



Crop Care Federation of India

Understanding India's Agri. Export Rejections. Are they mainly due to pesticides?

Despite having a multitude of export promotional bodies, there is no official source in India on Indian agri. export rejections.

Limited and repetitive information available in the print and social media often lead to disinformation and misinformation that drive public opinion and policy decisions.

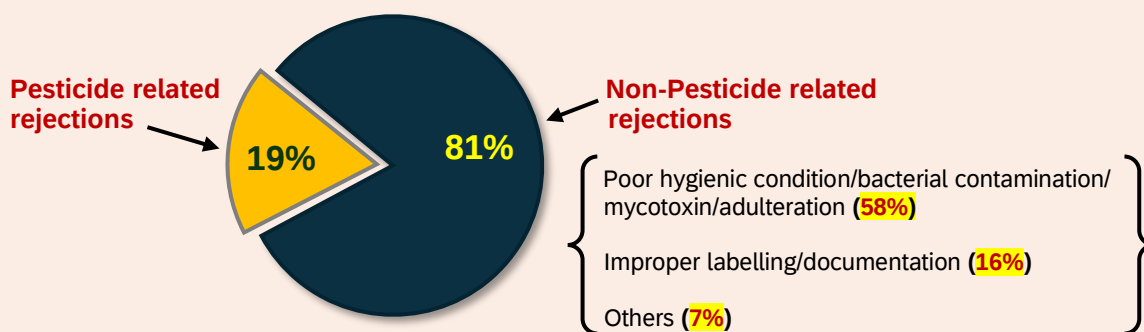
Unknown to many, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) maintains a robust database on export rejections under the Harmonized System (HS) code.

Analysis of the same provides useful insights into the most common causes behind India's agri. export rejections.

This paper carries one such analysis using UNIDO data.

India. Major Reasons for Export Rejection A case study involving HS Code 09 (spices, tea and coffee)

Reasons for export rejection from India (2010-2024)



Source: UNIDO Database (Accessed on 7th July 2026)



While pesticide residues often make headlines, *bacterial contamination, poor hygienic condition, mycotoxins, adulteration and labelling* are among the major reasons triggering export rejections.

Pesticide residue related rejection often arises due to adoption of MRLs that are not science based and inconsistent with the WTO-SPS Agreement.

Narratives biased against pesticides misguide both the public and policymakers by distorting the reality. This requires to be corrected to facilitate evidence- based and proportionated policy decisions.

Crop Care Federation of India (CCFI) is an apex trade body for Indian agrochemicals industry with 50 companies as members. Our members account for over 70% of agrochemicals export from India.

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