

Single-use plastic packaging for fresh produce

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[Call for data on unprocessed fresh produce packaging](#): European Food Safety Authority

What is changing and why?

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) is collecting information to prepare a scientific opinion on how to implement the ban of single-use plastic packaging for packaged fresh fruit, vegetables, and herbs of less than 1.5 kg.

This ban, which applies from 1 January 2030, will include (for example) nets, bags, trays, and containers and paper-based packaging containing more than 5% plastic.

The European Commission will publish detailed guidelines on how to apply this packaging ban by 12 February 2027. The EFSA scientific opinion will help the Commission prepare these guidelines.

The guidelines will include a non-exhaustive list of single-use plastic packaging that will still be allowed. At the present time, only two exemptions are planned:

- when plastic packaging is necessary to prevent loss of water or liquids, food safety risks, damage, or oxidation
- where there is no other way to separate organic and non-organic fruits and vegetables at the point of sale.

EFSA is now collecting information from EU and non-EU operators on how and why they use specific (plastic) packaging for fresh fruit, vegetables, and herbs < 1.5 kg via a [survey](#) until **30 January 2026**. For confidential information, feedback can be provided via EFSA's online e-submission system (access should be requested from EFSA) – see “Actions”.

Actions

Operators within and outside the EU can provide information to EFSA [via this survey](#) until **30 January 2026**. For confidential Information, feedback can be provided via EFSA's online e-submission system. Access must be requested from servicedesk@efsa.europa.eu -- see [User guide on Portalino](#) and [EFSA User Guide on Confidentiality](#) for details.

Timeline

The Commission guidelines will be made available by 12 February 2027.

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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