

Food contact materials: authorised substances

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Regulation (EU) [2023/1442](#) on plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food, as regards changes to substance authorisations and addition of new substances

Regulation (EU) [2025/2240](#) as regards the transitional measures for plastic materials and articles manufactured with salicylic acid or untreated wood flour or fibres

What is changing and why?

In July 2023, the European Union (EU) revoked its authorisation of the use of untreated wood flour and fibres, and salicylic acid, in the manufacture of plastic materials intended to come into contact with food .

However, it did permit the continued sale of these materials provided businesses have submitted an application to an EU Member State authority for validation by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). Following complications with providing EFSA with the necessary data to validate applications, those applicants are being allowed additional time to complete their applications, and can continue to place these plastic materials on the EU market until 31 January 2026.

Actions

Regulation [2023/1442](#) revoking the use of untreated wood flour and fibres, and salicylic acid, in plastic food contact materials applies from **1 August 2023**.

There will be a transition period to allow the sale of existing stocks: plastic materials containing salicylic acid or untreated wood flour or fibres which were first placed on the market between **1 February 2025 and 31 January 2026** may remain on the EU market until stocks are exhausted, provided that applications to use these substances have been made and are considered valid.

Timeline

The Regulation revoking the use of untreated wood flour and fibres, and salicylic acid, in plastic food contact materials applies from **1 August 2023**.

The transition period allows plastic materials containing salicylic acid or untreated wood flour or fibres to be sold in the EU until **31 January 2026** under specific conditions.

If, by 31 January 2026, EFSA considers that an application is valid, the plastic materials can be sold on the EU market even after this date. These plastic materials can remain on the EU market unless the applicant withdraws their application or the European Commission refuses the authorisation.

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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