



Overall mark: A-

Comment: Top of the Class (joint)

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?		
9a. 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)?		
*indicates a company is not doing quite as much or publishing the same level of information for the given criterion as companies without a *	2 -	1 -
	1 -	11 -
	5 -	

Overall position among UK companies: Clearly one of the two front runners

The Cooperative is pioneering amongst the supermarkets in reducing reliance on pesticides in their supply chain. They are taking pro-active measures by investing in research towards supporting farmers to reduce pesticide use by offering alternatives. They provide in depth information on their website for consumers on their pesticide policy and performance. Whilst they take some measures to incorporate food with irregular appearances through their value range and cattle feed we would like to see them engage more proactively on this issue with their customers and in their relevant policies. Engaging in cosmetic appearances of food is not only critical towards reducing pesticide use but is also crucial towards reducing food waste.

Hence we call upon them to:

- Recognise the importance of engaging with customers on cosmetic appearance of food and reduce the amounts of pesticides used just for cosmetic purposes.

As a concerned consumer we call upon you to write to the Cooperative Group to recognise their efforts to provide you with safer food and call upon them to expand their areas of focus to include reducing pesticide use for cosmetic purposes whilst progressing in all their interventions.

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

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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.