

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker

Key mtg dates (Provisional).		
Food Drink Europe	• Contaminants Committee	01/04/26, 16 or 23/09/26
	• Hygiene and Official Controls WG	16/04/26, 29/09/26
	• Food Contact Materials Committee	29/04/26, 15 or 29/09/26
	• Novel Foods	10/04/26, 17/09/26
	• SCIENCE group	28/04/26, 22/09/26
European COM Standing Committee "PAFF"	• General Food law	12/02/26, 15/04/26, 13/05/26, 01/07/26, 16/10/26, 01/12/26
	• Biological Safety of the Food Chain	17/04/26, 17/06/26, 29/09/26, 06/11/26, 10/12/26
	• GM	27/02/27, 16/04/26, 10/06/26, 07/07/26, 09/09/26, 14/10/26, 02/12/26
	• Novel food & Toxicological Safety of the Food Chain	13/02/26, 14/04/26, 19/06/26, 25/09/26, 18/11/26
	• Control and Import Conditions	19-20/02/26, 24-25/03/26, 11-12/05/26, 18-19/06/26, 8-9/07/26, 17-18/09/26, 20-21/10/26, 19-20/11/26, 8-9/12/26
• Pesticide Legislation and Residues	10-11/03/26, 18-19/03/26, 29-30/07/26, 21-22/09/26, 24-25/09/26, 12-13/11/26, 23-24/11/26, 14/12/26	
EFSA	• Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain	17/03/26, 21-23/04/26, 16-18/06/26, 20/10/26, 09-10/12/26
	• Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues	18-19/02/26, 10-12/03/26, 22-23/04/26, 17-18/06/26, 29-30/09/26
Codex	• CAC	06-10/07/26
	• Executive Committee of the CAC	29/06/26 - 03/07/26
	• Food Hygiene	TBC
	• Methods of Analysis and Sampling	09-13/03/26
	• Contaminants in Food (CCCF)	TBC
	• Pesticide Residues	TBC
• Veterinary Drugs in Food	23-27/03/26	
ESA mtgs	• ESA Board	24/03/26, 16/06/26, 13/10/26, 24/11/26
	• EC Regulatory Group	03/03/26, 16/06/26, 01/10/26, 13/11/26
	• Nut Processors Working Group	11/03/26, 16/06/26, 17/09/26, 05/11/26
	• Public Affairs Committee	12/03/26, 16/06/26, 30/09/26, 12/11/26

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker



Before 31 December 2025	After 1 January 2026
-------------------------	----------------------

General	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reg. 2023/915 on MLs for certain contaminants in food and repealing Reg. 1881/2006 • Reg. 2024/1683 correcting the Latvian language version of Reg. (EU) 2023/915 on MLs for certain contaminants in food • Reg. 2024/1756 amend and correcting Reg. (EU) 2023/915 on MLs for certain contaminants in food 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on a draft Reg. as regards requirements for FBOs as regards sampling and analysis for mycotoxins and plant toxins within their self-check system based on HACCP principles on Agenda for CWG on 19/01/26 and on 16/02/26. • Guidance on quality requirements for studies on processing factors on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26 • Discussion on control plans on contaminants - draft Reg. amend. Reg. 2022/932 (wild game and commodity groups) on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26 • Finalisation of the discussion on a draft Reg. amend. Reg. 2023/915 for the purpose of clarifying certain provisions and as regards MLs of afla, OTA, DON, HCA, As, Ni, Cd and melamine in food on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26
Endocrine disruptors (ED)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reg. 2017/2100 setting out scientific criteria for the determination of ED properties pursuant to Reg. 528/2012. • Reg. 2018/605 amend Annex II to Reg. 1107/2009 by setting out scientific criteria for the determination of ED properties. • EFSA/ECHA Guidance on identifying EDs (07/06/18). • Reg. 2018/1659 amend Reg. 844/2012 in view of the scientific criteria for the determination of ED properties introduced by Reg 2018/605. • Reg. 2023/707 amending Reg. 1272/2008 as regards hazard classes and criteria for the classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures 	-
Chlorates (water, infant milk, fruit and in vegetables)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reg. 2020/749 amending Annex III to Reg. 396/2005 as regards MRLs for chlorate in or on certain products. • Directive (EU) 2020/2184 on the quality of water intended for human consumption (recast) • Request to provide an EFSA scientific opinion concerning the risks for public health related to the presence of chlorate in food from all sources, taking also into account its presence in drinking water (Mandate issued: 28/11/25. Deadline: 31/12/27). 	-
Hydrocyanic Acid (HCA) (Apricot kernels, almonds)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COM plans to increase the ML for hydrocyanic acid in apricot kernels to match that of almonds. The ML will increase from 20 µg/kg to 35 µg/kg 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalisation of the discussion on a draft Reg. amend. Reg. 2023/915 for the purpose of clarifying certain provisions and as regards MLs of afla, OTA, DON, HCA, As, Ni, Cd and melamine in food on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26.

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker

Before 31 December 2025	After 1 January 2026
-------------------------	----------------------

Opium Alkaloids (OA) (potentially affecting poppy seeds)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EFSA OA in poppy seeds: assessment updated (published 16/05/18). • Request for an EFSA scientific opinion on the risks for public health related to the presence of thebaine and oripavine in poppy seeds and derived products (Deadline:31/12/26) 	-
Grayanotoxins (honey)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EFSA Extensive literature search on grayanotoxins and 5-HMF. • EFSA “Risks for human health related to the presence of grayanotoxins in certain honey”, Published 02/03/23 • EFSA report on agenda for CWG for Agricultural Contaminants (07/07/23). • COM presented two options: either collect data on grayanotoxins in rhododendron honey from Europe and then decide whether it should do something about this, or do not see this as a problem for the time being and no follow-up action on this topic. Should new information become available in the future, the need for follow-up will be reviewed. 	-
Griseofulvin (spice mixes, turmeric, cinnamon)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAFF 20/09/25 Confirmation that griseofulvin is a mycotoxin. No specific MLs therefore, Article 14 of the General Food Law is applicable. • COM will ask EFSA for an opinion. 	-
Lectins	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EURL for Mycotoxins and Plant toxins asked to provide an overview of the available methods of analysis. • EFSA Public hearing on plant lectins in food (09/09/25) • Request for an EFSA risk assessment (Deadline: 31/12/25) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EFSA Scientific Opinion Risks for human health related to the presence of plant lectins in food (Published 28/01/26) • On agenda for CWG on 16/02/26: EFSA opinion on the risks for human health related to the presence of plant lectins in food <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a. Presentation and Q & A ○ b. Discussion on possible regulatory follow-up

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker



Before 31 December 2025	After 1 January 2026
-------------------------	----------------------

