Food Law Alert 20 September 2013

Hot Topics
The Food Additives, Flavourings, Enzymes and Extraction Solvents (England) Regulations 2013
EC Draft Proposal on Country of Origin Meat Labelling
FSA Research on Allergens

Food Law Alert is a Campden BRI Member Service providing prompt and succinct news of legislative developments. Whenever possible, links are given to relevant websites from where further information is available. In many cases entire documents can be downloaded. Normally, documents are also available from Campden BRI.

Requests should be e-mailed to: legislation@campdenbri.co.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS
Introduction to Food Law 8-9 October 2013
Campden BRI’s Annual Food Labelling Seminar 3 December 2013

FORTHCOMING EVENTS
ADDITIVES
Other Additives - The Food Additives, Flavourings, Enzymes and Extraction Solvents (England) Regulations 2013

ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE
Defra CINs – Customer Information Notes
Poultry - Avian Influenza in Italy
Miscellaneous - Amendment to Veterinary Certification Requirements

COMMITTEES AND AGENCIES
UK
FSA – September Board Meeting
EU
EFSA – World Veterinary Congress
SCFCAH – Animal Health and Animal Welfare August Meeting

CONSUMER PROTECTION
Advertising – Adjudications

CONTAMINANTS
Miscellaneous - The Contaminants in Food (England) Regulations 2013

DIET AND HEALTH
Better Hospital Food Standards Campaign
Official Control – FVO Mission Report Published
Official Control – Traceability and use of Shellfish
Registration Document
Official Control – Official Control Bodies in Norway
Miscellaneous - Co-ordination of Regulatory Enforcement (Enforcement Action) (Amendment) Order 2013

ENVIRONMENT
Pollution Prevention – Consultation on Clean Air Act 1993
Waste – Carrier Bag Charges
Waste – Packaging (Essential Requirements) (Amendment) Regulations 2013

FEEDINGSTUFFS
Additives – EU Register

GENERAL
Technical Rules – Draft Notifications
Miscellaneous – IPO Conference on ‘fake food’

HEALTH & SAFETY
Hazardous Substances – Chemical Classification Update

HYGIENE
Microbiological Criteria – FVO Mission Reports
Microbiological Criteria – Outbreak of Salmonella Typhimurium
Microbiological Criteria – Outbreak of E.coli O157 in Watercress
Products of Animal Origin – FVO Mission Reports
Miscellaneous - Update on the Street Spice Festival
Outbreak associated with Curry Leaves

LABELLING
Allergens – FSA Research on Allergens
Claims – Authorisation of Health Claims
Claims – EFSA Meeting on Human Studies used for Scientific Substantiation of Health Claims
Miscellaneous – EC Draft Proposal on Country of Origin Meat Labelling
Protected Names – New Applications, Registrations and Amendments

NOVEL FOODS
GMOs - International Scientific Workshop

PESTICIDES
Plant Protection Products – Amendment for the Active Substance Ametocardin
Plant Protection Products - Peer Reviews of Active Substances
Plant Protection Products - EFSA’s Guidance
Document on the Risk Assessment of Plant Protection Products on Bees
Residues – EFSA Monitoring Data on Didecyldimethylammonium Chloride and Benzalkonium Chloride
Residues – Changes and Proposals on MRLs

PRODUCTS
Foods for Particular Nutritional Uses – Competent Authorities list
Seeds & Plants – FVO Mission Report Published
Soft Drinks, Bottled Water and Fruit Juice
## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Introduction to Food Law 8-9 October 2013

This two-day course provides a wide-ranging introduction to the EU and British law controlling food and drink manufacture and marketing. In a series of interactive workshops and practicals, delegates will learn about how the legislation is developed, applied and enforced.

Twelve CPD hours are available for members of the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health. Delegates will receive a month’s trial subscription to Campden BRI’s electronic publication *eFLaN* as part of the course materials (this retails at £500 for members and £750 for non-members).

