Food contact materials: Review

Published by AGRINFO on 30 Nov 2022; Revised 08 Aug 2024

Published initiative: Revision of EU rules on food contact materials

What is changing and why?

The European Commission has announced its intention to review the rules on food contact materials. In October 2022, it launched a public consultation on the revision of Regulation 1935/2004, which sets out basic EU requirements for all food contact materials.

The Commission is reviewing the scope of the legislation, which substances need to be prohibited or restricted, and what measures need to be introduced regarding migration limits, traceability labelling, and testing, and is reflecting on whether sustainability requirements should be incorporated into this legislation, or treated under general environmental rules. A Factual Summary report of the consultations has been published (European Commission 2023). This feedback will be taken into account in the Commission's proposals for revised legislation.

Actions

Exporters of packaged foods should closely monitor changes to the upcoming legislation. In particular, rules regarding compliance and documentation are likely to change, and enforcement of rules on food contact materials is likely to be enhanced.

Timeline

The Commission is expected to propose a revision to Regulation 1935/2004 in 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.

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