

AGRINFO presentation

Updates on EU packaging rules for South African exporters

3 June 2026

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About AGRINFO

www.agrinfo.eu



Funded by
the European Union

An online platform that provides up-to-date information on all recent and upcoming changes to EU rules that have an impact on agri-food and fish value chains

2022 	142 partner countries	6 years →	€7 million 	Agri & fish 
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Why AGRINFO?

Monitor

EU introduces many new or changes to agri-food rules: identify what's relevant

Consolidate



Simplify

Clear, accessible explanations of what rules are changing, why & the implications

“Get information to the people who need it, when they need it, in a form that is understandable”

AGRINFO resources

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Reports on:

- What's happening
- When
- Why
- Implications
- Recommended Actions
- Background & Resources



LATEST

New Regulations or policies under development



Sustainability/Due diligence

European Commission launches review of:

- [Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive](#)
- [Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive](#)



Common Agricultural Policy

European Commission sets out its Vision for Agriculture and Food for 2025–2029

[Read](#)



Common Fisheries Policy

EU and Côte d'Ivoire Fisheries Partnership Agreement – allocation of fishing opportunities

[Read](#)

New Regulations coming into force and application dates



Food safety controls

European Commission updates the list of countries that can export animal products to EU. Affected countries: Armenia, Belize, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, Honduras, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia. Applies from 16 March 2025

[Read](#)



Plant health controls

EU updates frequency rates of import controls for certain plants. Applies from 1 March 2025

[Read](#)

Pesticide MRL Tracker

<https://agrinfo.eu/pesticide-mrl-tracker/>

The screenshot shows the AGRINFO website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the AGRINFO logo, a home icon, and links for 'About AGRINFO', 'Search', 'Questions?', 'Subscribe', 'Publications', 'Links', and 'Webinars'. A language dropdown menu is set to 'EN'. Below the navigation bar is a banner image featuring a cow and grapes, with a green callout box that reads 'WEBINAR: New EU rules on use of antimicrobials in farmed animals and their products'. Underneath the banner, a section titled 'THE LATEST ON EU AGRI-FOOD POLICIES IMPACTING LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES' contains three columns of text in different languages (French, Spanish, and Portuguese) providing instructions on how to change the website's language.

Below the language instructions is a grid of six service tiles: 'AGRINFO Publications', 'EU reports on non-compliance', 'Ongoing Consultations', 'AGRINFO Explainers', 'Search AGRINFO Reports', and 'Pesticide MRL Tracker'. The 'Pesticide MRL Tracker' tile is circled in red. To the right of this grid is an 'AGRINFO UPDATES' section with a header image of a cow and a list of three updates: '08 May 2026 AGRINFO Update 73 (2026)', '22 Apr 2026 AGRINFO Update 72 (2026)', and '09 Apr 2026 AGRINFO Update 71 (2026)'. At the bottom of the updates section are 'All updates' and 'Subscribe' buttons.

Below the updates section is a 'Latest Reports' section with a pagination bar showing 'Showing 1 to 10 of 749 results' and a set of page numbers from 1 to 75. The '1' button is highlighted.

Pesticide MRL Tracker

<https://agrinfo.eu/pesticide-mrl-tracker/>

- All recent and upcoming changes consolidated in one tool
- Allows for MRL overview per product
- Updated on a weekly basis
- Gives maximum warning of potential changes (up to 3 years)

(2) Upcoming MRL changes under discussion (blue section): current MRL plus a link to the AGRINFO report on proposed MRLs and estimated application date.

To search for a complete list of MRLs per product, please visit the [EU Pesticides Database: Products](#)

To search for MRLs by active substance, please visit the [EU Pesticides Database: Pesticide Residues](#)

Sources: [ePing SPS & TBT Platform](#); [EU Pesticides Database](#); [European Commission Comitology Register](#)

Filter by product(s)

0110020 - Oranges 1 Clear

Search

0100000 - FRUITS, FRESH or FROZEN; TREE NUTS

0110000 - Citrus fruits

- 0110010 - Grapfruits
- 0110020 - Oranges
- 0110030 - Lemons
- 0110040 - Limes
- 0110050 - Mandarins
- 0110990 - Others

