Food additives: thickening agents and stabilisers

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Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/196 amending Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 as regards the use of carrageenan (E 407), locust bean gum (E 410), guar gum (E 412), gum arabic (acacia gum) (E 414), xanthan gum (E 415), pectins (E 440) and starch sodium octenyl succinate (E 1450) and Commission Regulation (EU) No 231/2012 as regards specifications for locust bean gum (E 410), guar gum (E 412), gum arabic (acacia gum) (E 414), xanthan gum (E 415), pectins (E 440) and starch sodium octenyl succinate (E 1450)

What is changing and why?

The European Union (EU) is changing the conditions of use for the following food additives:

- locust bean gum (E 410)
- guar gum (E 412)
- gum arabic (acacia gum) (E 414)
- xanthan gum (E 415)
- pectins (E 440)
- starch sodium octenyl succinate (E 1450).

These changes are based on recommendations by the European Food Safety Authority after it evaluated the safety of these food additives.

Timeline

The new specifications for these additives apply from **18 August 2026**. However, there are transition periods (see full report for details).

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.

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