

## Cyprus: Strawberry fields quarantined after pesticides found on fruit

Authorities have placed two strawberry fields in Zygi and Mazotos under quarantine after harmful pesticides were detected on the fruits, according to Androula Georgiou, Head of the Agriculture Department. The fields, owned by different producers, were quarantined to prevent affected strawberries being sold.

Officials are to destroy any ripe strawberries on the plants and will do regular lab tests. The quarantine will continue until tests show there are no longer pesticide residues on the produce, Georgiou told the Cyprus Mail.

The case came to light following routine sample checks by the state Health Services on strawberries being sold in the market. After the illegal pesticide was found on the samples of two producers, the Health Services alerted the Agriculture Department. The Health Services say it is unknown how many strawberries had already been sold. They estimate it was not a lot.

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