NOTIFICATION

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| **1.** | **Notifying Member:** European Union  **If applicable, name of local government involved:** |
| **2.** | **Agency responsible:** European Commission, Health and Food Safety Directorate-General |
| **3.** | **Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable):** Food products |
| **4.** | **Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:**  **[****X] All trading partners**  **[ ]** **Specific regions or countries:** |
| **5.** | **Title of the notified document:** Draft Commission Regulation amending the Annex to Commission Regulation (EU) No 231/2012 laying down specifications for food additives listed in Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards specifications for certain sorbitan esters (E 491 Sorbitan monostearate, E 492 Sorbitan tristearate and E 495 Sorbitan monopalmitate) (Text with EEA relevance). **Language(s):** English. **Number of pages:** 5  <https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2018/SPS/EEC/18_2241_00_e.pdf>  <https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2018/SPS/EEC/18_2241_01_e.pdf> |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** The text amends the specifications for E 491 Sorbitan monostearate, E 492 Sorbitan tristearate and E 495 Sorbitan monopalmitate as a follow-up to an application and safety evaluation performed by EFSA. The Annex to Regulation (EU) No 231/2012 (specifications for food additives) is amended accordingly. |
| **7.** | **Objective and rationale: [****X] food safety, [ ]****animal health, [ ]****plant protection, [ ]****protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [ ]****protect territory from other damage from pests.** |
| **8.** | **Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:**  **[****X] Codex Alimentarius Commission *(e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text)*:**Codex General Standard For Food Additives – Codex Stan 192-1995  **[ ]** **World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) *(e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number)*:**  **[ ]** **International Plant Protection Convention *(e.g. ISPM number)*:**  **[ ]** **None**  **Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?**  **[ ]** **Yes [****X] No**  **If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:** The draft removes the congealing range from the specifications and introduces another analytical method, gas chromatography, whereas the other parameters remain the same. |
| **9.** | **Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:** Scientific Opinion on the re-evaluation of sorbitan monostearate (E 491), sorbitan tristearate (E 492), sorbitan monolaurate (E 493), sorbitan monooleate (E 494) and sorbitan monopalmitate (E 495) when used as food additives. EFSA Journal 2017;15(5):4788, 56 pp.  [https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/4788](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/4788" \t "_blank) |
| **10.** | **Proposed date of adoption *(dd/mm/yy)*:** August 2018  **Proposed date of publication *(dd/mm/yy)*:** August 2018 |
| **11.** | **Proposed date of entry into force: [ ]****Six months from date of publication**, **and/or** ***(dd/mm/yy)*:** 20 days after publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.  **[ ]** **Trade facilitating measure** |
| **12.** | **Final date for comments: [****X] Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or *(dd/mm/yy)*:** 25 June 2018  **Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [****X] National Notification Authority, [****X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e‑mail address (if available) of other body:**  European Commission  DG Health and Food Safety, Unit D2-Multilateral International Relations  Rue Froissart 101  B-1049 Brussels  Tel: +(32 2) 29 54263  Fax: +(32 2) 29 98090  E-mail: sps@ec.europa.eu |
| **13.** | **Text(s) available from: [****X] National Notification Authority, [****X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e‑mail address (if available) of other body:**  European Commission  DG Health and Food Safety, Unit D2-Multilateral International Relations  Rue Froissart 101  B-1049 Brussels  Tel: +(32 2) 29 54263  Fax: +(32 2) 29 98090  E-mail: sps@ec.europa.eu |