Food contact materials: authorised substances

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Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/2412 on plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food

Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/245 as regards the authorisation or the conditions of use of several substances

What is changing and why?

The European Union (EU) has authorised the use of the following substances in the manufacture of food contact materials (FCM):

- chopped carbon fibres from carbonised polyacrylonitrile
- nano precipitated calcium carbonate, uncoated
- poly(2-hydroxypropanoic acid), n-octyl/n-decyl esters
- mixture of 1,9-nonanediamine (NMDA) and 2-methyl-1,8-octanedia mine (MODA).

The specifications or restrictions of use for these substances are given in Table 1.

This follows the authorisation of some substances for the manufacture of FCM earlier in 2026 (Regulation 2026/245).

Actions

Suppliers of packaged food to the EU market should inform packaging suppliers about upcoming changes in the authorised substances listed in Regulation 10/2011, Annex I.

Timeline

The new substances authorised in Regulation 2026/2412 can be used from **18 November 2026**.

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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Tables & Figures

Table 1: Restrictions and specifications for substances newly authorised for the manufacture of plastic food contact materials

Authorised substance	Restrictions and specifications
Chopped carbon fibres from carbonised polyacrylonitrile	Only to be used at ≤40% weight per weight (w/w) for polyether ether ketone (PEEK) polymer
	Fibres must be manufactured from polyacrylonitrile, have a minimum carbon content of 95% w/w, and have size not at nanoscale at any dimension (diameter >100 nm)
Nano precipitated calcium carbonate, uncoated	Not to be used in the manufacture of materials and articles intended for contact with infant formula
Poly(2-hydroxypropanoic acid), n-octyl/n-decyl esters	Only to be used as an additive up to 15% w/w in materials and articles made from polylactic acid (PLA) that do not contain starch or other similar additives, and that are intended to be in contact (up to 40°C for up to 10 days) with water in non-alcoholic beverages, fresh fruit and vegetables, or vinegar (as specified in Regulation 10/2011, Annex III, Table 2)
Mixture of 1,9-nonanediamine (NMDA) and 2-methyl-1,8-octanediamine (MODA)	Only to be used as a co-monomer with terephthalic acid to manufacture polyamide materials and articles
	Not to be used in the manufacture of materials and articles intended for contact with infant formula and human milk
	Migration of the fraction with molecular weight below 1,000 Da consisting of NMDA/MODA-related species must not exceed 5 mg/kg food

Source: based on Regulation 2026/2412

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