

Food additives: sorbates and propyl gallate

Published by AGRINFO on 02 Jul 2024

Regulation

[Draft](#) Commission Regulation as regards the use of sorbic acid (E 200) and potassium sorbate (E 202) and as regards the specifications for sorbic acid (E200), potassium sorbate (E 202) and propyl gallate (E 310)

[Draft Annexes](#)

What is changing and why?

The European Commission proposes the following changes to the use of sorbates and propyl gallate as food additives in food.

- Sorbic acid (E 200) and potassium sorbate (E 202): Reduction of maximum levels for arsenic and lead to 0.1 mg/kg, and for mercury to 0.01 mg/kg. A new maximum limit of 0.1 mg/kg for zinc.
- Potassium sorbate (E 202): Amendment of description to include the granular form.
- Propyl gallate (E 310): Amendment of description to restrict the use of catalysts in the manufacturing process of the food additive; reduction of maximum limits for arsenic and mercury to 0.1 mg/kg and for lead to 0.3 mg/kg.
- Sorbic acid (E 200) and potassium sorbate (E 202): Authorisation of their use in fruit-flavoured water-based gelatine desserts at a maximum level of 1000 mg/kg.

Actions

Comments or concerns about potential impacts can be submitted via the [National SPS notification authority](#) of the country concerned to the [EU SPS Enquiry Point](#) until **19 August 2024**.

Timeline

Countries that are members of the World Trade Organization can submit comments on the EU's proposal via the [EU SPS Enquiry Point](#) until **19 August 2024**.

Expected date of adoption: last quarter of 2024.

Foods containing these additives must comply with the new specifications from approximately mid-2025.

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.

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.*