0120000 - Tree nuts

Check all

May 14, 2026 00:46

9

EU Database

EU Database

ID: 4 - Code: 0110020

Oranges

9 changes since 05 2025

12 MRL(s) under discussion

PREVIOUS MRL (mg/kg)	CURRENT MRL (mg/kg)	NEW MRL (mg/kg)	
Clothianidin 0.06 28 Apr 2017	0.01* 07 Mar 2026	-	EU Database
Deltamethrin (cis-deltamethrin)(F) 0.04 27 Jun 2018	0.02 12 May 2026	-	EU Database
Fenbuconazole (sum of constituent enantiomers) 0.9 07 Apr 2020	0.5 24 Aug 2025	-	EU Database
Fuberidazole 0.05* 01 Sep 2008	0.01* 06 Jan 2026	-	EU Database
Mefentrifluconazole 0.5 06 May 2024	1 06 Jul 2025	-	EU Database

Recent: MRL changes since 05 2025

Upcoming: MRL changes under discussion

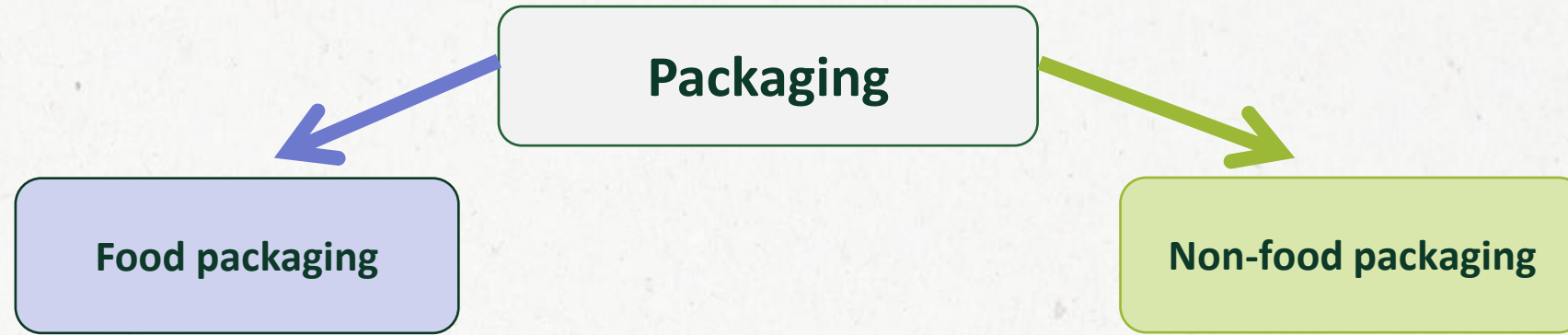
PESTICIDE	CURRENT MRL(mg/kg)	REPORT
1,4-dimethylnaphthalene(R)(F)	0.05 30 Apr 2025	AG00355
Azocyclotin and Cyhexatin (sum of azocyclotin and cyhexatin expressed as cyhexatin)	0.2 26 Apr 2013	AG00683
Carbendazim and benomyl (sum of benomyl and carbendazim expressed as carbendazim)(R)	0.2 01 Jan 2012	AG00338 AG00339
Cypermethrin (cypermethrin including other mixtures of constituent isomers (sum of isomers))(F)	2 27 Apr 2017	AG00353 AG00671
Dithiocarbamates (dithiocarbamates expressed as CS2, including maneb, mancozeb, metiram, propineb, thiram and ziram)	5 23 Feb 2017	AG00480



EU Packaging rules

Overview

EU rules on packaging



Rules for all food packaging:

- Reg. [1935/2004](#) (food contact packaging)
- Reg. [2023/2006](#) (good manufacturing practices)

+ **specific rules** depending on

Type of packaging:

- [Plastic](#)
- Recycled plastic (Regs. [10/2011](#) & [2022/1616](#))
- [Active & intelligent materials](#)
- [Ceramics](#)
- [Regenerated cellulose film](#)

Substance in packaging:

- [BPA & other bisphenols](#)
- [Epoxy derivatives](#)
- [N-nitrosamines \(rubber teats & soothers\)](#)
- [Vinyl chloride monomer](#)

Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) 2025/40 replaces previous rules (Directive [94/62/EC](#))

with requirements on:

- Sustainability
- Labelling
- Conformity



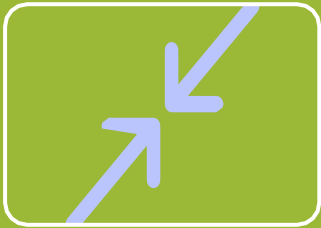
Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation 2025/40



Is this packaging?

