

Government Chemist

Legislation review with developments in food and feed law

September 2026

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Summary

This is a summary of UK legislation in food and feed law and related scientific and regulatory issues for the period from 30 June to 28 September 2026. Other relevant technical updates are listed thereafter.

Primary GB legislation.

Tobacco and Vapes Act 2026 Act 2026, is the overarching legislation to enable a smoke-free UK. It sets a date of birth requirement for the minimum age of persons that tobacco products can be sold to, thereby increasing age of sale over time. It also extends bans for smoking in public places and places restrictions on marketing of vapes and e-cigarettes. The Act is further supported by secondary legislation.

Secondary GB legislation.

The Food Supplements Purity Criteria (Magnesium L-threonate monohydrate) (England) Regulations 2026 set purity criteria for the source of magnesium, magnesium L-threonate.

A number of regulations are introduced to support the aforementioned Tobacco and Vapes Act.

The Tobacco and Vapes Act 2026 (Commencement No. 1, Transitional and Saving Provisions) (Scotland) Regulations 2026

The Tobacco and Vapes (2026 Act) (Commencement No.1) Order (Northern Ireland) 2026

The Tobacco and Vapes Act 2026 (Age of Sale Notices and Consequential Amendments) (England) Regulations 2026

The REACH (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2026 make amendments to the assimilated REACH Regulations.

Other relevant articles.

The list of legislation affected by the proposed SPS agreement has been published by Defra.

The EU have published rules for plants obtained by new genomic techniques.

EU Legislation

Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/1890 of 29 July 2026 amending Regulation (EU) 2023/915 as regards maximum levels of the sum of furan, 2-methylfuran and 3-

methylfuran in processed cereal-based food for infants and young children and in baby food

Commission Regulation (EU) 2025/351 of 21 February 2025 amending Regulation (EU) No 10/2011 on plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food, amending Regulation (EU) 2022/1616 on recycled plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with foods, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 282/2008, and amending Regulation (EC) No 2023/2006 on good manufacturing practice for materials and articles intended to come into contact with food as regards recycled plastic and other matters related to quality control and manufacturing of plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food

Commission Regulation (EU) 2026/1825 of 29 July 2026 amending Regulation (EU) 2023/915 as regards maximum levels of 3-monochloropropanediol (3-MCPD), 3-MCPD fatty acid esters and glycidyl fatty acid esters in certain foods

Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/3190 of 19 December 2024 on the use of bisphenol A (BPA) and other bisphenols and bisphenol derivatives with harmonised classification for specific hazardous properties in certain materials and articles intended to come into contact with food, amending Regulation (EU) No 10/2011 and repealing Regulation (EU) 2018/213

Changes to **genetically modified organism** authorisations:

Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2026/2121 of 23 September 2026 renewing the authorisation for placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize MON 87460 pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2026/1419 of 29 June 2026 renewing the authorisation for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified soybean MON 87705 pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2026/1819 of 27 July 2026 amending a number of instruments as regards the authorisation holders and their representatives in the Union for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from certain genetically modified organisms

Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2026/2117 of 23 September 2026 authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified soybean MON 94313 pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2026/1417 of 29 June 2026 renewing the authorisation for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize NK603 × T25 pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2026/2112 of 23 September 2026 authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified soybean GMB151 × DAS-44406-6 pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2026/1443 of 29 June 2026 authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize DP202216 x NK603 x DAS-40278-9 and its sub-combinations DP202216 x NK603, DP202216 x DAS-40278-9, pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Amendments to **novel foods** legislation

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2026/1749 of 20 July 2026 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2470 as regards the conditions of use of the novel food galacto-oligosaccharide

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2026/1507 of 3 July 2026 authorising the placing on the market of Rhizomucor pusillus mycelium as a novel food and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2470

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2026/1427 of 2 July 2026 authorising the placing on the market of egg membrane hydrolysate (enzymatically produced) as a novel food and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2470

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2026/1306 of 11 June 2026 authorising the placing on the market of rhamnogalacturonan-I enriched carrot extract (cRG-I) as a novel food and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2470

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2026/1378 of 23 June 2026 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2470 as regards the conditions of use and the specifications of the novel food Jatropha curcas L. (edible variety) kernels

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2026/1219 of 9 June 2026 authorising the placing on the market of inulin-propionate ester as a novel food and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2470

Amendments to **maximum residue levels** can be found here.

