

Food additives: tartaric acid and tartrates

Published by AGRINFO on 20 Mar 2024; Revised 29 May 2024

Commission Regulation (EU) [2024/1451](#) as regards the food additives tartaric acid (L(+)-) (E 334), sodium tartrates (E 335), potassium tartrates (E 336), sodium potassium tartrate (E 337) and calcium tartrate (E 354)

What is changing and why?

The EU has introduced conditions of use for tartaric acid and tartrates (E 334–337 and E 354) in many food categories (see Table 1 for details). This is because, after consulting food businesses, the European Food Safety Authority has re-evaluated these additives and established an acceptable daily intake level for this group. Where food businesses provided no technical data to support reauthorisation for a specific food category or use, the Commission considered that there was no interest, and the authorisation has been withdrawn.

Actions

Suppliers of foods containing tartaric acid and tartrates (E 334–337 and E 354) must comply with the new maximum levels set for each food category, and ensure that these additives are not used in food categories for which their use is no longer authorised.

Timeline

Date of application: **16 December 2024**.

Foods containing these additives may remain on the market until their date of minimum durability or use-by date, even if they do not comply with the new rules, provided they have been lawfully placed on the market before 16 December 2024.

For more information see the [full record](#) on the AGRINFO website – where you can also view the latest [AGRINFO Update](#) newsletters and [search](#) the database.

Tables & Figures

Table 1
Changes to maximum levels for certain food additives

| Food additive | Category (category number) | Previous level ^[1] | New level (mg/kg) |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| E 334-337, E 354 | Unflavoured fermented milk products (01.3) | Not specified | 750 |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Dairy analogues (01.8), protein products, processed potato products (04.2.6), soups and broths (12.5) | Not specified | 240 |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Fat and oil emulsions (02.2.2) | Not specified | 1,300 |
| E 334-337 | Canned or bottled fruit and vegetables (04.2.3) | Not specified | 9,000 ^[2] |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Fruit and vegetable preparations (excluding compote) (04.2.4.1) | Not specified | 3,000 |
| E 334, E 335 | Extra jam and extra jelly (04.2.5.1), jam, jellies and marmalades (04.2.5.2), other similar fruit or vegetable spreads (04.2.5.3) | Allowed | Deleted |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Other confectionery (05.2), chewing gum (05.3) | Not specified | 25,000 |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Decorations, coatings, and fillings (05.4) | Not specified | 11,000 |
| E 334 | Fresh pasta (06.4.1), fresh pre-cooked pasta (06.4.3), potato gnocchi (06.4.4) | Allowed | Deleted |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Pre-cooked or processed cereals (06.7) | Not specified | 740 |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Bread and rolls (07.1) | Not specified | 15,000 ^[3] |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Fine bakery wares (07.2) | Not specified | 18,000 |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Heat-treated meat products (08.3.2) | Not specified | 3,000 ^[4] |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Processed fish and fishery products (09.2) | Not specified | 2,300 |
| E 336 | Table-top sweeteners in powder form (11.4.2) | Allowed | Deleted |
| E 334, E 336 | Table-top sweeteners in tablets (11.4.3) | Not specified | 270,000 ^[2] |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Seasonings and condiments (12.2.2) | Not specified | 17,000 |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Mustard (12.4) | Not specified | 12,000 |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Sauces (12.6), flavoured drinks (14.1.4) | Not specified | 4,000 |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Salads and savoury-based sandwich spreads (12.7) | Not specified | 1,800 |
| E 334, E 335, E 336 | Processed cereal-based foods, baby foods (13.1.3) | 5,000 | 5,000 ^[2] |
| E 354 | Processed cereal-based foods, baby foods (13.1.3) | 5,000 | Deleted |
| E 336 | Fruit juices, vegetable juices | Allowed | Deleted |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Spirit drinks (14.2.6) | Not specified | 1,000 ^[2] |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Aromatised wines (14.2.7.1), wine-based drinks (14.2.7.2), wine-product cocktails (14.2.7.3), other alcoholic beverages including mixtures with non-alcoholic beverages, alcoholic beverages <15% strength (14.2.8) | Not specified | 8,000 |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Potato-, cereal-, flour-, starch-based snacks (15.1) | Not specified | 60,000 |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Desserts (16) | Not specified | 3,000 ^[3] |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Food supplements (solid, non-chewable) (17.1) | Not specified | 100,000 ^[5] |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Food supplements (solid, chewable) (17.1) | Not specified | 130,000 ^[5] |
| E 334-337, E 354 | Food supplements (liquid) (17.2) | Not specified | 6,000 ^[5] |

This simplified overview does not cover all the details in the Annexes.

1. Not specified: previous levels were not provided; Deleted: additive no longer permitted in that category.

2. Applies individually or combined.

3. Except specified subcategories.

4. Except *foie gras, libamáj*.

5. Except for infants, young children.

Source: Regulation [2024/1451](#), Annex I

Disclaimer: *Under no circumstances shall COLEAD be liable for any loss, damage, liability or expense incurred or suffered that is claimed to have resulted from the use of information available on this website or any link to external sites. The use of the website is at the user's sole risk and responsibility. This information platform was created and maintained with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents do not, however, reflect the views of the European Union.*