For further details, course content and how to register visit:  
[http://www.campden.co.uk/training/foodlaw-intro.htm](http://www.campden.co.uk/training/foodlaw-intro.htm)

### Campden BRI’s Annual Food Labelling Seminar 3 December 2013

When the Food Information to Consumers Regulation (FIC) comes into force in December 2014 it will fundamentally affect the labelling of food and drink within the EU. A clear understanding of these changes will minimise their impact and enable manufacturers and enforcers alike to make a smooth transition to the new rules.

For its 11th Annual Food Labelling Seminar, Campden BRI has once again assembled a team of experts to explain and discuss the significance and commercial implications of key changes to labelling legislation and related initiatives including:

- Retailers perspective on meeting the challenges of FIC implementation
- Latest updates on FIC Country of Origin labelling
- Food Authenticity, Monitoring and Policy
- Health claims and Marketing strategies

**COST PER DELEGATE:** £395+VAT member, £495+VAT non-member

For further details on the programme and how to register visit:  

Please note this popular seminar is limited to 100 delegates and last year’s corresponding event quickly became fully booked: early registration is recommended.
ADDITIVES

Other Additives - The Food Additives, Flavourings, Enzymes and Extraction Solvents (England) Regulations 2013

The Food Additives, Flavourings, Enzymes and Extraction Solvents (England) Regulations 2013, SI 2013 No 2210 were made on 4 September 2013 and enter into force on 31 October 2013.


These Regulations also implement Directive 2009/32/EC on extraction solvents used in the production of foodstuffs and food ingredients.

These Regulations revoke, in whole or in part, the following Regulations:

- The Extraction Solvents in Food Regulations 1993;
- The Smoke Flavourings (England) Regulations 2005;
- The Food (Suspension of the Use of E128 Red 2G Food Colour) (England) Regulations 2007;
- The Food Enzymes Regulations 2009;
- The Food Additives (England) Regulations 2009;

19694

ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

Defra CINs – Customer Information Notes

Defra has issued the following Official Veterinary Surgeons Note (OVS) on its webpages

OVS Note 2013/22  Updated list of signatories for fishery products from the Russian Federation

19695

Poultry - Avian Influenza in Italy

Commission Implementing Decision 2013/453/EU amending Implementing Decision 2013/443/EU concerning certain protective measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza of the subtype H7N7 in Italy was published in the Official Journal of the EU L244/34, 13/09/2013.

The Decision lays down provisions for protection and surveillance zones to be established around restricted zones following an initial outbreak in the province of Ferrara in the Region Emilia-Romagna, then identified in a second outbreak in the province of Bologna in the Region of Emilia-Romagna.

19696
Miscellaneous - Amendment to Veterinary Certification Requirements


In Part 2 of Annex I to Commission Regulation (EU) No 206/2010, the model veterinary certificate "OVI-X" is replaced by the text in the Annex to this Regulation. A transitional period is provided until 31 December 2013 for products accompanied by the model veterinary certificate OVI-X provided that the certificates were completed and signed before 1 December 2013. This Regulation enters into force on 25 September 2013.

Miscellaneous – Corrigendum to Regulation 780/2013


COMMITTEES AND AGENCIES

UK

FSA – September Board Meeting

The Food Standards Agency (FSA) announced on 13 September 2013 that the September 2013 Board meeting was available in video-on-demand format and as a podcast. The agenda included discussions on the FSA revised strategic approach to Campylobacter reduction and the development of the incident contingency plan.

EU

EFSA – World Veterinary Congress

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) published on its website on 17 September 2013 the contribution it will make at the 31st World Veterinary Congress in Prague on 20 September.

EFSA is contributing to the 31st World Veterinary Congress with a Scientific Colloquium on preparedness in animal health: "Risk assessment - thinking out of the box" and a Satellite Symposium: "Assessing risks in animal health requires preparedness".

