

Pesticide Residues of Marketed Agricultural Products in Central Taiwan

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ABSTRACT

A monitoring program for pesticide residues in marketed agricultural products has been performed during fiscal year of 2009. A total of 397 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, increased to 202 since October, items of pesticides. One hundred twelve (43.2%) in 259 vegetable samples, 36 (56.3%) in 64 fruit samples and 24 (32.4%) in 74 other samples were found to contain pesticide residues. Two hundred twenty four (86.5%) in 259 vegetable samples, 58 (90.6%) in 64 fruit samples and 68 (91.9%) in 74 other samples complied with the regulation set by the Department of Health. Of the samples that violated the regulations, 6 samples contained pesticide residues above the tolerance levels, 38 samples contained pesticide residues prohibited in those agricultural products, and 3 samples contained both pesticide residues above the tolerance levels and prohibited. The local governments have enforced the penalty based on the Food Sanitation Management Act.

Key words: agricultural products, pesticide residue, monitoring