Alternaria toxins	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation 2022/553 on monitoring the presence of Alternaria toxins in food. • Request for an update of the EFSA scientific opinion on the risks for animal and public health related to the presence of Alternaria toxins in feed and food (Deadline: 30/09/26) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CWG agricultural contaminants 19/01/26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NL: indicated that Indicative Levels are being exceeded ○ NL asked whether EFSA can be requested to conduct a new risk assessment for these substances and, in the meantime, to establish MLs for the matrices sesame seeds, hazelnuts, and (dried) figs. ○ If this is delayed or not possible, the Netherlands asks whether guidelines can be provided for the enforcement strategy when indicative levels are exceeded. ○ COM indicated that it is open to an interim adjustment of the indicative levels based on data from the EFSA database. ○ COM will request this data for further discussion during a subsequent CWG.
Ergot alkaloids (cereals)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reg. 2024/1808 amend Reg. 2023/915 as regards the application date of lower MLs for ergot sclerotia and ergot alkaloids in food 	-
Fluoride	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EFSA opinion on fluoride safety: updated intake levels for all ages (22/07/25) • On CWG agenda on 25/11/25: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> EFSA updated exposure assessment of fluoride in food and drinking water including the contribution from other sources of oral exposure. DK poster on fluoride in tea. • Following discussion, the COM concluded that no health risks have been identified, except for the risk of mild fluorosis in children aged 4-8 years, based on a conservative exposure estimate. For the time being, there is no need to amend the contaminant legislation. 	-
T-2 & HT-2 (potentially affecting cereals)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T-2 and HT-2 on the JECFA priority list at CCCF mtg (March 2018). • Reg. 2024/1038 amend Reg. 2023/915 as regards MLs of T-2 and HT-2 toxins in food 	-
Matrine in black tea and licorice (Sophora species, Fabaceae family)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EFSA to provide a scientific opinion on the risk for public health due to the presence of matrine and oxymatrine in food (Deadline: 31/12/26) 	-

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker

Before 31 December 2025

After 1 January 2026

Quinolizidine alkaloids (QA)

- EFSA [Scientific opinion on the risks for animal and human health related to the presence of QA in feed and food, in particular in lupins and lupin-derived products \(Issued: 05/11/19\)](#).
- CWG on Agricultural Contaminants on 8/07/24 indicates that there was a discussion on finalisation of the discussion on a draft recommendation on quinolizidine alkaloids in food (albino, anagyrin, angustifoline, lupanine, isolupanine, multiflorine, 13 α -hydroxylupanine, lupanine, sparteine should be analysed)
- The recommendation will include a reference to sampling according to Reg. 333/2007. Animal products are not directly included in the scope of the recommendation but are recommended for monitoring.
- PAFF of 20/09/24 discussed further ([link](#))

- **GAs and QA: exchange of views on the data available in the EFSA database on agenda for CWG on 19/01/26.**
- **NL note: COM shared information on GAs that has been collected within the EFSA database. The data show that potato products, in particular, can contain GAs in excess of 100 mg/kg. However, the data are still too limited to determine MLs. This point will be addressed in a subsequent CWG once more data becomes available.**

Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)

- ML for Δ -9 THC in hemp leaves for infusion on agenda of CWG mtg on Agricultural Contaminants, 17/07/25.
 - COM proposes a ML of 40 mg/kg for THC in hemp leaves for the preparation of hemp tea. Additionally, COM proposes that the label must state that the leaves are not suitable for tea intended for infants and young children and that no dairy products or other fatty products may be present during the preparation of the tea. COM will prepare a proposal and share it with the MSs for comment in mid-August. The text will be finalized at the next CWG
- [Public consultation on Draft EFSA scientific opinion on the derivation of a HBGV for \$\Delta\$ 8-THC and its occurrence in food](#) (Deadline: 15/09/25)
- [EFSA scientific opinion on the derivation of a HBGV for \$\Delta\$ 8-THC](#) (Published: 18/11/25).

- **On agenda for CWG on 19/01/26 presentation on EFSA opinion on Δ 8-THC.**
- **On agenda for CWG on 16/02/26: EFSA opinion on Δ 8-THC and its occurrence in food**
 - **a. Presentation and Q & A**
 - **b. Discussion on possible regulatory follow-up**

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker



Before 31 December 2025

After 1 January 2026

Aflatoxins (potentially affecting oilseeds, tree nuts, cereals, spices, dried fruits)

- [Reg. 2017/1269](#) amending [Reg. 2015/949](#).
- CODEX - CCCF June 2025: Sampling plans for total afla and OTA A in certain spices (at Step 7) CX/CF 25/18/7
- CODEX - CCCF June 2025: ML and associated sampling plan for total afla in RTE peanuts (at Step 4) CX/CF 25/18/8
- CODEX - CCCF June 2025: Revision of the CoP for the prevention and reduction of afla contamination in peanuts (CXC 55-2004) (at Step 4) CX/CF 25/18/9
- CODEX - CCCF June 2025: Review of the CoP for the reduction of afla B1 in raw materials and supplemental feeding stuffs for milk-producing animals (CXC 45-1997) CX/CF 25/18/13
- CODEX - CCCF June 2025: Analysis of occurrence data of afla in cereals CX/CF 25/18/19
- Continuation of the criteria/conditions for companies/processes to be listed as company able to reduce the presence of afla through sorting or other physical treatment – Update of the guidance document on agenda of CWG mtg on Agricultural Contaminants, 17/07/25.
 - COM indicated that foodstuffs other than tree nuts, including rice, will be described in the document.
 - COM expects to be able to submit a new version for review by the MSs for the next CWG.

On agenda for CWG on 19/01/26.

- **Continuation of the criteria/conditions for companies/processes to be listed as company able to reduce the presence of afla through sorting or other physical treatment – Update of the guidance document (this item was not discussed due to a lack of time, now on agenda for CWG on 16/02/26).**
- **Discussion on the proposal on sampling and analysis for mycotoxins and plant toxins within their self-check system based on HACPP principles (also on agenda for CWG on 16/02/26).**
- **Discussion on amendments, clarifications and corrections [Reg. 2023/2782](#) laying down the methods of sampling and analysis for the control of the levels of mycotoxins in food.**
- **Discussion on the draft Reg. amending [Reg. 2023/915](#) as regards certain contaminants (Contaminants Omnibus). This item discusses the agreed-upon amendments to [Reg. 2023/915](#), both during previous and current CWG meetings. This includes:**
 - **ML for afla in tiger nuts (dried)**
 - **Clarification of the text "other physical treatment" in 1.1.13 (afla in maize and rice)**
 - **COM will share a new version with MS. A decision will then be made during the next CWG (On agenda for CWG on 16/02/26).**
- **Finalisation of the discussion on a draft Reg. amend. [Reg. 2023/915](#) for the purpose of clarifying certain provisions and as regards MLs of afla, OTA, DON, HCA, As, Ni, Cd and melamine in food on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26**

