Maximum levels for T-2 and HT-2 toxins in foods

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Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/1038 as regards maximum levels of T-2 and HT-2 toxins in food

What is changing and why?

The EU has introduced maximum levels for T-2 and HT-2 in various foods. The new maximum levels are highlighted in Table 1.

This is because an evaluation by the European Food Safety Authority identified potential health risks, especially to children.

Oat grains show particularly high levels of these toxins and will require further monitoring.

Actions

Non-EU suppliers of cereal products should urgently evaluate current levels of T-2 and HT-2 toxins in these products to identify any potential non-compliance and strategies for reducing the presence of these toxins.

Agricultural practices to reduce the risk of contamination by T-2 and HT-2 toxins include crop rotation and selecting resistant crop varieties.

EU recommendations on the presence of T-2 and HT-2 toxins in cereals and cereal products can be found in Commission Recommendation 2013/165/EU.

Timeline

Date of entry into force: **1 July 2024**.

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 New maximum levels of T-2 and HT-2 toxins		
Entry in Annex I of Regulation 2023/915	Products	New level (µg/kg)
1.9.1	Unprocessed cereal grains except products listed in 1.9.1.1, 1.9.1.2, 1.9.1.3, and 1.9.1.4	50
1.9.1.1	Unprocessed malting barley grains	200
1.9.1.2	Unprocessed barley grains other than malting barley grains	150
1.9.1.3	Unprocessed maize grains and unprocessed durum wheat grains	100
1.9.1.4	Unprocessed oat grains with inedible husk	1250
1.9.2	Cereals placed on the market for the final consumer except products listed in 1.9.2.1 and 1.9.2.2	20
1.9.2.1	Oats placed on the market for the final consumer	100
1.9.2.2	Barley, maize, and durum wheat placed on the market for the final consumer	50
1.9.3	Milling products of cereals except products listed in 1.9.3.1 and 1.9.3.2	20
1.9.3.1	Milling products of oats (including oat bran)	100
1.9.3.2	Bran from cereals other than oats and milling products of maize	50
1.9.4	Bakery wares, pasta, cereal snacks and breakfast cereals except products listed in 1.9.5, 1.9.6, 1.9.7, and 1.9.8	20
1.9.5	Bakery wares containing at least 90% milling products of oats	100
1.9.6	Oat flakes	100
1.9.7	Breakfast cereals with specific compositions (listed in 1.9.7)	50
1.9.8	Breakfast cereals with specific compositions (listed in 1.9.8)	75
1.9.9	Baby food and processed cereal-based food for infants and young children	10
1.9.10	Food for special medical purposes intended for infants and young children	10
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Source: Regulation (EU) 2023/915 and (EU) 2024/1038

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