



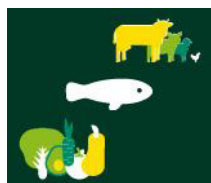
Welcome to Issue 44 of AGRINFO UPDATE. The European Union has published the new Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation, which replaces the current EU Packaging Directive. The first of the new requirements will come into force in August 2026, and could require significant adjustments for operators exporting packaged food to the EU. There are currently opportunities to provide feedback on proposed updates to the list of substances that can be used in organic production, and on maximum residue levels (MRLs) for ketoprofen in animal products. New Regulations coming into force cover changes to pesticide MRLs, food additives, and novel foods. For producers looking to apply for geographical indications, new rules relating to the registration process apply from January. We also provide overviews of recent RASFF notifications, plant health-related trade interceptions, and cases of imports not complying with EU law.

AGRINFO provides a regular information service keeping you up-to-date on evolving EU policies, regulations, and standards that have potential impacts on agricultural value chains in low- and middle-income countries. Find links below to our website at www.agrininfo.eu, where we give clear summaries about recent and upcoming changes, and actions that companies or authorities need to take to meet the new rules. If you need more information, eligible stakeholders can contact us via the [Ask AGRINFO](#) service*.

LATEST

Changes notified to World Trade Organization

Send feedback via your [National SPS or TBT notification authority](#) within the 60-day time limit



Organic production

EU updates list of substances that may be used in organic production. Feedback by **4 March 2025**; to WTO by **11 April 2025**

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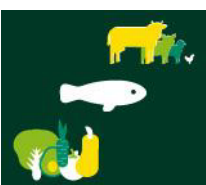


Official controls

EU proposes MRLs for ketoprofen in animal products (ruminants, pigs, horses). Feedback by **4 April 2025**

[Read](#)

New Regulations coming into force and application dates



Packaging review

EU publishes new packaging rules. Applies from **12 August 2026** (in stages)

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Pesticide MRLs

Applies from **19 August 2025**:

- EU lowers MRLs for [acetamiprid](#) with particular impact on bananas, currants, asparagus, lettuces, and spinach
- EU amends [zoxamide](#) MRLs with potential impacts on leaf vegetables, herbs, and edible flowers

Applies from **24 August 2025**:

- EU amends [fenbuconazole](#) MRLs, with impacts on apricots, plums, grapes, cranberries, bananas, sweet/bell peppers, cucurbits, sunflower seeds, peanuts, rapeseeds, barley, rye, and wheat
- EU amends MRLs for [penconazole](#), with impacts on apricots, peaches, and grapes

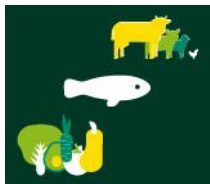


Geographical indications

EU revises geographical indications scheme protecting product names.

Applies from **1 January** and **18 January 2025**

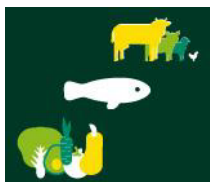
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Food additives

Applies from **19 February 2025**:

- EU bans the flavouring [4-methyl-2-phenylpent-2-enal](#)
- EU authorises [\(E\)-3-benzo\[1,3\]dioxol-5-yl-N,N-diphenyl-2-propenamide](#)



Novel foods

EU authorises *Tenebrio molitor* larvae powder and *Lemna minor* and *Lemna gibba* plants as novel foods, plus new uses of isomalto-oligosaccharide. Applies from **10 February** and **19 February 2025**

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Reports



Official controls

35 AGRINFO partner countries received RASFF notifications in December 2024

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Plant health

December 2024 saw 93 interceptions due to harmful organisms involving 23 AGRINFO partner countries, and 368 interceptions due to other non-conformities involving 44 partner countries

[Read](#)



Food safety controls

Latest EU overview of food found not to comply with EU law

[Read](#)

*The ASK AGRINFO service is available to subscribers working for public authorities, sector associations or farmer organisations in AGRINFO [target countries](#).



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AGRINFO keeps you up-to-date on evolving EU policies, regulations and standards impacting agri-food trade. It provides clear summaries for trade partners in low- and middle-income countries about the “what, why and when” of recent and upcoming changes, and actions needed to adjust to new rules.

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