

Maximum levels for 3-MCPD in infant formulae

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Draft Commission Regulation as regards maximum levels of 3-monochloropropanediol (3-MCPD), 3-MCPD fatty acid esters and glycidyl fatty acid esters in certain foods

Draft Annex

Commission Regulation (EU) [2024/1003](#) as regards maximum levels for the sum of 3-monochloropropanediol (3-MCPD) and 3-MCPD fatty acid esters in infant formulae, follow-on formulae and food for special medical purposes intended for infants and young children and young child formulae

What is changing and why?

The European Commission proposes to set new maximum levels for glycidol and 3-MCPD in:

- baby food and processed cereal-based food for infants and young children
- compound food containing more than 5% fat, and added vegetable oils and fats and/or oils from fish and/or other marine organisms.

It also proposes reducing maximum levels of these contaminants in:

- vegetable oils and fats, fish oils, and oils from other marine organisms that are used in the production of baby food
- processed cereal-based food for infants and young children.

The proposed changes are summarised in Table 1.

The European Food Safety Agency has expressed health concerns about the presence of these substances, especially in foods for infants and young children.

Reduced maximum levels of the sum of 3-MCPD and its esters in infant formulae, follow-on formulae, food for special medical purposes intended for infants and young children, and young child formulae have applied since 1 January 2025. Those changes are shown in Table 2.

Actions

Non-EU suppliers of these products for infants should evaluate current levels of glycidol and 3-MCPD in these foods to check compliance or consider strategies for reducing the presence of these contaminants.


The World Trade Organization consultation on this proposal closed on 26 May 2026.

Timeline

Applies from **1 January 2027**.

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.


Tables & Figures

Table 1 Proposed new maximum levels for glycidol and 3-MCPD in infant formulae*			
Annex I of Reg 2023/915	Products	Maximum level (µg/kg)	
		Current	Proposed (from 1 Jan 2027)
5.3	Sum of 3-monochloropropanediol (3-MCPD) and its esters		
5.3.2	Vegetable oils and fats, fish oils, and oils from other marine organisms for baby food and processed cereal-based food for infants and young children	750	500
5.3.3	Infant formulae:		
5.3.3.1	Infant formula (powder)	80	No change
5.3.3.2	Infant formula (liquid)	12	No change
5.3.4	Baby food	None	50
	Processed cereal-based food for infants and young children		
5.3.5	Compound food with >5% fat and added vegetable oils and fats and/or oils from fish/other marine organisms except: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • infant formula and baby food • pre-fried and fried coated meat and fish 		
5.3.5.1	With only oils and fats from coconut, maize, rapeseed, sunflower, soyabean, palm kernel, and olive oils	None	1,250 µg/kg fat
5.3.5.2	With only other vegetable oils and fats, fish oils, and oils from other marine organisms and their mixtures	None	2,500 µg/kg fat
5.4	Glycidyl fatty acid esters, expressed as glycidol		
5.4.2	Vegetable oils and fats, fish oils, and oils from other marine organisms for baby food and processed cereal-based food for infants and young children	500	250
5.4.3	Infant formulae:		
5.3.3.1	Infant formula (powder)	50	No change
5.3.3.2	Infant formula (liquid)	6	No change
5.4.4	Baby food	None	25
	Processed cereal-based food for infants and young children		
5.4.5	Compound food with > 5 % fat and added vegetable oils and fats and/or oils from fish / other marine organisms except products listed in infant formula and baby food.	None	1,000 µg/kg fat
* Infant formulae, follow-on formulae, food for special medical purposes intended for infants and young children, and young child formulae.			
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Source: [Draft Annex](#)

Table 2 Revised maximum levels for 3-MCPD and its esters in infant formulae*			
Entry in Annex I of Reg 2023/915	Form	3-MCPD maximum level (µg/kg)	
		Original (Reg 2020/1322)	Current (Reg 2024/1003)
5.3.3.1	Powder	125	80
5.3.3.2	Liquid	15	12

* Infant formulae, follow-on formulae, food for special medical purposes intended for infants and young children, and young child formulae.


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Regulation (EU) [2023/915](#)

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