SCFCAH – Animal Health and Animal Welfare August Meeting

The Summary Report of the meeting of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health (SCFCAH) section on Animal Health and Animal Welfare, held on 26 August 2013, has been published.
Amongst other items, the Committee discussed:

- Information from Italy on the situation as regards highly pathogenic avian influenza of the H7N7 subtype in poultry;
- Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2013/439/EU concerning certain protective measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza of the subtype H7N7 in Italy.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Advertising – Adjudications

The Advertising Standards Authority (ASA) published on 4 September 2013 an adjudication concerning an advertisement in the national press for a major retailer in the UK.

The complainants believed that the advertisement implied that there were issues with meat standards across the whole food industry and that it unfairly denigrated food suppliers who had not been implicated in the supply of mislabelled meat products.

The ASA upheld the complaint on “It’s about the whole food industry” adding that consumers would understand the advert referenced all food retailers and suppliers, rather than just the major retailer alone, but dismissed the second claim that the advert was denigratory to other retailers. The ASA concluded that the advert could not appear again in the current form.

The ASA published on 28 August 2013 an adjudication concerning a take-away menu from a Pizza Restaurant in Darlington.

The restaurant’s menu featured text which stated ‘The very first authentic wood-fired Italian pizza oven in Darlington’. The complainant challenged whether the claim was misleading and could be substantiated. The ASA upheld the complaint and concluded that the advert could not appear again in the current form.

CONTAMINANTS

Miscellaneous - The Contaminants in Food (England) Regulations 2013

The Contaminants in Food (England) Regulations 2013, SI 2013 No 2196 were made on 3 September 2013 and enter into force on 31 October 2013.

The Regulations revoke and re-enact with changes the Contaminants in Food (England) Regulations 2010 and make provision for:

- the continued implementation of Directive 76/621/EEC relating to the fixing of the maximum level of erucic acid in oils and fats intended as such for human consumption and in foodstuffs containing added oils or fats and of Commission Directive 80/891/EEC relating to the Community method of analysis for determining the erucic acid content in oils and fats intended to be used as such for human consumption and foodstuffs containing added oils or fats; and
These Regulations also provide for the execution and enforcement of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 124/2009 which concerns maximum permitted levels for certain feed additives that may, in specified circumstances, occur in food.

DIET AND HEALTH

Better Hospital Food Standards Campaign

The Department of Health published on 2 September 2013, its response to the campaign for better hospital foods standards.

The project identified 8 fundamental principles that patients should expect from hospital food. Most important amongst them was that hospitals should adopt government buying standards for food and catering services (Food GBS) where practical and supported by procurement practices. The government’s preferred approach remains to encourage the adoption of Food GBS within the NHS through incentives, signposting and assessments.

ENFORCEMENT

Official Control – FVO Mission Report Published

The European Commission has published the following mission report:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Date of Mission</th>
<th>Purpose of Mission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>20 to 24 May 2013</td>
<td>To evaluate the use of the TRACES system</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The Commission proposal to amend Annex I to de-list watermelon from Brazil and tomatoes from Turkey was endorsed at the meeting of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health on 11 September 2013. The proposals are expected to enter into force on 1 October.

Official Control – Traceability and use of Shellfish Registration Document

The FSA published a letter on 3 September 2013 to both Heads of Environmental Health Services and Directors of Trading Standards Services in England regarding traceability and use of shellfish registration documents.
This reminds local authorities about the requirement to conduct traceability checks of live bivalve molluscs (LBMs) at food establishments during routine inspections/interventions. Appropriate checks should be carried out to ensure that, where applicable, LBMs are supplied with the required documentation (registration documents or identification marked labels).

19707

Official Control – Official Control Bodies in Norway

The European Commission has updated the list of Official Control bodies in Norway.

19708

Miscellaneous - The Co-ordination of Regulatory Enforcement (Enforcement Action) (Amendment) Order 2013

The Co-ordination of Regulatory Enforcement (Enforcement Action) (Amendment) Order 2013, SI 2013 No 2286 was made on 8 September 2013 and will enter into force on 1 October 2013.

