

Pesticide Residues of Marketed Fruits and Vegetables in Central Taiwan

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ABSTRACT

A monitoring program for pesticide residues in marketed fruits and vegetables has been performed. A total of 413 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 196 items of pesticides. 158 (51.3%) in 308 vegetable samples, 27 (54.0%) in 50 fruit samples and 28 (50.9%) in 55 tea samples were found to contain pesticide residues. 243 (78.9%) in 308 vegetable samples, 45 (90.0%) in 50 fruit samples and 50 (90.9%) in 55 tea samples complied with the regulation set by the Department of Health. Of the samples that violated the regulations, 2 contained pesticide residues above the tolerance level, and 73 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