Maximum levels of inorganic arsenic in fish and seafood

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Commission Regulation (EU) 2025/1891 as regards maximum levels of inorganic arsenic in fish and other seafood

What is changing and why?

The European Union (EU) has adopted maximum levels for inorganic arsenic in fish and certain other seafood (see Table 1). This is because a risk assessment by the European Food Safety Authority has concluded that current exposure to inorganic arsenic continues to pose a risk of lung, bladder, and skin cancers for consumers.

Actions

Exporters should review existing levels of arsenic in fish and seafood intended for the EU market and, if levels exceed the EU's proposed limits, seek to identify and isolate sources of contamination. Information on recommended methods and performance criteria for analysis of arsenic in foodstuffs can be found in Regulation 2016/582.

Timeline

The Regulation enters into force on **7 October 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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Tables & Figures

Table 1 Maximum levels of arsenic (inorganic) in certain foods	
Foods	Maximum level (mg/kg wet weight)
Fish[1]	
Anglerfish, monkfish (*Lophius* spp.) Giant stargazer (*Kathetostoma giganteum*) Flatfishes (*Pleuronectiformes* spp.) Haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*) Herring (*Clupea* spp.) Rays (*Rajidae*) Shark (all species)	0.50
Crustaceans[2]	
Crabs and crab-like crustaceans (*Brachyura* and *Anomura*)[3] Prawns and shrimps (all species)	0.10
Langoustines (*Nephrops norvegicus*) Rock lobsters (*Jasus* spp.)	1.5
Other crustaceans	0.20
Molluscs	
Scallops[4]	0.10
Other bivalve molluscs	0.50
Cephalopods	0.050
1. Applies to muscle meat or whole fish, if intended to be eaten whole. 2. Muscle meat from appendages and abdomen (cephalothorax excluded). 3. Muscle meat from appendages only. 4. For *Pecten maximus*, adductor muscle and gonad only. AGRINFO www.agrinfo.eu	

Source: based on Annex to Regulation 2025/1891

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