AGRINFO Webinar: New EU rules for mineral oil aromatic hydrocarbons

Published by AGRINFO on 01 Jun 2026

Upcoming AGRINFO webinar with the latest information on new EU rules on MOAH, expected to apply from 1 January 2027

New EU rules on maximum levels for mineral oil aromatic hydrocarbons (MOAH) – webinar in June 2026

Update

This webinar provides the latest information on the new European Union (EU) rules on mineral oil aromatic hydrocarbons (MOAH) that are expected to apply from 1 January 2027.

The session will include presentations and an opportunity to ask questions on:

- The new maximum levels for MOAH, and recommendations on mineral oil saturated hydrocarbons (MOSH) and MOAHVeerle Vanheusden, Directorate-General for Health & Food Safety, European Commission
- Potential challenges, and strategies to be developed to comply with the new rulesClaus-Michael Brieber, Senior Quality Expert Food, Food Safety First

Register for your preferred 90-minute session via the links below:

English with Spanish interpretation: Monday 22 June at 16:00 pm CEST*

English with French interpretation: Thursday 25 June at 10:00 am CEST*

*Use this link to check your local time.

Impacted products

Oilseeds and oil fruits, animal and vegetable fats and oils, tree nuts, pulses, cereals, milk, dairy products, cocoa beans, cocoa products, spices, dried herbs, dry tea and herbal infusions, food supplements, food additives, foods for infants and young children, compound and processed foods containing these ingredients

What is changing?

New EU rules establishing maximum levels for mineral oil aromatic hydrocarbons (MOAH) have been approved in May 2026 by EU Member States, and are expected to be formally adopted by the EU in the second half of 2026. Most maximum levels will apply from 1 January 2027, but a later application date is likely for some products.

Mineral oil hydrocarbons (MOH) comprise a diverse group of chemical compounds. They are mainly derived from crude oil, but they can also be produced synthetically from coal, natural gas, and biomass. MOH find their way into the food supply chain mostly during harvest, transport, processing, or packaging; environmental contamination can also be a source. This group of substances contains genotoxic carcinogens (substances that cause DNA mutations and for which there is no safe exposure threshold or dose), creating health risks for consumers.

Why?

In 2023, the European Food Safety Authority updated its risk assessment on MOH in food (EFSA 2023). The regulatory focus is mainly on MOAH, which EFSA considered to have potential genotoxic and carcinogenic activity.

Timeline

Most maximum levels will apply from **1 January 2027**, but a later application date is likely for some products.

Resources

EFSA (2023) Update of the risk assessment of mineral oil hydrocarbons in food. EFSA Journal, 21(9): e08215.

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