

news



February 2025

Dear reader,

We won a major court case with EU-wide implications. Toxic endive was recalled by supermarkets in Belgium and the Netherlands. The chemical industry lobby tries to block PFAS restrictions. Did you have a pesticide Christmas tree? Pesticide industry sues Brussels region for protecting citizens against pesticides - PAN Europe intervenes.

The PAN Europe Team

News from the team



PAN successfully challenges pesticide product authorisation

PAN Europe has won a major victory in court. The highest administrative court in The Netherlands proved us right in objecting to Dagonis, an agricultural fungicide. This came after the European court clarified how pesticide legislation should be applied by EU Member States. The pesticide administration must now take a new decision, assessing all independent scientific information available. [Read more](#)

The EU road to phase out pesticides and build sustainable food systems

Together with partners we have created a Roadmap for Pesticide Phase-Out for EU policy-makers. This document outlines key demands and actionable steps to reduce pesticide use and risk across Europe, advocating for an agricultural future that prioritises human health, environmental protection and a fair, secured future for farmers. It is supported by 85 organisations. [Read more](#)



Toxic endive recalled by supermarkets in Belgium and the Netherlands

Supermarket chain Albert Heijn had to recall its endives due to excessive levels of the hormone-disrupting “forever” pesticide tau-fluvalinate. Just days earlier, the same company made headlines after its blueberries were found to be contaminated with hepatitis A, leading to several cases in Belgium and the Netherlands. The chain ensures these cases are “exceptional”. This might be the case for pesticide residues above the norm, but what are residues of this dangerous pesticide doing in our food anyway? [Read more](#)

Toxic industry lobby tries to block PFAS restrictions

The chemical industry lobby is wielding its influence against an EU's proposal to restrict PFAS – “forever chemicals”. According to a new investigation by The Forever Lobbying Project — a collaboration of 46 journalists across 16 countries — and Corporate Europe Observatory (CEO), this could lead to a high cost to society: concretely up to €2 trillion for clean-up efforts, with an annual bill of €100 billion. This includes attempts to protect our drinking water from TFA, a widespread breakdown product of PFAS pesticides. [Read more](#)



Do not eat your Christmas tree unless it is pesticide-free

Eat your Christmas tree? Yes, in northern countries people use the needles for a very special herb butter. In the UK and Netherlands books with recipes were published in recent years. The Belgian city of Ghent referred to these, as an alternative to burning the tree after the Christmas period. But the Belgian Food authority doesn't think it is safe. The reason: pesticides. “There are no rules on the pesticides used in relation to possible human consumption.” [Read more](#)

Pesticide industry sues Brussels for protecting citizens from pesticides

The Brussels region decided to strongly restrict the use of synthetic pesticides in agricultural land to protect citizens' health and the environment. It is the first time that an EU region properly implements the provisions of the Directive on the Sustainable Use of Pesticides (SUD). Very noticeable, since this directive has been in place since 2009. Brussels was immediately sued by the lobby organisation of the pesticide industry Belplant. Jointly with its member Nature et Progrès Belgique and two local organisations, PAN Europe intervenes in support of the Brussels region. [Read more](#)



Please support our work!

Our work to eliminate the use of toxic pesticides is more important than ever before! With your support, we can change policies and practices for the better protection of our health and environment.

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