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Welcome to Issue 70 of AGRINFO UPDATE. This issue highlights a new EU proposal to set maximum levels for mineral oil aromatic hydrocarbons in certain foods. There is an opportunity to provide feedback to the WTO on both this proposal and proposals to reduce pesticide MRLs on carbendazim, benomyl, and thiophanate-methyl. The EU is also seeking feedback on new livestock and animal welfare initiatives. Recently published regulations include new labelling and production rules for low-alcohol wines and new market access for processed fish from Cabo Verde.

This issue also includes a new explainer on the import requirements for packaging material in agri-food shipments.

LATEST

New Regulations or policies under development



EU livestock strategy

EU invites feedback to help shape its long-term livestock strategy – **“Have Your Say” by 10 April**

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Animal welfare

EU proposes introducing captive bolt device for stunning and slaughter of piglets, lambs, and kid goats – **“Have Your Say” by 8 April**

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Changes notified to World Trade Organization

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



Contaminants

EU to set maximum levels for mineral oil aromatic hydrocarbons in food.
Feedback by 10 May 2026

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Pesticide MRLs

EU proposes to amend the following MRLs. **Feedback by 6 April 2026**

- [carbendazim](#)
- [benomyl](#)
- [thiophanate-methyl](#)

New Regulations coming into force and application dates



Official controls

EU updates lists of animal products, by-products, and composite products subject to official controls at border control posts – applies from **1 October 2026**

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Labelling

EU simplifies labelling and production rules for marketing of low-alcohol wines – applies from **18 March 2026**

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Feed additives

EU authorises and reauthorises certain feed additives

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Tariffs & quotas

EU grants new quota for processed fish from Cabo Verde

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Reports on non-compliance



Official controls

- Latest EU [overview](#) of food found not to comply with EU law
- [RASFF](#) notifications in January 2026

Explainers



Wood packaging

EU import requirements for wood packaging material used in agri-food shipments

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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. This email contains links 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 in AGRINFO [target countries](#) can contact us via the [AGRINFO Helpdesk](#).



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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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