The order amends the 2009 Order by adding a number of statutory enforcement actions under the Single Use Carrier Bags Charge (Wales) Regulations 2010 and the Fish Labelling Regulations 2013 to the list of actions which are to be regarded as "enforcement actions" for the purposes of Part 2 of the Act. This is connected to amendments made to Schedule 3 of the Act by the Regulatory Enforcement and Sanctions Act 2008 (Amendment to Schedule 3) Order 2013, which extend the coverage of Part 2 of the Act so that a primary authority may be nominated in relation to (for example) the enforcement of the requirements of this legislation as it affects businesses operating in the areas of more than one local authority.

19709

ENVIRONMENT

Pollution Prevention – Consultation on Clean Air Act 1993

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) published on 4 September 2013 its open consultation on the Clean Air Act 1993. The purpose is to seek views on Defra’s evidence base and to provide Defra with additional evidence based on stakeholders experience and knowledge of the Clean Air Act 1993.

Comments are invited by 29 October 2013.

19710

Waste – Carrier Bag Charges

Defra together with the Deputy Prime Minister’s Office published on 14 September 2013 proposals for charging for single use carrier bags under the policy of reducing and managing waste.

It’s expected that the charging scheme in England will follow the Welsh model in which retailers voluntarily give profits to charity. Small businesses with fewer than 250 employees will be exempt.

19711

Waste – Packaging (Essential Requirements) (Amendment) Regulations 2013

The Packaging (Essential Requirements) (Amendment) Regulations 2013, SI 2013 No 2212 were made on 2 September 2013 and enter into force on 30 September 2013.
These Regulations amend the Packaging (Essential Requirements) Regulations 2003. The 2003 Regulations implement Articles 9 and 11 of Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste which relate to the essential requirements to be satisfied by packaging. These Regulations amend the definition of “packaging”, Schedule 5 set outs the revised list of illustrative examples of packaging.

**FEEDINGSTUFFS**

**Additives – EU Register**

The European Commission published on its website, an updated list of additives for use in animal nutrition. Revision 170 of the Register was released on 3 September 2013.

**GENERAL**

**Technical Rules – Draft Notifications**

The European Commission has published notifications of the following draft national rules as summarised below:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Slovakia</strong></td>
<td>Foodstuffs</td>
<td>Draft Decree relating to processed fruit and vegetables, edible mushrooms, oil plants, dry shell fruits, potatoes and products made from these.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Slovakia     | Foodstuffs               | Draft decree relating to flavouring products, edible salt, dehydrated foods, bouillons and flavourings | Slovakica
| Slovakika    | Foodstuffs               | Draft Decree relating to bakery products, confectionery products and pasta. |
| Slovakika    | Foodstuffs               | Draft Decree relating to edible cereals and milled cereal products.      |
| Slovakika    | Foodstuffs               | Draft regulations relating to beverages                                  |
| Slovakika    | Foodstuffs               | Draft regulation relating to milk products                              |
| Slovakika    | Foodstuffs               | Draft regulation relating to mayonnaise and mayonnaise products          |
| Poland       | Food for School Meals    | Directive 2000/13/EC relating to the labelling, presentation and advertising of foodstuffs amendment |
| The Netherlands | Weight & quantity | Decree laying down rules for the implementation of |
### Miscellaneous – IPO Conference on ‘fake food’

The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), together with the FSA and the Intellectual Property Office (IPO), issued on 12 September 2013 a [Press release](#) advising that the IPO will host an international conference on 20 September to set out the UK’s plans to support the Interpo/Europol Operation Opson, set up in 2011 to tackle the problem of ‘fake food’.

The event will bring together more than 30 countries and key enforcement agencies to focus on how to tackle the growing issue of fake and substandard food and drink which covers both ‘fake’ branding of products as well foodstuffs not subject to proper public health controls.