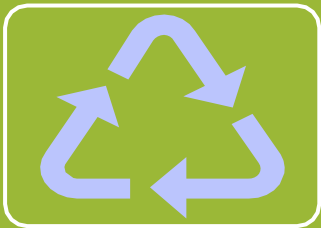
Objectives of the new EU packaging rules

New rules were published on 11 February 2025



Prevent the generation of packaging waste by

- Reducing the (packaging) quantity
- Restricting unnecessary single-use packaging
- Requiring reusable and refillable packaging solutions



Boost (high quality) recycling by

- Requiring packaging to be designed for recycling
- Harmonisation of sorting labels
- Reducing substances of concern / hindering recycling



Reduce the need for primary materials by

- Making recycled plastics content obligatory
- Minimising packaging and reducing void space

This matters to all actors in the agri-food chain because:

- Many requirements are obligatory
- Compliance with those requirements decides on access to EU market
- Responsibility to prove compliance is on mainly on producers of packaged products = "manufacturers" (brands)

PPWR main sustainability requirements

Category	Requirements	From
Substances of concern (SoC) Art. 5	SoC should be minimised and the sum of concentration levels of lead, cadmium, mercury, and hexavalent chromium should not exceed 100 mg/kg	12 August 2026
	Food-contact packaging must not exceed PFAS concentrations as set in Art. 5(5)	
Compostable packaging Art. 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sticky labels on fruit and vegetables, single use tea and coffee bags must be industrially compostable EU Countries can request: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This packaging to be <i>additionally home</i> compostable Other packaging formats (lightweight plastic carry-bags, coffee capsules and pods) to be compostable (mandatory) 	12 February 2028
Labeling Art. 12	Packaging will have to be marked with the harmonised label (pictograms) to inform about the composition of packaging material and help consumers to sort recyclable materials	12 August 2028
	Reusable packaging will have to be marked with a label showing its reusability	12 February 2029
Restrictions on use of certain packaging formats Art. 25	Ban of packaging in the formats and for the uses listed in Annex V, including single use plastic packaging for quantities of fresh fruit and vegetables below 1.5 kg	1 January 2030
Packaging minimisation Art. 10	Packaging must be reduced to the minimum volume/weight needed to ensure its functionality	

