



Welcome to Issue 26 of AGRINFO UPDATE. Important items in this issue are the opportunities to give feedback on new EU proposals on food additives, plant health, and official controls. Several new regulations are coming into force on food and feed safety, and on animal health. We also highlight useful communications from the European Commission including a report on unfair trading practices, and some new guidance documents.

This issue introduces a new monthly report on Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) notifications, where EU food safety authorities exchange information on food or feed that has been identified as a health risk due to contaminants. Notified food products may need to be recalled or destroyed. The report highlights where producers and exporters need to take action to ensure the safety of their products, and to avoid disruptions to trade.

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.agrinfo.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



Official controls

Draft Regulation proposing conditions for EU Member States to request advance notification of additional goods prior to arrival. **EU consultation** – feedback by **15 May 2024**

Read

Changes notified to World Trade Organization Send feedback via your **National SPS/TBT notification authority** within the 60-day time limit



Food additives

- EU proposes to ban the flavouring <u>benzene-1,2-diol</u>. WTO SPS consultation feedback until 2 July 2024
- EU to ban the use of smoke flavouring primary products



Plant health

EU proposes to amend its listing of plant pests and rules on the introduction of plants and plant products – feedback to EU by 28 May 2024, to WTO by 1 July 2024

Read



New Regulations coming into force and application dates



Food safety

Adaptations of some hygiene rules for meat, fish, milk, and eggs. Applies from **9 May 2024**

Read



Feed additives

EU authorises or reauthorises certain feed additives

Read



Feed safety

EU establishes maximum levels of cross-contamination of antimicrobial active substances in non-target feed, and methods of analysis. Applies from **20 May 2024**

Read



Animal health

Updated list of non-EU countries that can export animals and products of animal origin to the EU. Applies from **20 May 2024**

Read

Reports and guidance documents



Food and feed safety

38 AGRINFO partner countries received RASFF notifications in April 2024

Read



Official controls

Latest overview of foods found not to comply with EU law

Read



Food safety

EU updates guidance document on hygiene requirements for food of animal origin

Read



Trade

EU publishes report on unfair trading practices in the food supply chain

Read





Organic production

EU answers questions received on implementation of rules for organic beekeeping

Read

*The ASK AGRINFO service is available to subscribers working for public authorities, sector associations or farmer organisations in AGRINFO <u>target countries</u>.



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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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