the main driver of this high cost is the need to send samples abroad since the required testing cannot be accomplished locally. An exporter of dry foods and tea mentioned that the cost of ensuring compliance with EU MRL requirements is particularly burdensome for SMEs, with tests costing up to LKR. 12,000 per sample.²⁷ This adds to the cost of production for exporters. Further, the NPQS has certified certain farms as complying with the required standards. However, the farmgate price of products from these farms are very

high. This makes local producers less competitive than producers from other countries.²⁸

3. *Exporters' lack of trust in the testing system*

An exporter of coconut-based products stated that the accuracy of test results issued by Sri Lankan laboratories in relation to their export products was not reliable.²⁹

DOA has established stringent measures to check for MRLs of exports, in order to reduce the possibilities of EU banning Sri Lankan exports. Despite this being a good measure, exporters mentioned that they found the procedure to be overly burdensome.

4. *Capacity of smallholder farms to implement pesticide controls is limited*

The previously mentioned view by stakeholder institutions that farmers do not have sufficient knowledge of proper pesticide application was also corroborated by the discussions with exporters. This is attributed smallholder farms, with limited capacity to implement the stringent safe food protocols compared to larger scale commercial agricultural growers. Dependency of exporters on supplies from large number of smallholder farmers to meet the quantity required makes it difficult to trace the source of non-compliance.³⁰

5. *Lack of approved/registered chemicals available for specific crops.*

According to an exporter of strawberries the range of approved pesticides in Sri Lanka is limited. This impedes the exporters' ability to achieve the lowest possible residue levels. For example in order to prevent fungal mildew in strawberries, 5-6 chemicals need to be applied on a rotational basis to prevent the build-up of residues, but in Sri Lanka, only 2 of these

²⁷ Key Person Interview. Damayanthi Exports Pvt Ltd. 14 May 2018.

²⁸ Key Person Interview. Dero Export International Pvt Ltd. 8 May 2018.

²⁹ Key Person Interview. Jaindi Export Pvt Ltd. 8 May 2018.

³⁰ Key Person Interview. Nidro Supply Pvt Ltd. 15 May 2018.

chemicals are available legally, compared to 7-8 varieties available in other countries.³¹ As a result the build-up of residue is more than if a greater variety of pesticides had been applied.

Required improvements

1. *Improved testing facilities*

To overcome the challenges faced, exporters emphasized the need for modern testing facilities and laboratories, including technological upgrades of testing methodologies. Some exporters stated that it would be preferable if they were able to test a sample from each batch of exports, which is possible through better testing facilities. The need for accreditation of these improved facilities was also stressed. In the opinion of most exporters, having accredited and enhanced testing facilities will lead to lower costs involved in testing samples for EU MRL requirements.

2. *Increasing the range of approved pesticides in Sri Lanka*

The currently available range of approved pesticides in Sri Lanka is limited and restricts the choice for exporters to meet the increasingly stringent pesticide requirements set by the EU. In order to facilitate the easier compliance with the new EU regulations, Sri Lanka should increase the number of approved pesticides, at least for some economically important export crops.

³¹ Key Person Interview. Jagro (Pvt) Ltd. 14 May 2018.

ANNEXURE 1

Institutions involved in the control and regulation of MRLs for exports

Type of control	Institution
Controlling the use of PPPs and their residues in fresh fruit and vegetables	Department of Agriculture
Controlling the use of PPPs and their residues in spices	Department of Export Agriculture
Controlling the use of PPPs and their residues in tea	Sri Lanka Tea Board Tea Research Institute Tea Small Holding Development Authority
Controlling the use of PPPs and their residues in coconut	Coconut Development Authority
Phytosanitary pre-export controls of plant products	National Plant Quarantine Service (NPQS)
Sri Lanka Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) standards for growers and processors of food	Sri Lanka Standards Institution
EU contact point for the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)	Ministry of Industry and Commerce

Source: European Commission. 2016.

