EU Regulatory Status of Organophosphate Active Ingredients Reported Used in California (2023)

Status as of September 2026

Organophosphate active ingredient	EU status	Regulatory history / note
Bensulide	Not approved	Not approved under the current EU plant-protection regime; listed as non-approved.
Malathion	Approved	Only one of the 13 currently approved. Its approval period was extended in 2026 while the renewal assessment continues.
Naled	Not approved / withdrawn	EU decision in 2005 not to include naled as an approved active substance; Member States were required to withdraw product authorizations.
Acephate	Not approved / withdrawn	EU decision in 2003 not to approve acephate; Member States were required to withdraw plant-protection-product authorizations.
Dimethoate	Not approved - approval not renewed	Previously approved; the EU refused renewal in 2019 and required withdrawal of product authorizations.
Diazinon	Not approved / withdrawn	EU decision in 2007 not to include diazinon as an approved active substance and to withdraw authorizations.
Ethoprop (Ethoprophos)	Not approved - approval not renewed	Previously approved; the EU refused renewal in 2019.
Phosmet	Not approved - approval not renewed	Previously approved; the EU refused renewal in 2022.
Chlorpyrifos	Not approved - approval not renewed	Previously approved; the EU refused renewal in 2020.
Dichlorvos (DDVP)	Not approved / withdrawn	Not approved for EU plant-protection use following a non-inclusion decision; authorizations were withdrawn.
Phorate	Not approved	Not approved under current EU pesticide law.
Tetrachlorvinphos	Not approved	Listed as a non-approved active substance in the EU pesticides system.
Coumaphos	Not approved as a plant-protection pesticide	No approved plant-protection uses in the EU; separate veterinary uses are regulated under a different framework.

Key point: 12 of the 13 organophosphate active ingredients with reported California use in 2023 are not currently approved as plant-protection active substances in the EU. Malathion is the only one currently approved.

Important qualification: "Not approved" does not always mean the EU affirmatively banned a substance because of a specific safety finding. Some substances were never approved or were not supported for approval, while others were previously approved and later not renewed or withdrawn.

Primary EU database:

https://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/pesticides/eu-pesticides-database/start/screen/active-substances

Selected underlying EU legal acts:

Acephate (2003 non-inclusion decision):
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32003D0219
Naled (2005 non-inclusion decision):
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32005D0788
Diazinon (2007 non-inclusion decision):
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32007D0393
Dimethoate (2019 non-renewal): https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2019/1090/oj/eng
Ethoprophos (2019 non-renewal):
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/AUTO/?uri=CELEX:32019R0344
Chlorpyrifos (2020 non-renewal):
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32020R0018
Phosmet (2022 non-renewal): https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2022/94/oj
Malathion (2026 approval-period extension):
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2026/372/oj/eng