

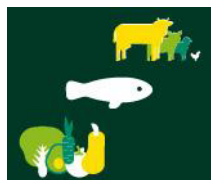


Welcome to Issue 23 of AGRINFO UPDATE. Among the latest developments, the EU is proposing for the first time to set maximum permitted levels of nickel in a variety of foods. This proposal has been notified to the World Trade Organization, together with proposals on the review of certain food additives, and withdrawal of approval of the pesticide acibenzolar-S-methyl. There are also possibilities to provide feedback into two policy areas: the introduction of stricter rules on plastic food contact materials, and an evaluation of animal health rules. AGRINFO UPDATE explains how to send feedback and highlights the deadlines. It is important for countries to give feedback on proposed changes to regulations, especially where they could impact trade. The EU has also moved a step closer towards finalising its rules preventing the sale of products made with forced labour.

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

New Regulations or policies under development



Food contact materials

Proposed new rules on plastic food contact materials: opportunity to provide [feedback to EU](#) – deadline **10 April 2024**

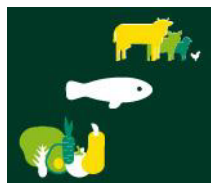
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Animal health

EU launches call for evidence for Animal Health Law evaluation – deadline **3 April 2024**

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Forced labour

EU reaches agreement on new rules to prohibit sales on the EU market of products made with forced labour

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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 proposes to set maximum levels for nickel in certain foods: [WTO SPS](#) consultation – deadline **4 May 2024**

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Food additives

Commission to review authorisations of certain food additives and set maximum use levels: [WTO SPS](#) consultation – deadline **30 April 2024**

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Pesticides

EU proposes to withdraw approval of the pesticide acibenzolar-S-methyl: [WTO TBT](#) consultation – deadline **30 April 2024**

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New Regulations coming into force and application dates



Tariffs & quotas

EU lowers import tariffs for husked rice. Applies from **7 March 2024**

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Novel foods

EU confirms that 20 algae species may be sold without pre-market authorisation

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Communications



Food safety

EU controls of non-EU exporting countries – 2024 programme

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Official controls

EU publishes regular overviews of suspected food fraud

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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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