ANNEXURE 2

List of stakeholder institutions contacted

Stakeholder institution	Contact details
Office of the Registrar of Pesticides	1056, Getambe, P.O.Box 49, Peradeniya 20400 +94 81 2388135, +94 81 2388076 pest@slt.lk
Department of Agriculture	Old Galaha road, Peradeniya +94 81 2386484, +94 81 2388333 dgagriculture@sltnet.lk
Industrial Technology Institute	363, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7 +94 11 2379869 info@iti.lk
Sri Lanka Standards Institute	17, Victoria Place, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 08 +94 11 2671567 slsi@slsi.lk
Sri Lanka Tea Board	574, Galle Road, Colombo 3 + 94 11 2587814, + 94 11 2587773 teaboard@pureceylontea.com
Sri Lanka Export Development Board	No. 42 Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 02 +94 11 2300705 edb@edb.gov.lk
National Plant Quarantine Service	National Plant Quarantine Service, Canada Friendship Road, Katunayake +94 11 2252028/29 npqs@doa.gov.lk

Ministry of Industry and Commerce	No. 73/1, Galle Road, Colombo 03 +94 11 2392149 sas_admin@industry.gov.lk
Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka	Talawakelle, Sri Lanka +94 52 2258201 info@tri.lk
Ministry of Plantation Industries	11 th Floor, Sethsiripaya 2 nd Stage, Battaramulla +94 11 2186160 info@plantationindustries.gov.lk
SGS Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	3 rd Floor, AEC Building, 140, Vauxhall Street, Colombo 2 +94 11 5376280
Sri Lanka Food Processors Association	No. 1, 1/1 Anderson Road, Colombo 05 +94 11 7548770 info@slfpa.org
The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce	50, Navam Mawatha, Colombo 02 +94 11 2421745 info@chamber.lk
Lanka Fruit & Vegetable Producers, Processors and Exporters Association	C/O The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, 50, Navam Mawatha, Colombo 02 +94 11 5588871, +94 11 5588898 lankafruits@chamber.lk
National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka	532/4K, Sirikotha Lane, Galle Road, Colombo 03 +94 11 4651765 nce@nce.lk

ANNEXURE 3

Stakeholder Institution Awareness of EU MRL requirements

Institution	Nature of organization	Awareness ⁺
Office of the Registrar of Pesticides	Government	✓
Department of Agriculture	Government	✓
Industrial Technology Institute	Government	✓
Sri Lanka Standards Institution	Government	✓
Sri Lanka Tea Board	Government	✓
National Plant Quarantine Service	Government	✓
Sri Lanka Export Development Board	Government	✓
Ministry of Industry and Commerce	Government	✓
Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka	Government	✓
Ministry of Plantation Industries	Government	✓
SGS Lanka (Pvt) Limited	Private testing laboratory	✓
Ceylon Chamber of Commerce	Private chamber	✓
Lanka Fruit and Vegetable Producers, Processors and Exporters Association	Private association	✓
National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka	Private chamber	✓
Sri Lanka Food Processors Association	Private association	✗

⁺A green tick indicates that the institution is aware of EU MRL standards. A red cross indicates that the organization was unaware of the EU MRL standards.

Source: Key Person Interviews with the stakeholder organizations during the period 23 April-11 May 2018.

ANNEXURE 4

Cases of Rejected Exports of Agricultural Goods to EU during the period January 2013 – April 2018

Product category	Date	Notification basis	Countries concerned	Subject	Action taken	Distribution status	Risk decision
Cocoa and cocoa preparations, coffee and tea	26/03/2018	Border control – consignment detained	Finland, Sri Lanka (O)	Unauthorised substance tolfenpyrad (0.040 mg/kg – ppm) in tea from Sri Lanka	Official detention	Product not (yet) placed on the market	Undecided
Fruits and vegetables	22/01/2018	Official control on the market	Denmark (D), INFOSAN, Sri Lanka (O), Sweden (D)	Unauthorised substance carbofuran (0.16 mg/kg – ppm) in yard long beans (<i>Vigna sesquipedalis</i>) from Sri Lanka	Recall from consumers	Product (presumably) no longer on the market	Serious
Fruits and vegetables	21/10/2015	Company's own check	Belgium (D), France (D), INFOSAN, Netherlands (D), Sri Lanka (O)	Unauthorised substance carbofuran (0.087 mg/kg – ppm) in papaya and passion fruit from Sri Lanka	Destruction	Product (presumably) no longer on the market	Serious
Fruits and vegetables	15/07/2015	Official control on the market	Sri Lanka (O), Switzerland	Acetamiprid (0.34 mg/kg – ppm) and thiophanate-methyl (2.2 mg/kg – ppm) and unauthorised substance carbofuran (0.037 mg/kg – ppm) in longbeans from Sri Lanka	Official detention	Product (presumably) no longer on the market	Serious
Fruits and vegetables	12/3/2015	Border control – consignment released	Italy (D), Sri Lanka (O)	Unauthorised substance profenofos (0.063 mg/kg – ppm) in chilli peppers (<i>Capsicum annum</i>) from Sri Lanka	Informing authorities	Distribution restricted to notifying country	Not serious

