

Plastic food contact materials

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Regulation

Draft Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 10/2011 on plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food and amending Regulation (EC) No 2023/2006 on good manufacturing practice for materials and articles intended to come into contact with food as regards recycled plastic and other matters related to quality control and manufacturing of plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food.

Draft Annex

What is changing and why?

The European Commission proposes the establishment of stricter purity criteria for plastic materials that come into contact with food. This includes extending purity requirements to cover substances that are manufactured from waste, and substances of natural origin. Manufacturers of plastic materials will be required to give more extensive information to food businesses. This includes new rules requiring manufacturers to include labelling or instructions on the maximum lifespan, a description of signs of deterioration, instructions on how to slow down deterioration, and instructions on use. Manufacturers will also have to provide more information in their declaration of compliance, including details on: all substances, impurities, and products present in the plastic materials; the maximum lifespan of plastic materials; and whether plastics have been manufactured from waste. Other new rules include conditions about the use of reprocessed plastic in plastic materials. The aim is to protect EU consumers from harmful substances that could pass from plastic materials into food.

Actions

Exporters of food products packaged in plastic should inform their packaging suppliers of these upcoming changes to rules on plastic food contact materials.

Timeline

Feedback on the proposal can be given via the Commission's Have Your Say webpage until **10 April 2024**. The new Regulation is expected to enter into force at approximately the end of 2024.

A transition period is foreseen: plastic materials must be in compliance with the new rules 18 months after the Regulation enters into force (approximately mid-2026).

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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