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker



Before 31 December 2025

After 1 January 2026

Pyrrolizidine alkaloids (potentially affecting cereal products through contamination during growing/harvest)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (21/09/20) foreseen that MLs would apply as from 1/07/21. • Reg. 2020/2040 amend Reg. 1881/2006 as regards MLs of PA in certain foodstuffs • CODEX - CCCF June 2025: Review of the CoP for weed control to prevent and reduce PA contamination in food and feed (CXC 74-2014) CX/CF 25/18/10 • PA on agenda of CWG on Agricultural Contaminants 4/03/25. • Discussion on PA on agenda of CWG mtg on Agricultural Contaminants, 17/07/25. Considerable resistance from a number of MSs to increasing the MLs. • COM will submit a proposal to the next CWG that will incorporate input from the current CWG and data from the EFSA database. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On CWG agenda for 19/01/26 and 16/02/26 discussion on pyrrolizidine alkaloids <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a. Information from EUROPAM/FSE as regards herbs and food supplements ○ b. Information from THIE as regards tea – herbal infusions ○ c. Information from ESA as regards spices • NL report of CWG: data on PAs in herbs provided by industry was discussed. Industry requests COM and MSs to increase the MLs for approximately 20 herbs from 400 to 1000 µg/kg. • Industry also requests the CWG to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ increase the ML for food supplements to 1000 µg/kg, as these contain dried herbs or herbal extracts for which a ML of 1000 µg/kg applies ○ include a concentration factor of 4 for powdered botanical extracts in Reg. 2023/915. • Several MSs, including NLs, indicated that they are not in favour of increasing the MLs in general, specifically for PAs. • One MS indicated that they can accept this, if the increase is also supported by EFSA data. • COM will present a proposal at the next CWG. |
|--|---|

Glycoalkaloids (potentially affecting Solanaceae species)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EFSA risk assessment of GAs in feed and food, in particular in potatoes and potato-derived products. (11/08/20). • Recommendation 2022/561 on monitoring the presence of GA in potatoes and potato-derived products. • Outcomes from MINGLYKA project expected to be published 2026. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GAs and quinolizidine alkaloids: exchange of views on the data available in the EFSA database on agenda for CWG on 19/01/26. |
|--|---|

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker

Before 31 December 2025

After 1 January 2026

Tropane alkaloids (TA) (potentially affecting Brassicaceae and Solanaceae species, oilseeds and cereals)

- [Reg. 2021/1408](#) amend [Reg. 1881/2006](#) as regards MLs of TA in certain foodstuffs MLs applicable from 01/09/22.
- [Reg. 2023/2783 laying down the methods of sampling and analysis for the control of the levels of plant toxins in food and repealing Reg. 2015/705](#)
- CCCF17 Panama City (15-19/04/24) [Discussion Paper on TAs in Foods](#)
- JECFA Call for data on occurrence in food and feed at different production stages. Deadline: 31/10/24
- CODEX - CCCF June 2025: Development of a CoP for the prevention and reduction of TA in food and feed (CX/CF 25/18/14)

-

Zearalenone (potentially affecting cereals)

- EFSA [Opinion](#) on the risks for animal health related to the presence of fumonisins and their modified forms in feed (published 22/03/18).
- EFSA [Opinion](#) on appropriateness to set a group health-based guidance value for fumonisins and their modified forms (published on 23/02/18).
- EFSA [Extensive literature search](#) for studies related to fumonisins and their modified forms (published on 23/02/18).
- COM: With ZEA and fumonisins, it is to be seen if the current MLs are still appropriate. There is little known about the occurrence in food, therefore it was planned that EFSA would do a big survey on the modified forms in feed and food in the EU. The survey has not yet gone through, therefore there is little data available. MS are reluctant to have a monitoring exercise. The EURL is looking at the method that can be used to cover the majority.
- ZEA modified forms –relative potency factors –feed (animal health -transfer feed to food of animal origin). MLs not foreseen to be considered for reg for the time being.

-

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker



Before 31 December 2025

After 1 January 2026

Deoxynivalenol (DON) (potentially affecting cereals)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EFSA Opinion on “Risks to human and animal health related to the presence of DON and its acetylated and modified forms in food and feed” published on 11/09/17. • PAFF Summary mtg (23/06/20) COM launched a stakeholder consultation on revised MLs for DON. ESA response to consultation submitted 14/09/20. • EFSA Assessment of information as regards the toxicity of DON for horses and poultry (published 02/02/23) • Reg. (EU) 2024/1022 amend Reg. (EU) 2023/915 as regards MLs of DON in food • Informal report of CWG on Agricultural Contaminants on 8/07/24 indicates that there was a discussion on the review of the ML for DON in wheat bran not placed on the market for the final consumer. • There is a divided opinion about the B2B approach. During production there is a lot of effort to reach the current limit. On the one hand there is resistance to a greater exposure to the public. On the other hand there is the side of the sector not reaching the ML. COM decides to go for the introduction of 750 µg/kg B2B. • Discussion on the review of the ML for DON in wheat bran not placed on the market for the final consumer on agenda of CWG mtg on Agricultural Contaminants, 17/07/25. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COM proposes a higher ML for DON in wheat bran for B2B. • COM can agree with a ML of 900 µg/kg for the following reasons: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) This increase recognizes that with the current ML, too much wheat bran can be rejected and that there are peaks to higher concentrations due to year-to-year variations 2) this increase has no effect on the MLs for relevant consumer products. The MLs for these products (such as breakfast products) will not change. • An ML increase is supported by data from the EFSA database. • About half of the MS are not in favour of increasing the ML. • One MS proposes that an increase could be subject to a time limit. • COM will present a proposal at the next CWG. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On CWG Agenda for 19/01/26, finalisation of the discussion on the review of the ML for DON in wheat bran not placed on the market for the final consumer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NL note: Due to climate change, DON levels in grains are increasing, and the industry is struggling to meet the ML. ○ It is proposed to set a higher ML for business-to-business for DON in wheat bran. Based on the discussion during the previous CWG, COM proposed increasing the ML to 750 µg/kg. All MSs agreed. • Discussion on the draft Reg. amend. Reg. 2023/915 as regards certain contaminants (Contaminants Omnibus). This item discusses the agreed-upon amendments, both during previous and current CWG meetings. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Addition of a footnote so that the ML for OTA, DON, ZEN, and T-2 and HT-2 in bakery products also applies to breadcrumbs. ○ ML for DON in wheat bran for B2B of 750 µg/kg (see agenda item 3 of this CWG) ○ COM will share a new version with MS. A decision will then be made during the next CWG. • Finalisation of the discussion on a draft Reg. amend. Reg. 2023/915 for the purpose of clarifying certain provisions and as regards MLs of afla, OTA, DON, HCA, As, Ni, Cd and melamine in food on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26 |
|---|--|