Agriculture

Commission Recommendation (EU) 2026/1801 of 24 July 2026 on the presence of deoxynivalenol, zearalenone, ochratoxin A, T-2 and HT-2 toxins and fumonisins in feed

Amendments and additions to feed additive authorisations can be found here.

Other publications.

Updates to Standards.

The following British and International Standards are published and can be obtained from BSI.

BS EN 18196:2026 Algae and algae products. Determination of inorganic arsenic in algae and algae products by anion-exchange (HPLC-ICP-MS).

BS EN 18198:2026 Algae and algae products. Nitrogen content measurement and protein content calculation for micro- and microalgae.

BS EN 18204:2026 Algae and algae products. Determination of the phycocyanin content in Arthrospira (Spirulina).

BS EN 18207:2026 Algae and algae products. Determination of the uronic acids content of brown seaweed and alginate products.

BS EN 18210:2026 Algae and algae products. Determination of the fatty acid composition.

BS EN ISO 21415-2:2026 Wheat and wheat flour. Gluten content. Determination of wet gluten and gluten index by mechanical means.

EN 18210:2026 Algae and algae products. Determination of the fatty acid composition.

EN ISO 21415-2:2026 Wheat and wheat flour. Gluten content. Determination of wet gluten and gluten index by mechanical means (ISO 21415-2:2026).

ISO 20810:2026 Whole grain. Definition and technical criteria.

ISO 21415-2:2026 Wheat and wheat flour. Gluten content. Determination of wet gluten and gluten index by mechanical means.

ISO 23851:2026 Chicken tissue and eggs. Determination of marker residues of nicarbazin. Liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry method.

ISO 23883:2026 Meat, fish and their products. Determination of fluoroquinolone residue content. High-performance liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry method.

ISO/TS 21569-10:2026 Horizontal methods for molecular biomarker analysis. Methods of analysis for the detection of genetically modified organisms and derived products. Construct- and event-specific detection methods for genetically modified salmon expressing CS-GHc2 growth hormone.

PD CEN ISO/TS 21569-10:2026 Horizontal methods for molecular biomarker analysis. Methods of analysis for the detection of genetically modified organisms and derived products. Construct- and event-specific detection methods for genetically modified salmon expressing CS-GHc2 growth hormone.

EN ISO 22032:2026 Water quality. Determination of polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE) in sediment, suspended particulate matter and biota. Method using gas chromatography coupled with tandem mass spectrometry (GC-MS/MS) or with high resolution mass spectrometry (GC-HRMS) (ISO 22032:2026).

EN WI 00460034 Food authenticity. Guidance on the collection of reference samples for the construction of authenticity databases. Honey.

EN WI 00460035 Food authenticity. Guidance on the collection of reference samples for the construction of authenticity databases. Concepts, terms and definitions.

ISO 5565-2 Vanilla, Vanilla fragrans (Salisbury) Ames. Test methods.

ISO 26056 Olive oils and olive-pomace oils. Determination of the composition and content of sterols, triterpenic dialcohols and aliphatic alcohols by capillary column gas chromatography.

ISO 26668 Meat, poultry and fish. Rapid detection of chloramphenicol residue. Colloidal gold immunochromatographic assay(GICA).

ISO 26672 Meat, poultry, fish, eggs and their products. Determination of natamycin content. High-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC)method.

ISO 26673 Meat and fish. Determination of free flavor nucleotides and their degradants. High-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) method.

ISO/TS 21085:2026 Biotechnology. General requirements for the measurement of ultra-low concentration samples of target nucleic acid sequence.

PD ISO/TS 21085:2026 Biotechnology. General requirements for the measurement of ultra-low concentration samples of target nucleic acid sequence.

FAO Publications

No update.

The Guide is intended for use by all who are involved in the design, implementation or monitoring of school programmes and policies and most particularly, for those interested in taking legislative action (law making or law reform) to develop or strengthen national legislation to improve food security and nutrition in schools as well as community development.

In particular, the Guide is intended for:

- Policy makers
- Parliamentarians
- Legal advisers
- Law practitioners
- Advocates for improved food security and nutrition in schools.