



ALDI

Date of Report: 23 November 2011

Overall mark: D

Comment: Very disappointing

Pesticide policy criterion	2009	2011
1. Publish its residue testing results?		
2. Action plans to tackle residue problems beyond legal compliance?		
3. Commit to phase out specific hazardous pesticides?		
4. Stated aim and actions to reduce use of pesticides?		
5. Pest management strategy promotes alternatives to pesticides?		
6. Technical support for growers to reduce reliance on pesticides?		
7. Info for consumers on pesticide use issues?		
8. Engage with consumers on unnecessary use of pesticides for cosmetic appearance of fruit & vegetables?		
9. Does it promote pollinator-friendly practices?		
10. Does it reduce exposure to bee-toxic pesticides?		
11. Address potential loss of pesticides under new EU law?		
12. Phase out plans for PAN International targets for global bans (endosulfan and paraquat)?		
	6 -	7 -
	2 -	5 -

Overall position among UK companies: Jointly at the bottom

Aldi shares no relevant information on pesticide issues in the public domain. Their response to our query was minimalist with very little plans or evidence of progress other than committing to legal compliance.¹ We have not found progressive movement in Aldi's attitude towards pesticide issues. We are most disappointed about the fact that despite having come amongst the lowest performers in our 2009 survey they still seem to not have taken steps towards minimising pesticide use in their supply chain. We are extremely concerned about the lack of transparency in their policy and actions on pesticide issues. We want to encourage them to invest more energy into performing better on issues related to pesticides.

We call upon them to

- Bring their policy for pesticide use in their supply chain in the public domain
- Regularly report on their pesticide residue tests results
- Commit to phase out the most hazardous pesticides in their supply chain
- Minimise the use of pesticides by adopting safer non-chemical alternatives
- Support their farmers to reduce reliance on pesticides
- Prioritise the potential loss of pesticides under the new EU regulation by supporting farmers in their supply chain to identify safer alternatives
- Recognise the issues related to declining numbers of pollinators by reducing the use of bee-toxic pesticides.

As a concerned consumer we call upon you to write to Aldi to demand more transparency and action on these critical issues.

KEY



The company is taking concrete actions for a specific criterion and describes in some detail the aims and methods



The company works on the issue but gives no detail on how this is implemented, or lacks targets or reporting on progress.



The company may be addressing the issue, but does not provide any information on it, or the information is too vague to judge whether it is making a genuine effort



There is no policy commitment or no information provided for consumers

- * Indicates that there is considerably more the company could do to address the issue, or to report their progress or plans. The star therefore indicates that the company is not doing as well in that area as companies with the same 'score' without a star.

¹ Aldi replied to our questionnaire in October 2010 with a one page response.