### Miscellaneous - Priorities for the Lithuanian Presidency

FoodDrinkEurope [published](#) on 2 September 2013 the priorities of Europe’s food manufacturers for the Lithuanian Presidency of the Council of the EU, which runs until 31 December of this year.

They cover four key policy areas, namely
- improving the industry’s competitiveness;
- innovating for consumers and to drive growth;
- promoting balanced diets and healthy lifestyles; and
- encouraging a more sustainable business model.

FoodDrinkEurope calls on the Lithuanian Presidency to focus on a set of issues that are important in boosting the competitiveness of Europe’s food and drink manufacturers.

### HEALTH & SAFETY

#### Hazardous Substances – Chemical Classification Update

The Health & Safety Executive (HSE) has [updated](#) its website for the chemical classification of substances.

The chemical classification explains the laws on classification, the legal and details of where to obtain further advice.
HYGIENE

Microbiological Criteria – FVO Mission Reports

The European Commission has published the following mission reports:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Date of Mission</th>
<th>Purpose of Mission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>8 to 17 May 2013</td>
<td>To assess the systems in place to control microbiological contamination in raspberries intended for export to the European Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>22 April to 3 May 2013</td>
<td>To evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of egg products intended for export to the European Union</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Microbiological Criteria – Outbreak of *Salmonella Typhimurium*

The FSA published a press release on 13 September 2013 regarding an outbreak of an unusual type of salmonella infection, *Salmonella Typhimurium*, across England and Wales, which is being investigated by Public Health England, Public Health Wales, the FSA and local authority environmental health officers.

The outbreak was first detected in Wales in August and centred mainly in North Wales (Conwy and Gwynedd), with additional clusters being investigated in England in the Thames Valley, Leeds, Cumbria and Stoke-on-Trent areas. Investigations have been carried out into possible links between the cases. Consumption of cooked ham from small independent butchers has been identified as a potential common link.

Microbiological Criteria – Outbreak of *E.coli O157* in Watercress

The FSA published on 12 September 2013 a Product Recall Information Notice concerning an *E.coli* 0157 outbreak in watercress supplied by a major UK retailer. The UK retailer has recalled all of its bagged watercress and salads containing watercress as a precautionary measure.

Products of Animal Origin – FVO Mission Reports

The European Commission has published the following mission reports:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Date of Mission</th>
<th>Purpose of Mission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>27 May to 7 June 2013</td>
<td>To evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fishery products intended for export to the European union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>26 November to 7 December 2012</td>
<td>To evaluate the follow-up action taken by the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Date Range</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malta</td>
<td>22-31 January 2013</td>
<td>To evaluate the follow-up action taken by the competent authorities with regard to official controls related to the safety of food of animal origin, in particular meat, milk and their products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>21 January to 01 February 2013</td>
<td>To evaluate the follow-up action taken by the competent authorities with regard to official controls related to the safety of food of animal origin, in particular meat, milk and their products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macedonia, The former Yugoslav Republic of</td>
<td>6 to 15 March 2013</td>
<td>To evaluate the operation of controls over the production of red meat, heat-treated milk and dairy products destined for export to the European Union</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Miscellaneous - Update on the Street Spice Festival Outbreak associated with Curry Leaves**

The FSA issued a letter on 6 September 2013 to Heads of Environmental Health Services in England updating them on the Street Spice festival food poisoning outbreak associated with curry leaves.

The outbreak in Newcastle affected more than 400 people. Of those reporting symptoms, there were 29 confirmed human cases of *Salmonella* and investigations indicate that contamination with other bacteria such as *E. coli* and *Shigella* may also have caused many of the cases.

The FSA has been working closely with Public Health England (PHE) and Newcastle City Council as part of the Outbreak Control Team (OCT) set up to investigate this outbreak and as a result, PHE in liaison with the FSA is planning to carry out a national survey of imported curry leaves (and similar herbs) in the next 3-6 months.