Fruits and vegetables	5/2/2015	Border control – consignment released	Italy (D), Sri Lanka (O)	Unauthorised substance profenofos (12.3 mg/kg – ppm) in centella (<i>Centella asiatica</i>) from Sri Lanka	Informing authorities	Information on distribution not (yet) available	Not serious
Cocoa and cocoa preparations, coffee and tea	22/01/2015	Official control on the market	Austria (D), Netherlands, Sri Lanka (O)	Imidacloprid (0.156 mg/kg – ppm) and unauthorised substance anthraquinone (0.083 mg/kg – ppm) in tea from Sri Lanka, via the Netherlands	Withdrawal from the market	No distribution from notifying country	Undecided
Fruits and vegetables	6/6/2014	Border control – consignment detained	Italy, Sri Lanka (O)	Quinalphos (0.165 mg/kg – ppm) in peppers from Sri Lanka	Withdrawal from the market	Product not (yet) placed on the market	Undecided
Herbs and spices	16/04/2014	Border control – consignment detained	Italy, Sri Lanka (O)	Unauthorised substance profenofos (2.2 mg/kg – ppm) in pennywort (<i>Centella asiatica</i>) from Sri Lanka	Import not authorised	Product not (yet) placed on the market	Undecided
Herbs and spices	14/04/2014	Border control – consignment detained	Italy, Sri Lanka (O)	Quinalphos (1.49 mg/kg – ppm) and tebuconazole (0.091 mg/kg – ppm) in centella from Sri Lanka	Re-dispatch	Product not (yet) placed on the market	Not serious
Herbs and spices	27/02/2014	Border control – consignment detained	Italy, Sri Lanka (O)	Unauthorised substance profenofos (3.5 mg/kg – ppm) in fresh centella (<i>Centella asiatica</i>) from Sri Lanka	Import not authorised	Product not (yet) placed on the market	Undecided
Fruits and vegetables	13/01/2014	Border control – consignment detained	Italy, Sri Lanka (O)	Tebuconazole (0.29 mg/kg – ppm) and unauthorised substance profenofos (9.0 mg/kg – ppm) in centella (<i>Centella asiatica</i>) from Sri Lanka	Import not authorised	Product not (yet) placed on the market	Undecided

