

# Pesticide Residues in Marketed Fruits and Vegetables

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## ABSTRACT

A monitoring program for pesticide residues in marketed fruits and vegetables has been performed. A total of 476 fruit and vegetable samples were acquired thru the midsection local health bureaus from the supermarkets and traditional markets in Taiwan. The samples were analyzed by the multi-residue methods, which were promulgated by the Department of Health, for 187 items of pesticides. 98 (31.4%) in 312 vegetable samples, 41 (35.3%) in 116 fruit samples and 22 (45.8%) in 48 tea samples were found to contain pesticide residues. 24 (7.7%) in 312 vegetable samples and 2 (1.7%) in 116 fruit samples and 1 (2.1%) in 48 tea samples violated the regulation set by the Department of Health. The overall violation rate was 5.7%. Of the samples that violated the regulations, 3 contained pesticide residue above the tolerance level, and 24 samples contained pesticide residues that were not allowed in fruits and vegetables. The local government has enforced the penalty based on the Food Sanitation Management Act.

Key words: fruit and vegetable, pesticide residue, monitoring

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