**LABELLING**

**Allergens – FSA Research on Allergens**

The FSA published on 12 September 2013 findings from research into the provision of information on food allergens used as ingredients on foods that are not pre-packed.

The survey involved telephone surveys of 1,666 UK food businesses and follow-up in-depth telephone interviews with a subset of 25 food businesses selling foods that had not been prepacked (for example, foods sold in restaurants, sandwich shops, hotels, bakers, delicatessens, contract caterers). The study found that:
• 20% of the food businesses were aware of the new EU FIC allergen requirements
• 60% of food businesses approached already had a policy on the provision of allergen information

Formal policies were more common among restaurant chains, large businesses and institutions. Businesses were more likely to provide allergen information on nuts and gluten. Focus groups with businesses are being held to identify potential issues that may arise when they try to comply with the new requirements. The FSA will also be looking at the types of tools they can provide to these businesses to help them comply with the new requirements.

The survey will be repeated in 2015/2016 to establish how practices have changed once the new allergen rules under Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 have been applied.

19723

Claims – Authorisation of Health Claims

Commission Regulation 2013/851/EU of 3 September 2013 authorising certain health claims made on foods, other than those referring to the reduction of disease risk and to children's development and health and amending Regulation (EU) No 432/2012 was published in the Official Journal of the EU, L235/2, 4/09/2013.

The Regulation includes permitted health claims for substances relating to the maintenance of tooth mineralisation, blood glucose concentration and the elasticity of blood vessels.

The Regulation comes into force on 24 September 2013.

19724

Claims – EFSA Meeting on Human Studies used for Scientific Substantiation of Health Claims

EFSA published on 2 September 2013 notification of a forthcoming meeting to be held on 20 November 2013 with scientists to discuss the reporting of human studies submitted for the scientific substantiation of health claims.

The Authority’s health and nutrition experts have noted that the reporting of human studies in health claims varies considerably – in areas such as design, methodology, use of statistics and results – which can lead to delays in the review process or preclude a complete scientific evaluation. Standardised reporting would benefit both EFSA and its stakeholders. Scientists wishing to attend should register by 30 September.

19725

Miscellaneous – EC Draft Proposal on Country of Origin Meat Labelling

Defra wrote to interested parties on 11 September 2013 about draft EU proposals concerning mandatory country of origin labeling provisions for meat required under Article 26 of Regulation (EU) No. 1169/2011.

The internal Commission draft has not yet been formally adopted. Defra expects the formal proposal to be published within the next 2-3 weeks.
The draft proposal currently would require meat to be labelled with:

- the last Member State (MS) or third country of rearing as ‘Reared in: name of MS or third country’;
- the MS or third country of slaughter as ‘Slaughtered in MS or third country’;
- a reference code for the link between the meat and the animal or group of animals;
- where both rearing and slaughter took place in the same MS or third country, origin can be indicated as ‘Reared and Slaughtered in:..’;
- where several cuts of meat are included in the same pack but from animals reared and slaughtered in different MS or third countries, the list of the MS or third countries should be provided.

Defra states that there are a number of issues arising from the proposed implementing regulation where clarification is needed, including further options for businesses who wish to volunteer information about provenance, the implications of the new proposed reference code and requiring the place of slaughter. Comments were requested by 18 September.

For further information, please contact: legislation@campdenbri.co.uk

**19726**

**Miscellaneous – FoodDrinkEurope FIC Guidance**

FoodDrinkEurope and EuroCommerce published on 12 September 2013 their guidance to help facilitate a common understanding between European retailers and manufacturers on the requirements of EU labelling rules which will enter into force later this year, under Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011.

The guidance covers, amongst other topics, nutrition, origin & allergen labelling, and legibility.

