Novel food: inulin-propionate ester

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EU authorises inulin-propionate ester as a novel food

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2026/1219 of 9 June 2026 authorising the placing on the market of inulin-propionate ester as a novel food and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2470

Update

The European Union (EU) has authorised the use of inulin-propionate ester as a novel food in cereal bars and fruit smoothies, under specified conditions of use.

Impacted products

Cereal bars, fruit smoothies

What is changing?

The EU has authorised the use of inulin-propionate ester as a novel food in cereal bars and fruit smoothies.

Only the company that applied for authorisation, Imperial College Hammersmith Campus, is authorised to put products containing inulin-propionate ester on the EU market over the next 5 years unless it gives permission or another applicant obtains a separate authorisation based on independent data.

Maximum authorised levels of inulin-propionate ester are 17 g per 100 g in cereal bars, and 3 g per 100 ml in fruit smoothies. The ingredient must be labelled on foods as “inulin-propionate ester”.

The Regulation also sets compositional, chemical, and microbiological specifications, including limits for:

- free propionic acid
- esterified propionate
- heavy metals such as arsenic, cadmium, lead, and mercury

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- microbiological contaminants such as Listeria spp., Escherichia coli, and Enterobacteriaceae.

Why?

The applicant Imperial College Hammersmith Campus requested permission to use inulin-propionate ester in cereal bars and fruit smoothies. The European Food Safety Authority has concluded that inulin-propionate ester is safe under the proposed conditions of use (EFSA 2025).

Timeline

This novel food may be placed on the EU market from **30 June 2026**.

Background

This Regulation updates the Annex to Regulation 2017/2470 which lists authorised novel foods (see the Union list of novel foods). For further information on the EU novel foods authorisation process, see Novel foods explained.

Resources

EFSA (2025) Safety of inulin-propionate ester as a novel food pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2015/2283. EFSA Journal, 23(7): e9534.

Sources

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2026/1219 authorising the placing on the market of inulin-propionate ester as a novel food

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