# Novel foods explained

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## Tables & Figures

**Table 1**
**Novel foods explained**

"Novel foods" means any food that:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| A. Was not used for human consumption to a significant degree within the EU before 15 May 1997 | *AND* | B. Falls under at least one of the categories below, where the food: |
| | | i. Has a new or intentionally modified molecular structure, where the structure was not used in a food before 15 May 1997 |
| | | ii. Consists of, is isolated or produced from microorganisms, fungi or algae |
| | | iii. Consists of, is isolated or produced from mineral origin |
| | | iv. Consists of, is isolated or produced from plants or their parts, except when the food has a history of safe use within the EU and is produced using:<br>(a) traditional propagating practices used prior to 15 May 1997; or<br>(b) non-traditional propagating practices, where those practices do not give rise to significant changes in the composition and structure of the food affecting its nutritional value, metabolism or level of answerable substances |
| | | v. Consists of, is isolated or produced from animals or their parts, except for animals obtained by traditional breeding practices used before 15 May 1997 and where the food from those animals has a history of safe use in the EU |
| | | vi. Consists of, is isolated or produced from cell culture or tissue culture derived from animals, plants, microorganisms, fungi or algae |
| | | vii. Results from a production process not used before 15 May 1997, which gives rise to significant changes in the composition or structure of the food, affecting its nutritional value, metabolism or level of undesirable substances |
| | | viii. Consists of engineered nanomaterials |
| | | ix. Is vitamins, minerals and other substances used in food supplements, fortified foods or the special categories of traditional/medical foods regulated by Regulation 609/2013, where:<br>(a) a production process used before 15 May 1997 has been applied<br>(b) they contain/consist of nanomaterials |
| | | x. Is a food supplement ingredient used in the EU before 15 May 1997, where it is intended to be used in foods other than food supplements |

Source: based on Regulation (EU) 2015/2283

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