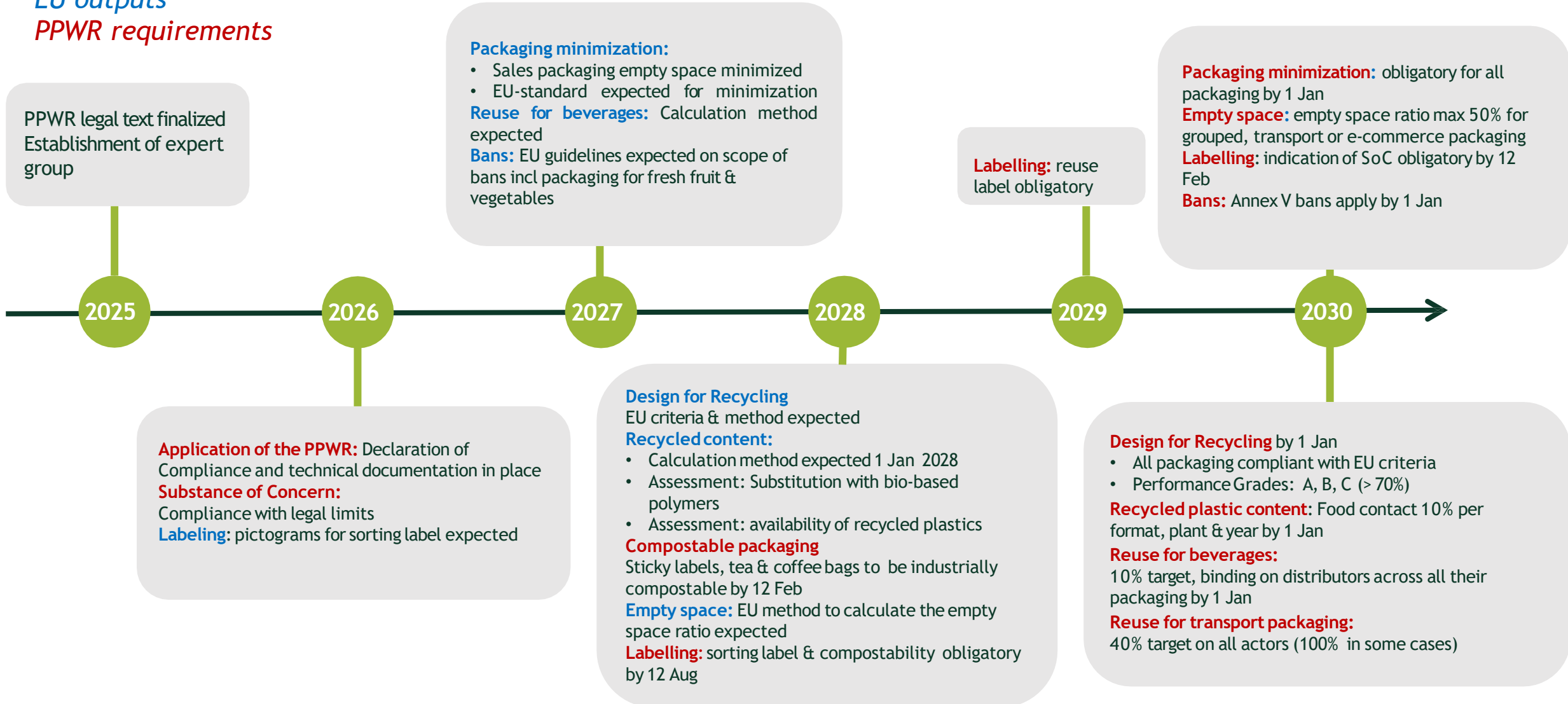
PPWR main sustainability requirements

Category	Requirements	From
Recycled content in plastic packaging Art. 7	Minimum plastic recycling targets apply <u>per component</u> of packaging: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 30% for PET contact sensitive packaging ○ 10% for contact sensitive packaging other than PET ○ 30% for single use plastic beverage bottles ○ 35% for plastic packaging other than the 3 listed above <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 31 December 2026 rules on plastic recyclates incorporated in plastic packaging from outside of the EU will be adopted • Certain food contact materials could be exempted from the due to the lack of available recyclates 	1 January 2030
Recyclability of packaging Art. 6	Packaging must be designed for recycling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methodology for the recyclability performance assessment for all packaging materials is expected by end 2027 • Waste management fee (EPR) to be modulated based on the awarded Recyclability Performance Grade (cf. Annex II table 1 and 4) 	
Transport packaging Art. 29	Packaging with less than 70% recyclability cannot be put on the market 40% of transport packaging reusable, exempt: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • flexible packaging in food contact (e.g. big bags, jute bags) • cardboard transport packaging 	
Bio-based feedstock in plastic packaging Art. 8	Potential proposal for rules based on a review of the state of technological development and environmental performance of biobased plastic packaging	12 February 2028

PPWR timeline summary (non-exhaustive)

EU outputs

PPWR requirements



Practical implications for all actors

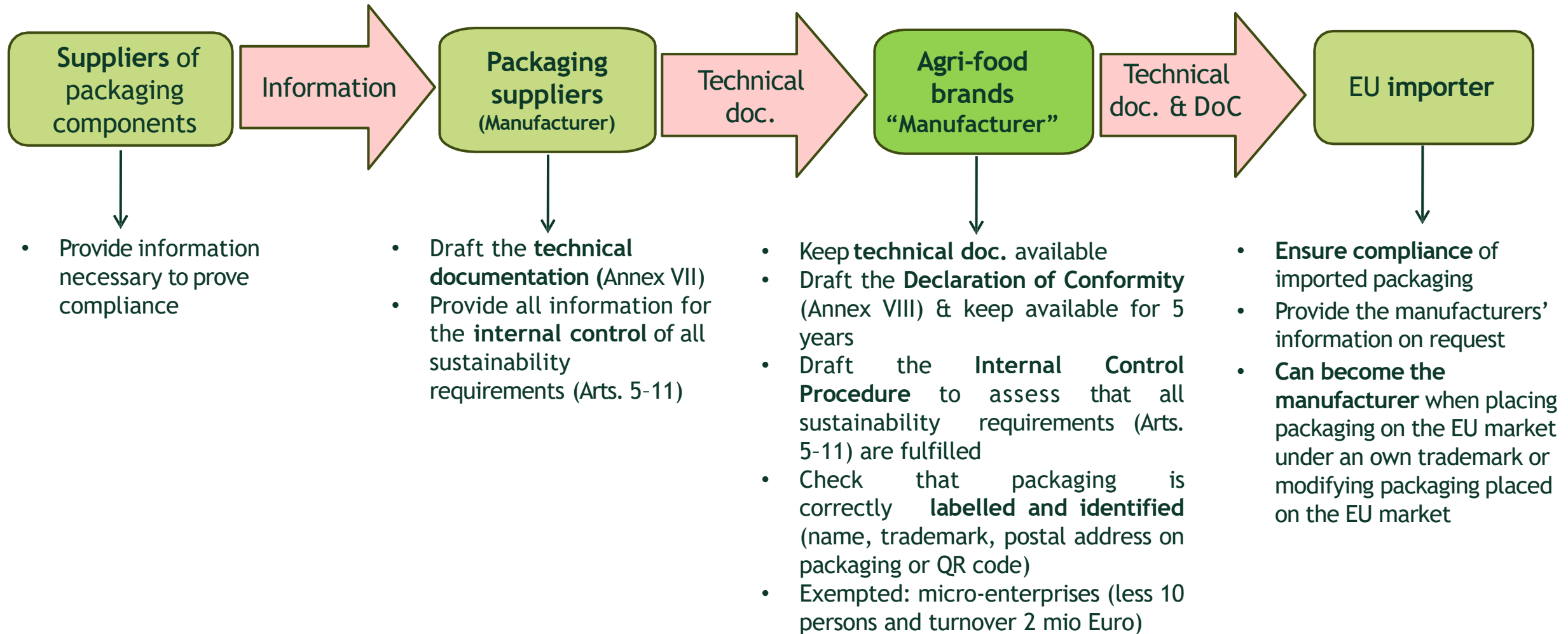
From 12 August 2026, the conformity of packaging must be passed along the value chain in form of:

