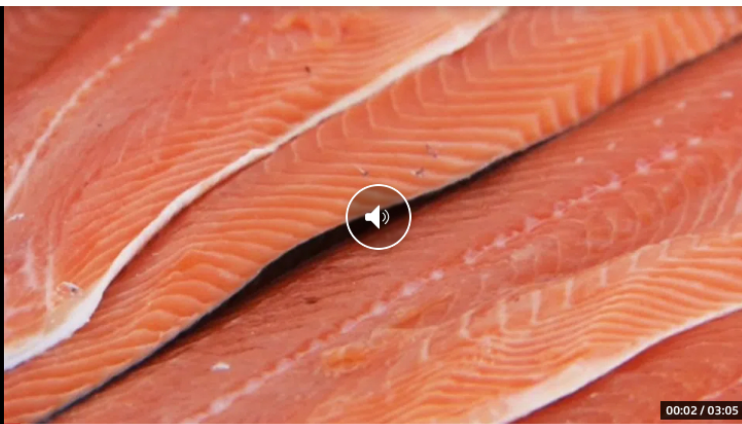




Pesticides still found in almost all farmed salmon

From Espresso , December 20, 2017

IMAGE: ABE

Cash Flow Espresso >

Fish feed with pesticide

Ethoxyquin still in almost all farmed salmon

Ethoxyquin is suspected of altering human DNA. The chemical is therefore banned as a pesticide in agriculture. However, it is permitted in fish feed. Further research now shows that the substance ends up on our plates via farmed salmon.

Matthias Schmid

Tuesday, December 19, 2017, 10:27 a.m.

SPLIT

The Geneva Cantonal Laboratory tested 18 samples of farmed salmon from Swiss stores for the French-speaking consumer program "A Bon Entendeur." Ethoxyquine or its degradation products were detected in 15 samples. High concentrations of over 1,000 micrograms per kilogram were found in one salmon from Globus and one from Migros.

Globus has removed the salmon from its product range, and Migros writes in a statement that its own samples have never exceeded pesticide limits. This is no surprise when it comes to fish and ethoxyquin: Unlike meat, there is no limit for the chemical in fish.

Ethoxyquin also in organic salmon

More on the topic

[The current test in "A Bon Entendeur"](#)



[The test in the "Kassensturz" from 2015](#)



The use of ethoxyquin is prohibited only in organic farms in Switzerland and the EU. However, testing by the Geneva Cantonal Laboratory found that two organic salmon had been fed contaminated feed. This may be because organic and conventional feed are often produced in the same location.

Nevertheless, the Geneva cantonal chemist recommends buying organic farmed salmon to avoid ethoxyquin as much as possible. The substance is used practically everywhere in conventional farming. Only one sample failed to detect ethoxyquin.

EU ban on chemicals in fish farming in 2020



Pesticides in farmed salmon: Toxic chemicals on your plate

From Kassensturz of December 15, 2015

The test results are similar to those conducted by the Geneva cantonal laboratory two years ago for the "Kassensturz" magazine. At that time, ethoxyquins were found in 14 of 15 samples. Contaminated organic salmon were also present back then. Even then, Patrick Edder had called for a total ban on the substance in fish feed.

Now the EU has reacted. Last summer, it decided to ban the use of ethoxyquinene unless it can demonstrate that the substances are safe for consumers. If the industry fails to provide this evidence, its use will be banned starting in 2020. By then, a replacement that is both effective and safe should be found.

More on the topic



Coop Pan Trophy or rather "Breakdown Trophy"?

[Espresso](#) from December 20, 2017, 2:13 AM

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