

# Maximum levels of perfluoroalkyl substances in foods

*Published by AGRINFO on 30 Jan 2023; Revised 14 Nov 2023*

## Regulation

Regulation (EU) [2022/2388](#) on maximum levels of perfluoroalkyl substances in certain foods

## What is changing and why?

This Regulation introduces perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) as a new category of contaminants. It sets maximum levels for PFAS in eggs, fish, crustaceans, bivalve molluscs, meat, and animal products (details in Table 1). Limiting production and use of PFAS in food processing and packaging will help limit future dietary exposure.

## Actions

Exporters of dairy and animal products, fish and seafood, meat, and livestock should review existing levels of PFAS in their products. Where they exceed the EU's limits, they must take action to reduce those levels.

## Timeline

Maximum levels of PFAS apply since 1 January 2023.

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 Maximum levels of perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)						
Food category	Products	Maximum level (µg/kg wet weight)				
		PFOS	PFOA	PFNA	PFHxS	Max. sum <sup>[1]</sup>
Meat, edible offal	Bovine, pig, poultry meat	0.3	0.8	0.2	0.2	1.3
	Sheep meat	1.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.6
	Bovine, sheep, pig, poultry offal	6.0	0.7	0.4	0.5	8.0
	Game meat (except bear)	5.0	3.5	1.5	0.6	9.0
	Game offal (except bear)	50.0	25.0	45.0	3.0	50.0
Fishery products, bivalve molluscs	Muscle meat of Baltic herring, bonito, burbot, European sprat, flounder, grey mullet, horse mackerel, pike, plaice, sardine and pilchard, seabass, sea catfish, sea lamprey, tench, vendace, silverly lightfish, wild salmon and wild trout, wolf fish <sup>[2]</sup>	7.0	1.0	2.5	0.2	8.0
	Muscle meat of anchovy, barbel, bream, char, eel, pike-perch, perch, roach, smelt, whitefish ( <i>Coregonus</i> species) <sup>[2]</sup>	35.0	8.0	8.0	1.5	45
	Muscle meat of other fish (and of above species if intended for infants and young children)	2.0	0.2	0.5	0.2	2.0
	Crustaceans <sup>[3]</sup> and bivalve molluscs <sup>[4]</sup>	3.0	0.7	1.0	1.5	5.0
Eggs		1.0	0.3	0.7	0.3	1.7

1 The sum of the individual levels may not exceed this number, which is the maximum allowable level of all PFAS combined. PFOS, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid; PFOA, perfluorooctanoic acid; PFNA, perfluorononanoic acid; PFHxS, perfluorohexane sulfonic acid.

2 If not intended for infants and young children.

3 Muscle meat from appendages and abdomen (cephalothorax excluded); in case of crabs and crab-like crustaceans, muscle meat from appendages only. For canned crustaceans, maximum level applies to whole content of can.

4 If *Pecten maximus*, adductor muscle and gonad only.


  
 www.agrinfo.eu

Source: based on Annex to Regulation (EU) [2022/2388](#)

**Disclaimer:** *Under no circumstances shall COLEAD be liable for any loss, damage, liability or expense incurred or suffered that is claimed to have resulted from the use of information available on this website or any link to external sites. The use of the website is at the user's sole risk and responsibility. This information platform was created and maintained with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents do not, however, reflect the views of the European Union.*