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker

Before 31 December 2025

After 1 January 2026

Ochratoxin A (OTA)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reg. 2022/1370 amend Reg. 1881/2006 as regards ML of OTA in certain foodstuffs. • CWG for agricultural Contaminants (21/12/23): Sampling and analysis of OTA in ham and cheese. • Summary report of PAFF of 27/02/24: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The information provided by Türkiye as regards the ML for OTA in dried apricots and dried mulberries will be examined in detail in view of a possible future amend to the Reg. • Informal report of CWG on Agricultural Contaminants on 8/07/24 indicates that Turkey has requested to increase the MLs of several matrices. COM has requested data on sulphated and unsulphated dried apricots. For mulberries, COM has agreed to increase to 8 ug/kg for afla B1. HCN in apricot kernels can be equated with bitter almonds • Discussion the ML for OTA in dried apricots, dried mulberries and for HCA in apricot kernels on agenda of CWG mtg on Agricultural Contaminants, 17/07/25. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Turkey has requested an increase in the OTA ML for dried apricots and dried mulberries and an equalization of the HCN ML for apricot kernels with that for almonds. ○ COM has requested EFSA data for the various products. The data do not support an increase in the ML for dried apricots. However, the EFSA database cannot distinguish between sulfured and unsulfated dried apricots, while the Turkish data show that unsulfated dried apricots may contain more OTA. ○ Based on the Turkish data, COM proposes increasing the OTA ML in unsulfated apricots to 5 µg/kg. • MS agree to an increase in the ML to 8 µg/kg (inclusion in group 1.2.1.1 'Dried grapes (currants, raisins and sultanas) and dried figs') for mulberries. MS also agree to an increase in the ML from 20 to 35 µg/kg for HCN in apricot kernels. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On CWG Agenda for 19/01/26, Discussion on the draft Reg. amend. Reg. 2023/915 as regards certain contaminants (Contaminants Omnibus). This item discusses the agreed-upon amendments, both during previous and current CWG meetings. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Addition of a footnote so that the ML for OTA, DON, ZEN, and T-2 and HT-2 in bakery products also applies to breadcrumbs. ○ ML for OTA in dried unsulfated apricots ○ Add dried mulberries to 1.2.1.1 (OTA in dried fruit) ○ COM will share a new version with MS. A decision will then be made during the next CWG. • Finalisation of the discussion on a draft Reg. amend. Reg. 2023/915 for the purpose of clarifying certain provisions and as regards MLs of afla, OTA, DON, HCA, As, Ni, Cd and melamine in food on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26 |
|--|--|

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker

Before 31 December 2025

After 1 January 2026

Fumonisin and other toxins from Fusarium (potentially affecting cereals)

- Fumonisin modified forms –MLs not foreseen to be considered for reg for the time being.
- Summary Report of the CWG on agricultural contaminants of 14/02/24:
 - Discussion on a draft Reg. amending Reg. 2023/2782 laying down the methods of sampling and analysis for the control of the levels of mycotoxins in food as regards the method of sampling for dried herbs, herbal infusions (dried product), teas (dried product) and powdered spices.
- On agenda for PAFF of 27/02/24. An approach was discussed for a draft Reg. providing rules to be applied by business operators as regards the sampling and analysis when performing obligatory auto-controls on the presence of mycotoxins and plant toxins; a targeted stakeholder consultation was launched on the approach.
- [EFSA scientific opinion on the genotoxicity of beauvericin](#) (09/10/24)
- draft Reg. for FBOs as regards sampling and analysis for mycotoxins and plant toxins within their self-check system based on HACCP on agenda of CWG mtg on Agricultural Contaminants, 17/07/25.
 - COM provided an initial draft Reg. describing the requirements for analytical checks by companies. MS to feedback for the next CWG.
- Request for an update of the EFSA scientific opinion on the risks for animal and public health related to the presence of beauvericin and enniatins in feed and food, as regards enniatins (Deadline: 30/09/26)
- Request for an update of the scientific opinion on the risks for animal and public health related to the presence of beauvericin and enniatins in feed and food, as regards beauvericin (Deadline: 31/12/27)

-

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker

Before 31 December 2025

After 1 January 2026

Other mycotoxins and phycotoxins

- Ciguatoxins on [priority list](#) of contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants for evaluation by JECFA (March 2018).
- EFSA scientific opinion on the risks to human and animal health related to the presence of [4,15-diacetoxyscirpenol \(DAS\)](#) in food and feed published on 16/08/18.
- EFSA has published a report on the availability of toxicity data on [calystegines](#). PAFF agreed that no follow up is possible as regards the presence of calystegines in food for the moment.
- EFSA has published an [external scientific report on risk assessment modelling approach of mycotoxin mixtures in food and feed](#) (24/01/20).
- EFSA Art 34 - [Risk characterisation of ciguatera poisoning in Europe](#) (19/05/21).
- EFSA Art 34 - [Emerging risks Evaluation of ciguatoxins in seafood and the environment in Europe](#) (19/05/21).
- Patulin: COM to work on extension of ML to other solid fruit products
- [Reg. 2023/2782 laying down the methods of sampling and analysis for the control of the levels of mycotoxins in food and repealing Reg. 401/2006](#)
- [Reg. 2024/885 amend. Reg. 2023/2782 laying down the methods of sampling and analysis for the control of the levels of mycotoxins in food as regards the method of sampling for dried herbs, herbal infusions \(dried product\), teas \(dried product\) and powdered spices](#)
- COM issued stakeholder consultation on requirements for sampling and methods analysis for autocontrols for the presence of mycotoxins and plant toxins in food (March 2024)
- Request for an update of the EFSA scientific opinion on the risks for animal and public health related to the presence of phomopsins in feed and food (Deadline: 31/12/26)

-

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker



Before 31 December 2025

After 1 January 2026

Dioxins and PCBs (potentially affecting all ingredients, particularly associated with meats and fats)

- EFSA Scientific Opinion on Decontamination of dioxins, PCBs and other unwanted substances in fish oil by physical filtration with activated carbon. [Adopted 21/11/17](#).
- COM [Reg 2017/644](#) 2017 laying down methods of sampling and analysis for the control of levels of dioxins, DL-PCBs and NDL-PCBs in certain foodstuffs and repealing [Reg 589/2014](#)
- COM. [Reg 2017/771](#) amending [Reg. 152/2009](#) as regards the methods for the determination of the levels of dioxins and PCBs.
- EFSA Scientific Opinion on Detoxification of dioxins and PCBs in fish oil and fish meal by physical filtration with activated carbon. [Adopted 23/01/18](#).
- EFSA Scientific Opinion on Detoxification of dioxins in fish meal by exchange of dioxin-contaminated fish oil from fish meal to a dioxin filtered oil. [Adopted 23/01/18](#).
- EFSA [Scientific Opinion on the risks for human and animal health related to the presence of dioxins and DL-PCBs in food and feed](#). Published on 20/11/18.
- [Reg. 2019/1021](#) on POPs.
- [Reg. 2022/2002](#) amend [Reg. 1881/2006](#) as regards MLs of dioxins and DL-PCBs in certain foodstuffs (published on 24/10/22).
- Summary report of PAFF of 27/02/24:
 - Discussions took place on possible amendments to the derogation for dioxins and DL-PCBs in fish from the Baltic region
 - Discussions have started on MLs for non-dioxin-like PCBs in meat and meat products of horse, rabbit, wild boar (*Sus scrofa*), wild game birds, of Cervidae (e.g. venison), liver and derived products of wild game birds
- On Agenda of CWG on POPs 3/09/24: Discussion on MLs for NDL-PCBs in meat, meat products, liver and derived products of horse, rabbit, wild boar, wild game birds and Cervidae.
- On Agenda of CWG on Environmental and Industrial Contaminants 12-13/12/24.
- Targeted Consultation on MLs for NDL-PCBs in meat, meat products, liver and derived products of horse, rabbit, wild boar, wild game birds and Cervidae (deadline: 2/05/25)
- [EFSA public consultation on draft scientific opinion on the update of the risk assessment of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs in feed and food \(closed 26/01/26\)](#)
 - Updated TWI of 0.6 pg/kg bw, exceeded for all age groups
 - Draft opinion for adoption at EFSA CONTAM panel 03-04/02/26. Deadline is 30/04/26.

