

Specifications for the Import of Vegetable Oils

EU

Range of vegetable oils: olive oil, rapeseed oil, soya oil, palm kernel oil, palm oil, sunflower oil, safflower oil

In addition to the general requirements and the labeling requirements, see the following:

Extra virgin olive oil and other vegetable oils:

Control of contaminants in foodstuffs	EU/SE
Health control of foodstuffs of non-animal origin	EU/SE
Labeling for foodstuffs	EU/SE
Marketing requirements for dangerous chemicals, pesticides and biocides (Only required when intended to be used in plant protection products and/or biocides)	EU/SE
Voluntary - products from organic production	EU/SE

Other oils obtained from olives:

Control of contaminants in foodstuffs	EU/FR
Health control of foodstuffs of non-animal origin	EU/FR
Labeling for foodstuffs	EU/FR
Marketing requirements for dangerous chemicals, pesticides and biocides (Only required when intended to be used in plant protection products and/or biocides)	EU/FR
Marketing standards for olive oil	EU/FR
Voluntary - products from organic production	EU/FR

Palm Oils and Fractions:

Control of contaminants in foodstuffs	EU/FR
Health control of feeding stuffs of non-animal origin	EU/FR
Health control of foodstuffs of non-animal origin	EU/FR
Labelling for foodstuffs	EU/FR
Marketing requirements for dangerous chemicals, pesticides and biocides <i>(Only required when intended to be used in plant protection products and/or biocides)</i>	EU/FR
Voluntary - Products from organic production	EU/FR

Other useful links

EU Export Help Desk

http://exporthelp.europa.eu/thdapp/display.htm?page=rt%2f InputForm.html&docType=main&lang_uageld=en

Notes

- This document is only available in English.
- Direct access to the Official Journal is only possible for editions published after 1997.
- All legal references mentioned refer only to the original law. The use of the CELEX number provided (ex. CELEX32005R0396) will allow access to the basic legislation, all amendments and the consolidated version of the legislation whenever available on EUR-Lex (European Union law database).

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Control of contaminants in foodstuffs

In order to ensure a high level of consumer protection, imports into the European Union (EU) of foodstuffs should comply with EU legislation designed to ensure that food placed on the market is safe to eat and does not contain contaminants at levels which could threaten human health.

Contaminants may be present in food (including fruits and vegetables, meat, fish, cereals, spices, dairy products, etc.) as a result of the various stages of its production, packaging, transport or holding, or also might result from environmental contamination.

Council Regulation (EEC) No 315/93 of 8 February 1993 laying down Community procedures for contaminants in food (OJ L-37 13/02/1993) (CELEX 31993R0315), regulates the presence of such contaminants in foodstuffs in the EU:

- food containing a contaminant to an amount unacceptable from the public health viewpoint and in particular at a toxicological level, **shall not be placed on the EU market and will be rejected**
- contaminant levels shall be kept as low as can reasonably be achieved following recommended good working practices
- maximum levels may be set for certain contaminants in order to protect public health

Commission Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006 of 19 December 2006 setting maximum levels for certain contaminants in foodstuffs ([OJ L-364 20/12/2006](#)) (CELEX 32006R1881) sets maximum levels for certain contaminants in food to be placed on the EU market.

The foodstuffs indicated in the various sections of the [Annex](#) must not, when

placed on the market, contain higher contaminant levels than those specified in such sections:

- Section 1 – sets limits for nitrate in lettuce, spinach and baby foods.
- Section 2 – sets limits for various mycotoxins in, for example, groundnuts, nuts, dried fruit (including dried vine fruit) and products thereof, cereals and cereal products, milk, infant formulae, dietary foods intended for infants, spices, fruit juices, coffee products, wine, spirit drinks, cider, apple products, processed cereal based foods for infants and young children and baby foods.
- Section 3 – sets limits for various heavy metals in, for example, milk, meat, fish, cereals, vegetables, fruit and wines.
- Section 4 – sets limits for 3-MCPD in Hydrolysed vegetable protein and soy sauce.
- Section 5 – sets limits for dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs in meat, fish, milk, eggs, oils and fats.
- Section 6 – sets limits for PAHs in oils and fats, smoked meats, smoked fish, fish, crustaceans and bivalve molluscs, infant foods.

The website of Directorate General for Health and Consumers provides more detailed **information on the contaminants**, discussed and regulated in the EU.

Special conditions for certain foodstuffs imported from certain third countries

Community measures have been taken for certain contaminants imported from specific third countries, in particular as regards aflatoxins, melamine, mineral oil and pentachlorophenol and dioxins. More **information on these measures** can be found on the website of Directorate General for Health and Consumers.

Legislation

- Council Regulation (EEC) No 315/93 of 8 February 1993 laying down Community procedures for contaminants in food (OJ L-37 13/02/1993) (CELEX 31993R0315)
- Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006 of 19 December 2006 setting maximum levels for certain contaminants in foodstuffs (**OJ L-364 20/12/2006**) (CELEX 32006R1881)

Other information sources

- Directorate General for Health and Consumers - Factsheet on Food Contaminants: http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/chemicalsafety/contaminants/fs_contaminants_final_web_en.pdf
- Centre for the promotion of imports from developing countries (CBI): <http://www.cbi.eu/marketinfo/cbi/?action=showDetails&id=5142>
- European Food Safety Authority (EFSA): <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/>

Additional information for Sweden

Competent authority / competent body

Livsmedelsverket (National Food Administration)
Kontrollavdelning (Food Control Department)

Hamnesplanaden 5
Box 622
SE-751 26 Uppsala
Tel: (+46) 18 17 55 00
Fax: (+46) 18 10 58 48
E-mail: livsmedelsverket@slv.se
Website: <http://www.slv.se>

Other information sources

- *Jordbruksverket* (Swedish Board of Agriculture): <http://www.sjv.se>
- *Kemikaleinspektionen*: <http://www.kemi.se>

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