

Conversion factors for pesticide residues in dried organic products (for the evaluation according to the BNN orientation value for pesticides)

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The BNN - Association of Organic Processors, Wholesalers and Retailers (in German: Bundesverband Naturkost Naturwaren e.V) recommends sending in the unprocessed primary product for analysis whenever possible, because the concentration of pesticides might increase or decrease during processing. The extent to which it increases or decreases depends on the product, the processing and the physical-chemical properties of the pesticides.

The conversion factors provided below can offer an orientation related to dried products. However, if validated evidences of conversion factors for products or combinations of products and specific drying processes are available, these should be applied.

It is not permitted to apply conversion factors in case of unprocessed primary products (in the primary production within the meaning of regulation (EC) No 178/2002). This includes for example **dates, cereals, oilseed and legumes**.

Food product	Factor
Dried fruits	
in general	5
Green and black tea, aromatic herbs, medicinal herbs, herbal tea, and tea-like products	
in general	4

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Food item (continuation)	Factor
<p>Spices</p> <p><i>It is not reasonable to apply a single conversion factor to the large variety of products, which are covered by the term "spices". A product-specific conversion factor between 1 and 10 can be applied, when a product is dried for the purpose of preservation.</i></p> <p><i>The categories below serve for orientation.</i></p>	
Vegetables and mushrooms (dried), e.g. chilli- or ground paprika	7
<i>Exemption: garlic</i>	3
Leaves and herbs	4
Flowers, e.g. rose flowers, lime flowers, hibiscus, cornflower etc.	4
Roots and rhizomes, e.g. ginger, turmeric, horseradish etc.	4
Seeds and fruits, e.g. fennel, aniseed, caraway, cumin, vanilla bean etc.	1
<i>Exemptions: nutmeg, pepper, cilantro, vanilla powder</i>	4
Bark, e.g. cinnamon	4
Further spices:	
Buds (cloves), style and stigma (saffron) and aril (mace)	4

These conversion factors are not legally binding and do not replace appendix VI of regulation (EC) No 396/2005. They solely serve as recommendations in order to apply the BNN orientation value for pesticides.