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker



Before 31 December 2025

After 1 January 2026

PFAS: PFOS and PFOA (potentially affecting all ingredients, particularly associated with meats and fish)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EFSA Scientific Opinion on the risk to human health related to the presence of PFOS and PFOA in food published on 13/12/18. • EFSA Scientific Opinion on Risk to human health related to the presence of PFAS in food published 17/09/20. • Recommendation 2022/1431 on the monitoring of PFAS in food. • Reg. 2022/1428 laying down methods of sampling and analysis for the control of PFAS in certain foodstuffs. • WTO consultation on the Reg. amend Reg. 1881/2006 concerning MLs of PFAS closed 02/09/22. • Reg. 2022/2388 amending Reg. 1881/2006 as regards MLs off perfluoroalkyl substances in certain foodstuffs. • EFSA Project on the use of NAMs to explore the immunotoxicity of PFAS (issued: 23/08/24) • Reg. 2025/718 amend Reg. 2019/1021 of the EP and of the Council as regards PFAS and its derivatives • Reg. 2025/40 on packaging and packaging waste, amending Reg. 2019/1020 • BfR International Conference on PFAS 08-10/10/25 – Challenges and scientific perspectives in human health risk assessment • Updates from EFSA's workshop on latest advancement of PFAS risk assessment 17/11/25: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Focus on TFA with joint mandate for ECHA/EFSA on environmental behaviour of TFA from pesticides and biocides ○ Scientific Opinion expected by June 2027. • ANSES published results of the French PFAS measurement campaign (2023-2025) • EU monitoring recommendation in foods ended 2025 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECHA will launch a 60-day public consultation on the Committee for Socio-Economic Analysis (SEAC) draft opinion regarding the EU-wide PFAS restriction proposal in Spring 2026, following their March 2026 meeting. • Opinion expected to be adopted by December 2026. • UK Government published "PFAS Plan" on 03/02/26 a 'cross-government, science-led plan to understand impacts of PFAS on public health and the environment, with coordinated actions to minimise risks'. |
|--|--|

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker

Before 31 December 2025

After 1 January 2026

BFR

- Anticipated that EFSA will issue a summary report/risk assessment based upon data submitted under [Recommendation 2014/118/ EU](#).
- PHE issued updated guidance on [BFR: incident management and toxicology](#) (07/08/18).
- [Updated EFSA risk assessment of hexabromocyclododecanes \(HBCDDs\) in food](#) (published 08/03/21).
- EFSA [Update of the risk assessment of polybrominated diphenyl ethers \(PBDEs\) in food](#) (24/01/24)
- On Agenda CWG on POPs of 3/09/24:
 - EFSA opinion on an update of the risk assessment on PBDEs in food (EFSA presentation).
 - EFSA opinion on an update of the risk assessment on TBPPA in food (EFSA presentation).
- CWG on POPs, 18/03/25, received a presentation on phosphorous flame retardants, which are used as substitutes for phased-out BFR. Toxicity and epidemiological studies suggest these compounds may have adverse health effects and are found in a wide range of food products, implying potentially high exposure.
- COM proposed requesting EFSA to conduct a risk assessment to identify data gaps and prioritise substances within the group for monitoring.
- [EFSA Opinion on the Risk Assessment of Brominated Phenols and Their Derivatives in Food](#)
 - No health risk from exposure to this group of flame retardants.
 - COM may still recommend monitoring due to lack of data
- **Request for an EFSA opinion on the risks to public health related to the presence of organophosphorus flame retardants in food and drinking water (Mandate issued: 23/05/25. Deadline 30/09/27).**

-

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker



Before 31 December 2025

After 1 January 2026

Chlorinated paraffins

- EFSA request for a scientific opinion on the risks for animal and human health related to the presence of chlorinated paraffins in feed and food on 13/12/16. Revised Deadline is 30/03/20.
- EFSA [Public consultation](#) on the scientific opinion on the risks for animal and human health related to the presence of chlorinated paraffins in feed and food (deadline 17/09/20).
- EFSA opinion on agenda for POPs CWG on 21/01/20.
- Feedback from 21/02/20: The draft EFSA opinion on chlorinated paraffins was subject to public consultation in 2019. EFSA is in the process of revising the opinion based on the comments received. The final opinion has not yet been published.
- Based on the currently available (limited) information, the exposure does not give cause of concern for adverse health effects. Nevertheless, there is concern about the large production volume, the increasing use and the fact that not all food categories have been analyzed.
- COM indicated that the analytical method is still being worked on. When available, further discussions will be held about monitoring.
- EFSA CONT Panel of 13-15 September 2022: Risk assessment of PCNs in food and feed (EFSA-Q-2020-00663).
- EFSA Draft Scientific Opinion on the risks for animal and human health related to the presence of PCN in feed and food, in the scientific domain Contaminants [launched](#) (Issued: 24/11/23. Deadline: 14/01/24)
- On Agenda CWG on POPs of 3/09/24:
 - PCNs
 - Presentation of the EFSA opinion Risks for animal and human health related to the presence of PCNs in feed and food.
 - Discussion on follow-up
 - Chlorinated paraffins
 - Approach for the analysis of chlorinated paraffins in food (and feed)
- Discussion on a draft Recommendation on the monitoring of PCN in food.
- On PAFF [agenda](#) 10/04/25: Feedback from the CWG on contaminants, in particular as regards the monitoring of PCNs in food. PAFF summary [here](#)

-

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker



Before 31 December 2025

After 1 January 2026

Arsenic (potentially affecting all ingredients, particularly associated with meats, fish, seaweed, some cereals including rice)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CWG on Environmental Contaminants, 18/02/25 included EFSA presentation on its risk assessment of complex organoarsenic species in food <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EFSA concluded that complex organoarsenic compounds are not a cause for public health concern. For the time being, more data on toxicity and toxicokinetics, and more monitoring data are needed. ○ COM indicated that if one would like to establish a recommendation for monitoring for arsenic sugars and lipids, the EURL should be asked whether suitable methods are available for this. ○ EURL indicated that a method is available, but that not many laboratories are yet familiar with it. • CWG on 25/11/25: Metals and iodine in seaweed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Presentation by NO on mitigation measures for iodine in seaweed. b. Draft Reg as regards MLs for Cd, iAs, iodine and Pb in seaweed. • Reg. 2025/1891 amending Reg. 2023/915 as regards MLs of inorganic arsenic in fish and other seafood | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metals and iodine in seaweed on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a. Draft Reg as regards MLs for Cd, iAs, iodine and Pb in seaweed. ○ b. Draft monitoring Recommendation on of metals and iodine in algae, halophytes and products based on algae • Draft monitoring Recommendation for heavy metals in canned fish on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26 • Finalisation of the discussion on a draft Reg. amend. Reg. 2023/915 for the purpose of clarifying certain provisions and as regards MLs of afla, OTA, DON, HCA, As, Ni, Cd and melamine in food on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26 |
|---|--|