				Lanka			
Herbs and spices	3/12/2014	Official control on the market	Sri Lanka (O), Switzerland (D)	Unauthorised substances dithiocarbamates (0.1 mg/kg – ppm) and carbendazim (1.66 mg/kg – ppm) in ponnakani (<i>Alternanathera sessilis</i>) from Sri Lanka	Informing authorities	Product (presumably) no longer on the market	Serious
Fruits and vegetables	22/09/2014	Border control – consignment released	Germany (D), Sri Lanka (O)	Chlorpyrifos (0.53 mg/kg – ppm) and unauthorised substance carbofuran (0.25 mg/kg – ppm) in spinach leaves from Sri Lanka	Informing authorities	Product (presumably) no longer on the market	Serious
Fruits and vegetables	10/7/2014	Border control – consignment released	Sri Lanka (O), Switzerland (D)	Unauthorised substances methamidophos (0.07 mg/kg – ppm) and acephate (0.83 mg/kg – ppm) in bitter melon (<i>Momordica charantia</i>) from Sri Lanka		Distribution restricted to notifying country	Serious
Cocoa and cocoa preparations, coffee and tea	26/05/2014	Official control on the market	Austria (D), Sri Lanka (O)	Unauthorised substance anthraquinone (0.028 mg/kg – ppm) in green tea from Sri Lanka	Withdrawal from the market	Distribution restricted to notifying country	Undecided
Cocoa and cocoa preparations, coffee and tea	16/05/2014	Official control on the market	Austria (D), Germany, Sri Lanka (O)	Unauthorised substance anthraquinone (0.053 mg/kg – ppm) in tea from Sri Lanka	Withdrawal from the market	Distribution restricted to notifying country	Not serious
Fruits and vegetables	15/01/2014	Border control – consignment released	Sri Lanka (O), Sweden (D)	Chlorothalonil (1.5 mg/kg – ppm) and tebuconazole (0.28 mg/kg – ppm) and unauthorised substances carbofuran (0.95 mg/kg – ppm), dithiocarbamates (8.9 mg/kg – ppm) and	Informing authorities	Distribution restricted to notifying country	Serious

				chlorfluazuron (0.19 mg/kg – ppm) in mukunuwenna (<i>Alternanthera sessilis</i>) from Sri Lanka			
Fruits and vegetables	28/05/2013	Border control – consignment detained	Italy, Sri Lanka (O)	Unauthorised substances methamidophos (1.20 mg/kg – ppm) and acephate (7.22 mg/kg – ppm) in <i>Centella asiatica</i> from Sri Lanka	Re-dispatch	Product not (yet) placed on the market	Undecided
Herbs and spices	13/05/2013	Border control – consignment released	Italy (D), Sri Lanka (O)	Unauthorised substance profenofos (1.3 mg/kg – ppm) in Indian pennywort (<i>Centella Asiatica</i>) from Sri Lanka		Distribution restricted to notifying country	Not serious
Fruits and vegetables	20/02/2013	Official control on the market	Sri Lanka (O), Switzerland (D)	Unauthorised substances methamidophos (0.61 mg/kg – ppm), acephate (2.08 mg/kg – ppm), profenofos (1.61 mg/kg – ppm) and tetramethrin (0.05 mg/kg – ppm) in green chillies from Sri Lanka		Distribution restricted to notifying country	Serious

(D) – Distribution

(O) – Origin

Source: European Commission, Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) port

ANNEXURE 5

List of exporters contacted

Organization	Contact details
Greenet Plants and Flowers (Pvt) Ltd	No. 870/3, Negombo Road, Mabile, Wattala +94 11 2933043 greenet@slt.lk
Jaindi Exports (Pvt) Ltd	Industrial Estate, No.47, Dankotuwa +94 31 2265607 jaindi.export@gmail.com
Ceylon Biscuits Limited	P.O. Box 03, Makumbura Pannipitiya +94 11 5000000, +94 11 2749749 inquiry.cbl@cbl.lk
E Silk Route Ventures (Pvt) Ltd	47/2A, 3 rd Lane, Buthgamuwa Road, Rajagiriya. +94 11 2794160 info@esilkroute.lk
Kings Foods (Pvt) Ltd	19, St. Alban's Place, Colombo 4 +94 11 2580321 kingfood@slt.lk
HJS Condiments Limited	Block 61, 62, & 63, Biyagama Export Processing Zone, Biyagama +94 11 2465271, +94 11 5736217 hjs@hjs.hayleys.com
Rabeena Food (Pvt) Ltd	90, Reclamation Road, Colombo 11 +94 11 2336602, +94 11 2336603 info@rabeena.com
Transfood Lanka	No: 58/E, Majeediya Estate, Gothatuwa +94 112534309, +94 112547492

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GENEVA MSMEs CONNECTION INITIATIVE

The Geneva MSMEs Connection Initiative aims to link micro, small & medium enterprises (MSMEs) in South and Southeast Asia to the multilateral trading system. Web: [http://www.cuts-geneva.org/WTOForum\(SSEA\).html#view3](http://www.cuts-geneva.org/WTOForum(SSEA).html#view3)



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