**19727**

**Protected Names – New Applications, Registrations and Amendments**

Information concerning the following applications, registrations and amendments of food names has been published in the Official Journal of the EU:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Notification</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pastel de Tentúgal</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>PGI</td>
<td>Pastry</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mont d'Or/Vacherin du Haut-Doubs</td>
<td>Amendment</td>
<td>PDO</td>
<td>Cheese</td>
<td>France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nocciola del Piemonte/Nocciola Piemonte</td>
<td>Amendment</td>
<td>PGI</td>
<td>Hazelnut</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casatella Trevigiana</td>
<td>Amendment</td>
<td>PDO</td>
<td>Cheese</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garbanzo de Escacena</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>PGI</td>
<td>Chick Pea</td>
<td>Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salame Brianza</td>
<td>Amendment</td>
<td>PDO</td>
<td>Salami</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayerische Breze/Bayerische Brezn/Bayerische Brez'n/Bayerische Brezel</td>
<td>Application</td>
<td>PGI</td>
<td>Pastry</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOVEL FOODS

GMOs - International Scientific Workshop

EFSA published in September 2013, an event report from the International scientific Workshop that was held in November 2012.

The Netherlands Commission on Genetic Modification (COGEM) and EFSA jointly organised an international scientific workshop on 29 and 30 November 2012 to review the latest scientific insights on *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) proteins, their effects on non-target organisms and the valued ecosystem services they provide, as well as the assessment of such effects.

PESTICIDES

Plant Protection Products – Amendment for the Active Substance Amezoctradin


The Regulation amends entries for the impurities amitrole and o-xylene.

Plant Protection Products - Peer Reviews of Active Substances

EFSA has published the following peer reviews:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Active Substance</th>
<th>Date of Publication</th>
<th>Representative Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aminopyralid</td>
<td>11 September 2013</td>
<td>herbicide on grassland when applied in spring and summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flubendiamide</td>
<td>09 September 2013</td>
<td>Insecticide on tomatoes and bell pepper grown in permanent glasshouse structures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenacil</td>
<td>12 September 2013</td>
<td>Herbicide on sugar beet and</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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19731

EFSA published on 9 September 2013 a news story, following a workshop with pesticide specialists from Member States, industry and consumer groups on the Authority’s Guidance Document on the Risk Assessment of Plant Protection Products on Bees.

The workshop, which was organised by EFSA’s Pesticides Unit and Applications Desk Unit, which was attended by more than 50 delegates, as well as a representative from the European Commission, was also an opportunity for an open dialogue on the issues raised during the public consultations on the draft Guidance Document.

Residues – EFSA Monitoring Data on Didecyldimethylammonium Chloride and Benzalkonium Chloride

EFSA published on 6 September 2013 a Report regarding the evaluation of monitoring data on residues of didecyldimethylammonium chloride (DDAC) and benzalkonium chloride (BAC).

An ad-hoc request was received from the European Commission to collect monitoring data on residues of DDAC and BAC in food samples and to provide a statistical evaluation of the collected data according to the guidelines of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health (section pesticides residues) and with a view to a possible future exposure assessment and setting of temporary Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs).

Residues – Changes and Proposals on MRLs

The HSE announced on 12 September 2013 that its web page concerning proposals for MRLs under discussion or pending publication had been updated. Also its webpage concerning recently published Commission Regulations under Regulation 396/2005 had been updated on 4 September. Proposals to change MRLs are based on EFSA Opinions and are subject to votes in the EU SCFCAH (Residues Section).

PRODUCTS

Foods for Particular Nutritional Uses – Competent Authorities list

Seeds & Plants – FVO Mission Report Published

The European Commission has published the following mission report:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>8 to 12 October 2012</td>
<td>To evaluate the plant health controls in the potato sector</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

19737

Soft Drinks, Bottled Water and Fruit Juice

The European Commission published on 6 September 2013 updated lists of natural mineral waters officially recognised by the Member States of the EU and EEA, in accordance with Article 1 of Directive 2009/54/EC on the exploitation and marketing of natural mineral waters.

19738