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker

Before 31 December 2025	After 1 January 2026
-------------------------	----------------------

Lead (potentially affecting all ingredients, particularly associated with meats, fish, some vegetables, some cereals including rice, some oil seeds and tree nuts)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reg. 2021/1317 amending Reg. 1881/2006 as regards MLs of Pb in certain foodstuffs. • CODEX - CCCF June 2025: MLs for Pb in certain food categories (at Step 7) CX/CF 25/18/5 • CODEX - CCCF June 2025: Analysis of occurrence data of Pb in spice mixtures CX/CF 25/18/18 • EFSA scientific report on dietary exposure to Pb in the European population (Issued: 08/08/25) • On CWG agenda on 25/11/25: Draft proposal on MLs for Pb in spices, dried herbs, sugar, syrup and confectionary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ During the CCCF, MLs for Pb in certain foods were identified. COM proposes to align the EU MLs for paprika powder and sumac, Szechuan pepper, bark used as spices, mace, white sugar and brown sugar with these Codex MLs. For spices of carrot and rhizome, the COM proposes not to increase the ML. Also, discussion on MLs for brown sugar made from sugar beets. ○ COM also proposed new MLs for meat and offal, lower MLs for milk, new MLs for tea and herbal infusions, new MLs for chocolate and chocolate products, lower ML for food supplements and a new ML for meat substitutes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pb on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a. Draft proposal on MLs for Pb in spices, dried herbs, sugar, syrup and confectionary (Codex MLs). ○ b. New or revised Pb MLs following the 2025 EFSA exposure assessment • Metals and iodine in seaweed on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a. Draft Reg as regards MLs for Cd, iAs, iodine and Pb in seaweed. ○ b. Draft monitoring Recommendation on of metals and iodine in algae, halophytes and products based on algae • Draft monitoring Recommendation for heavy metals in canned fish on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26
Nitrate	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EFSA Risk assessment of nitrate and nitrite in feed (published 4/11/20). • Decision 2022/696 granting a derogation requested by Ireland pursuant to Directive 91/676/EEC concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources. • On agenda for CWG for agricultural contaminants (14/02/24) Proposed modification to Reg. 1182/2006 (sampling and analysis of nitrates) • Informal report of CWG on Agricultural Contaminants on 8/07/24 indicates that a proposal has been made by a MS for the change of Reg. 1182/2006. The EC has asked for advice from the EURL and it indicates that it does not see the need for the change. • EUBA-EFSA-FEEDCO-2024-01: Role of nitrate/nitrite and of processing and storage in the N-nitrosamine formation in certain foods (Deadline: 12/12/27) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On agenda for CWG on 19/01/26 and 16/02/26, MLs for nitrates and nitrites in certain foods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review of the EU MLs for nitrates in food (leafy vegetables) ○ Setting of MLs for nitrates in other foods of plant origin ○ Consideration of the need for setting MLs for nitrites in certain foods of plant origin

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker



Before 31 December 2025	After 1 January 2026
-------------------------	----------------------

Cadmium (Cd)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation on reduction of Cd in food (2014/193/EU). • Reg. 2019/1009 laying down rules on the making available on the market of EU fertilising products and amending Reg. No 1069/2009. • Reg. 2021/1323 amend Reg. 1881/2006 as regards MLs of Cd in certain foodstuffs • Reg. 2023/1510 of 20/07/2023 amending Reg. 2023/915 as regards MLs of Cd in tiger nuts and certain cultivated fungi • Cdin truffles (tuber species) in EU MS: levels detected in fresh truffles at levels above the ML of wild fungi. • CODEX - CCCF April 2024: Development of a CoP practice for the prevention and reduction of Cd contamination in foods • CODEX - CCCF June 2025: CoP for the prevention and reduction of Cd contamination in foods (at Step 4) CX/CF 25/18/6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cd on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a. Truffles ○ b. Meat replacement products • Metals and iodine in seaweed on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a. Draft Reg. as regards MLs for Cd, iAs, iodine and Pb in seaweed. ○ b. Draft monitoring Recommendation on of metals and iodine in algae, halophytes and products based on algae • Draft monitoring Recommendation for heavy metals in canned fish on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26 • Finalisation of the discussion on a draft Reg. amend. Reg. 2023/915 for the purpose of clarifying certain provisions and as regards MLs of afla, OTA, DON, HCA, As, Ni, Cd and melamine in food on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26
Nickel (Ni) (Grains and grain-based products, Chocolate and chocolate-based products, Non-alcoholic beverages (cocoa-based beverages, coffee), Alcoholic beverages (beer), nuts and oils seeds)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHE issued updated guidance on Ni: health effects, incident management and toxicology (07/08/18). • EFSA updated risk assessment of Ni in food and drinking water (05/11/20). • Ni: estimate of long-term intake via food based on the BfR MEAL Study (22/11/22) • Recommendation 2024/907 on the monitoring of Ni in food • Reg. 2024/1045 amend Reg. 333/2007 as regards the methods of sampling and analysis for the control of levels of Ni in foodstuffs and amending certain reference • Reg. 2024/1987 amend Reg. 2023/915 as regards ML of Ni in certain foodstuffs • Late December 2025: Data from FRUCOM indicated that Ni in hazelnuts frequently exceeded the ML of 3.5 mg/kg, despite full compliance with GAP. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Certain areas have higher Ni soil concentrations ○ Hazelnuts do not significantly contribute to overall Ni dietary exposure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ni on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a. Hazelnuts ○ b. Oregano • Finalisation of the discussion on a draft Reg. amend. Reg. 2023/915 for the purpose of clarifying certain provisions and as regards MLs of afla, OTA, DON, HCA, As, Ni, Cd and melamine in food on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker

Before 31 December 2025	After 1 January 2026
-------------------------	----------------------

Before 31 December 2024	After 1 January 2025
Mercury (Hg) and Methyl Mercury (CH₃Hg), (potentially affecting fish and rice, spices, oil seeds)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reg. 420/2011 amending Reg. 1881/2006. • Reg. 836/2011 amending Reg. 333/2007. • EFSA Opinion on the risk for public health related to the presence of Hg and CH₃Hg in food. • EFSA Opinion on the risks and benefits of fish/seafood consumption as regards CH₃Hg. • Hg under pesticide legislation: Reg. 2018/73 amending Annexes II and III to Reg. 396/2005 as regards MRLs for Hg compounds in or on certain products (18/01/18). • PHE issued guidance Hg: health effects, incident management and toxicology (14/08/19). • Reg. 2022/617 amend Reg. 1881/2006 as regards MLs of Hg in fish and salt. • Recommendation 2022/1342 on the monitoring of Hg in fish, crustaceans and molluscs. • CODEX - CCCF April 2024: Sampling plans for CH₃Hg in fish (at Step 4) • Technical discussion at the CWG Environmental and Industrial Contaminants 6-7/05/25 on MLs for Hg in canned fish • COM also shared a draft mandate for EFSA to conduct a risk-benefit assessment of contaminant exposure through fish. Contaminants include dioxins, dl-PCBs, PFAS, PBDEs, iAs, oAs, and CH₃Hg. The RB analysis will use 2022 TEFs and focus only on fish, not shellfish or crustaceans. • CWG on 25/11/25: Mercury in canned fish <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Need for possible specific MLs b. Need for further monitoring c. Harmonised sampling requirements for heavy metals in canned fish A number of MS doubt whether the database is large enough and propose to generate more monitoring data first. A MS wonders why a separate ML is proposed for mercury in canned tuna, but not for other products. Netherlands indicated that, although initially in favour of establishing MLs for canned fish, the Netherlands now foresees some problems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CH₃Hg on Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26: “EFSA scientific report on the frequency of consumption of different fish, crustacean and mollusc species contributing to methylmercury exposure and consumer awareness of national advice on their consumption”.

