EU withdraws eight flavourings

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Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/234 as regards the removal of certain flavouring substances from the Union list

What is changing and why?

The European Commission has withdrawn the use of eight flavouring substances in food:

- 2-phenylpent-2-enal
- 2-phenyl-4-methyl-2-hexenal
- 2-(sec-butyl)-4,5-dimethyl-3-thiazoline
- 4,5-dimethyl-2-ethyl-3-thiazoline
- 2,4-dimethyl-3-thiazoline
- 2-isobutyl-3-thiazoline
- 5-ethyl-4-methyl-2-(2-methylpropyl)-thiazoline
- 5-ethyl-4-methyl-2-(2- butyl)-thiazoline.

The companies that make the substances have not provided enough information for the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) to properly assess if they are safe for consumers. Because of this, the Commission now proposes that the substances should no longer be allowed to be used as flavourings in foods.

Actions

Exporting companies should seek to replace these flavourings in food products with substances that are authorised in the EU. The European Commission's Food Flavourings Database provides an easy way to check which flavourings are permitted.

Timeline

From **5 February 2025**, foods containing the flavouring substances listed above may not be put on the EU market. Foods containing those substances imported into the EU before that date can remain on the market.

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