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker

Before 31 December 2025

After 1 January 2026

N-Nitrosamines

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EFSA "Risk assessment of N-nitrosamines in food" Published 28/03/23 • EFSA issued a call for data regarding N-nitrosamines in food (on the possible relationship with nitrate/nitrite in food; and the effect of food processing and storage). • COM has drafted a Recommendation on monitoring. Recommendation addresses the analytical method, and which products should be monitored. The question is whether indicative limits should be included. • On agenda of CWG on environmental and industrial contaminants held on 27-28/06/24: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion on a draft monitoring recommendation ○ Compilation of good practices to prevent/minimize the presence in food ○ Establishment of MLs • Draft COM monitoring recommendation for 10 potentially carcinogenic N-nitrosamines discussed at CWG (12- 13/12/24) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ anticipated to cover cured/processed meat products, processed fish, cocoa and products containing cocoa, beer and other alcoholic beverages, processed vegetables, cereals, milk and other dairy products, and fermented, preserved and seasoned foods. • EUBA-EFSA-FEEDCO-2024-01: Role of nitrate/nitrite and of processing and storage in the N-nitrosamine formation in certain foods (Deadline: 12/12/27) • Presentation as part of Fresenius conference 13/11/25 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • draft recommendation on monitoring the presence of N-nitrosamines in food circulated by FDE on 06/02/26. |
|--|---|

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker

Before 31 December 2025

After 1 January 2026

Perchlorate (water, infant milk, fruit and in vegetables)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EFSA published a scientific report on perchlorate dietary exposure assessment for the European population (24/10/17) • Reg. 2019/2093 amending Reg. No 333/2007 • Reg. 2020/685 amending Reg.1881/2006 • Directive (EU) 2020/2184 on the quality of water intended for human consumption (recast) • Reg. 2020/685 amending Reg.1881/2006 as regards MLs of perchlorate in certain foods. • Reg. 2024/1002 on MLs of perchlorate in beans (Phaseolus vulgaris) with pods • Reg. 2023/2782 separately lists dried herbs, herbal infusions, teas, etc., whereas Reg. 333/2007 lists dried herbs but not tea. Based on this, the total sample of tea for official perchlorate control should be 1 kg, while for PA control it should be a multiple of basic samples with a mass of 40 (80) g. COM will amend Reg. 333/2007 and see if this applies to other substances. • EFSA Consultation on draft Update of the Scientific Opinion on the risks for human health related to the presence of perchlorate in food, in the scientific domain Contaminants (11/12/24-11/02/25) • Update of the EFSA Scientific Opinion on the risks for human health related to the presence of perchlorate in food (Issued: 12/05/25). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recommends more information on concentrations of perchlorate in human milk in the European population. ○ Improvement of the sensitivity of the analytical methods to reduce uncertainty in exposure assessments. ○ More information on perchlorate exposure to the fetal thyroid gland and its impact on thyroid homeostasis and neurodevelopment. ○ A better characterisation of the possible effects of moderate iodine reduction caused by perchlorate (or other goitrogens) in populations with iodine deficiency/insufficiency would reduce uncertainty. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On Agenda for CWG on 12-13/03/26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Discussion on a Commission Implementing Reg. 2026/xxx amending Reg. 333/2007 as regards methods of analysis for the control of the levels of certain processing contaminants and perchlorate in foods” ○ “Update of the EFSA Scientific Opinion on the risks for human health related to the presence of perchlorate in food: Discussion on possible follow-up” |
|--|--|

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker



Before 31 December 2025

After 1 January 2026

Mineral Oil Hydrocarbons (MOSH) (deliberate and/or environmental contaminant - potentially oils and migration from card packaging, potential issue for raw materials stored or transported in corrugated cases e.g., dried fruit and nuts)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation 2017/84 (16/01/17). • FDE "Toolbox for preventing the transfer of undesired MOH into food" 03/09/18. • JRC guidance document on sampling, analysis and data reporting for the monitoring of MOSH/MOAH in food and food contact materials. • Opinion of the COM: PAFF Section Novel Food and Toxicological Safety of the Food Chain, 19 October 2022 – A.03 Clarifications on the joint statement of 21 April 2022 of the MS regarding the presence of MOAH in food, including food for infants and young children. • EU JRC Determination of MOSH and MOAH in edible oil • EFSA published its updated risk assessment (13/09/23) • Dutch NVWA announced Temporary enforcement policy MOAH in foodstuffs as of 01/01/24. • Summary report of PAFF of 27/02/24: Updates on the stakeholder Forum and its follow-up. • On agendas for CWG on environmental and industrial contaminants 27-28/06/24 and 12-13/12/24. • Approach for regulating MOAH in food additives on agenda of the mtg of CWG on Environmental Contaminants (6-7/05/25) • Stakeholders' forum on MOAH in food additives 03/10/25 • FDE submitted letter as a follow up to the forum (21/11/2025) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Highlighted the importance of validated, harmonised analytical methods for enforcement and data reliability ○ Stressed that future MLs for MOAH must be technically feasible. ○ Regulation should address MOAH in food additives within Reg. 231/2012 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COM intends to adopt the measure in Q3/26. PAFF vote expected Q1 or Q2 2026. • CWG on 02/02/26 update: three drafts on MLs MOAH in food currently 'in validation'. |
|--|---|

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker



Official sampling and analysis

- [Reg. 2023/2782 laying down the methods of sampling and analysis for the control of the levels of mycotoxins in food and repealing Reg. 401/2006](#)
- [Reg. 2023/2783 laying down the methods of sampling and analysis for the control of the levels of plant toxins in food and repealing Reg. 2015/705](#)
- [Reg. 2024/885 amend Reg. 2023/2782 laying down the methods of sampling and analysis for the control of the levels of mycotoxins in food as regards the method of sampling for dried herbs, herbal infusions \(dried product\), teas \(dried product\) and powdered spices](#)
- [Reg. 2024/1045 amend Reg. 333/2007 as regards the methods of sampling and analysis for the control of levels of Ni in foodstuffs and amending certain reference](#)
- [Reg. 2024/2463 laying down analytical methods applicable to official controls performed for the verification of compliance of food business operators with Reg. 2073/2005](#)
- [Reg. 2024/3153 amend Reg. 2019/1793 on the temporary increase of official controls and emergency measures governing the entry into the Union of certain goods from certain third countries implementing Regs. 2017/625 and 178/2002 of the EP and of the Council](#)
- [Corrigendum 2025/3153 to Reg. 2024/3153 amend Reg. 2019/1793 on the temporary increase of official controls and emergency measures governing the entry into the Union of certain goods from certain third countries implementing Regs. 2017/625 and 178/2002 of the EP and of the Council](#)
- [Reg. 2025/1441 amend Reg. 2019/1793 on the temporary increase of official controls and emergency measures governing the entry into the Union of certain goods from certain third countries implementing Regs. 2017/625 and 178/2002 of the EP and of the Council](#)
- [Reg. 2025/355 amend Reg. 2022/2389 concerning the establishment of frequency rates for identity checks and physical checks on consignments of plants, plant products and other objects entering the Union](#)
- [Corrigendum 2025/90152 to Reg. 2018/2019 establishing a provisional list of high-risk plants, plant products or other objects, within the meaning of Article 42 of Reg. 2016/2031 and a list of plants for which phytosanitary certificates are not required for introduction into the Union, within the meaning of Article 73 of that Reg.](#)
- [Corrigendum 2025/90153 to Reg. 2020/1213 concerning the phytosanitary measures for the introduction into the Union of certain plants, plant products and other objects which have been removed from the Annex to Reg. 2018/2019](#)
- [Corrigendum to Reg. 2025/1441 amend Reg. 2019/1793 on the temporary increase of official controls and emergency measures governing the entry into the Union of certain goods from certain third countries Regs. 2017/625 and 178/2002 of the EP and of the Council.](#)
- [Reg 2025/2651 of 16 October 2025 amending Reg. 2021/1698 as regards certain criteria for the establishment of the list of high-risk third countries and high-risk products](#)
- [Reg. 2026/187 of 28 January 2026 amending Implementing Reg. 2021/405 as regards the lists of third countries or regions thereof authorised for the entry into the Union of consignments of certain animals and goods intended for human consumption in accordance with Reg. 2017/625 of the EP and of the Council](#)
- [Reg. 2026/194 of 28 January 2026 amending Implementing Reg. 2019/1793 on the temporary increase of official controls and emergency measures governing the entry into the Union of certain goods from certain third countries implementing Regs. 2017/625 and 178/2002 of the EP and of the Council](#)

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker



Radiation/Radionuclides (including Chernobyl and Fukushima incidents)

- [Reg. 297/2011](#), (26/03/11).
- [Reg. 351/2011](#), amending [Reg. 297/2011](#) (12/04/11). [Corrigendum](#) issued on 13/04/11.
- [Reg. 657/2011](#) amending [Reg. 297/2011](#) (08/07/11).
- [Reg. 961/2011](#) repealing [Reg. 297/2011](#) (28/09/11).
- [Reg. 1371/2011](#) amending [Reg. 961/2011](#) (22/12/11).
- [Reg. 250/2012](#) amending [Reg. 961/2011](#) (23/03/12).
- [Reg. 284/2012](#) repealing [Reg. 961/2011](#) (30/03/12).
- [Reg. 561/2012](#) amending [Reg. 284/2012](#) (28/06/12).
- [Reg. 996/2012](#) repealing [Reg. 284/2012](#) (27/10/12).
- [Reg. 495/2013](#) amending [Reg. 996/2012](#) (30/05/13).
- [Reg. 322/2014](#) (29/03/14).
- [Reg. 2016/6](#) repealing [Reg. 322/2014](#) (06/01/16).
- [Reg. 2016/52](#) repealing [Reg. 3954/87](#), [Reg. 944/89](#) and [Reg. 770/90](#).
- [Reg. 2017/2058](#) amending [Reg. 2016/6](#) (11/11/17).
- [Reg. 2019/1787](#) amending [Reg. 2016/6](#) (25/10/19).
- [Reg. 2020/1158](#) Chernobyl nuclear power station (06/08/20).
- [REPORT FROM THE COM TO THE EP AND THE COUNCIL on food and food ingredients treated with ionising radiation for the years 2018-2019](#) (24/02/21).
- COM published [Staff Working Document on the evaluation of the EU legislative framework for the treatment of food with ionising radiation](#) (Directives 1999/2/EC and 1999/3/EC).
- [Reg. 2021/1533](#) repealing [Reg. \(EU\) 2016/6](#).
- [Reg. 2022/618](#) correcting the French language version of [Reg. 2021/1533](#).
- [Reg. 2023/1453](#) repealing [Reg. 2021/1533](#).
- [Reg. 2024/256](#) amending [Reg. 2020/1158](#) on the conditions governing imports of food and feed originating in third countries following the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker



Glossary

ANSES	— Agence nationale de sécurité sanitaire(French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety)
As	— Arsenic
BfR	— Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung (German federal Institute for Risk Assessment)
BFR	— Brominated Flame Retardants
CAC/Codex	— Codex Alimentarius Commission
CCCF	— Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods
Cd	— Cadmium
COM	— European Commission
CONTAM	— EFSA Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the food chain
CoP	— Code of Practice
CWG	— Commission Working Group/Expert Group
DAS	— Diacetoxyscirpenol
Δ 8-THC	— delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol
Δ 9-THC	— delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol
DL-PCBs	— Dioxin-like PCBs
DON	— Deoxynivalenol
ED	— Endocrine Disruptor(s)/Disrupting
ECHA	— European Chemicals Agency
EURL	— EU Reference Laboratory
EFSA	— European Food Safety Authority
EP	— European Parliament
FAO	— Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FDE	— FoodDrinkEurope (previously CIAA - Confederation of the Food and Drink Industries of the EU)
HACCP	— Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point
HCA	— Hydrocyanic Acid
Hg	— Mercury
HT-2	— Trichothecene mycotoxin
iAS	— Inorganic Arsenic
JECFA	— Joint FAO/WHO Committee on Food Additives
JRC	— EU Joint Research Centre
ML	— Maximum Limit/Level[s]
MOAH	— Mineral Oil Aromatic Hydrocarbons
MOE	— Margin of exposure
MOSH	— Mineral Oil Saturated Hydrocarbons
MRL	— Maximum Residue Limit (pesticides)

Food Contaminants Issue Tracker



MS	— Member State[s] (EU)
NDL-PCBs	— Non-dioxin-like PCBs
NL	— Netherlands
OA	— Opium Alkaloids
oAs	— Organic Arsenic
OTA	— Ochratoxin A
PA	— Pyrrolizidine Alkaloids
PAFF	— Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (PAFF Committee) - Successor to the SCoFAH as of October 2014.
Pb	— Lead
PCB	— Polychlorinated biphenyl
PCN	— Polychlorinated Naphthalene
PFAS	— Perfluorinated Alkylated Substances (PFOS and PFOA)
PFNA	— Perfluorononanoic Acid
PFOA	— Perfluorooctanoic Acid
PFOS	— Perflurate Sulfonate
PHE	— Public Health England (UK)
POP	— Persistent Organic Pollutant
QA	— Quinolinone Alkaloids
RASFF	— Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
T-2	— Trichothecene mycotoxins
TA	— Tropane alkaloids
TEF	— Toxic equivalency factor
WHO	— World Health Organisation
WTO	— World Trade Organisation
ZEA	— Zearalenone