- a **technical documentation** (Annex VII) and
- a **Declaration of Conformity (DoC)** (Annex VIII)

- All supply chain operators must share information to prove compliance with the PPWR.
- Final responsibility sits with the producer of the packaged products (trademark owner)
- One **Declaration of conformity (DoC)** per packaging/package product to continuously update (e.g. change in packaging)

For further clarification see [EU Commission notice](#) and [FAQ](#)

PPWR conformity requirements – follow the trademark!



Technical Documentation (Annex VII)

The packaging manufacturer shall provide all information needed to prove compliance

The technical documentation must:

- **specify the applicable requirements**
- cover, as far as relevant for the assessment, **the design, manufacture and operation of the packaging.**

The technical documentation shall contain, at least the following elements:

- (a) a general description of the packaging and its intended use;
- (b) conceptual design, manufacturing drawings and materials of components;
- (c) descriptions and explanations necessary for the understanding of the drawings provided under point (b) and the schemes and operation of the packaging;
- (d) a list of: (i) the harmonised standards, applied in full or in part; (ii) the common specifications applied in full or in part; (iii) other relevant technical specifications used for measurement or calculation purposes; (iv) in the event of partly applied harmonised standards or common specifications, an indication of the parts which have been applied; (v) in the event of harmonised standards or common specifications not being applied, a description of the solutions adopted to meet the requirements
- (e) a qualitative description of how the assessments provided for in Articles 6, 10 and 11 have been carried out; and
- (f) test reports.

Declaration of Conformity (Annex VIII)

The declaration of conformity shall identify the packaging for which it has been drawn up

ANNEX VIII

EU declaration of conformity No (*) ...

The manufacturer must:

- draw up a **written DoC for each packaging type** and
- **keep it together with the technical documentation** at the disposal of the national authorities for 5 years

1. No ... (unique identification of the packaging):
2. Name and address of the manufacturer and, where applicable, the manufacturer's authorised representative:
3. This declaration of conformity is issued under the sole responsibility of the manufacturer.
4. Object of the declaration (identification of the packaging allowing traceability): description of the packaging:
5. The object of the declaration referred to point 4 is in conformity with the relevant Union harmonisation legislation: ... (reference to the other Union acts applied).
6. References to the relevant harmonised standards or the common specifications used or references to the other technical specifications in relation to which conformity is declared:
7. Where applicable, the notified body ... (name, address, number) ... performed ... (description of intervention) ... and issued the certificate(s): ... (details, including the date of the certificate(s), and, where appropriate, information on the duration and conditions of validity).
8. Additional information:
Signed for and on behalf of:
(place and date of issue):
(name, function) (signature):

Implications for producers of packaged agricultural products

Opportunities

- Harmonised EU-rules
- Availability of information about the packaging you are using
- More innovative, sustainable packaging on the market makes it easier to satisfy EU-consumer expectations (but most likely the new solutions are not cheaper)

Major concerns

- Local supply and testing capacities (Substances of concern, recycled content...)
- Technical details still « work in progress »
- Administrative burden
- Higher costs for reporting, tests, innovative materials or shifts in packaging

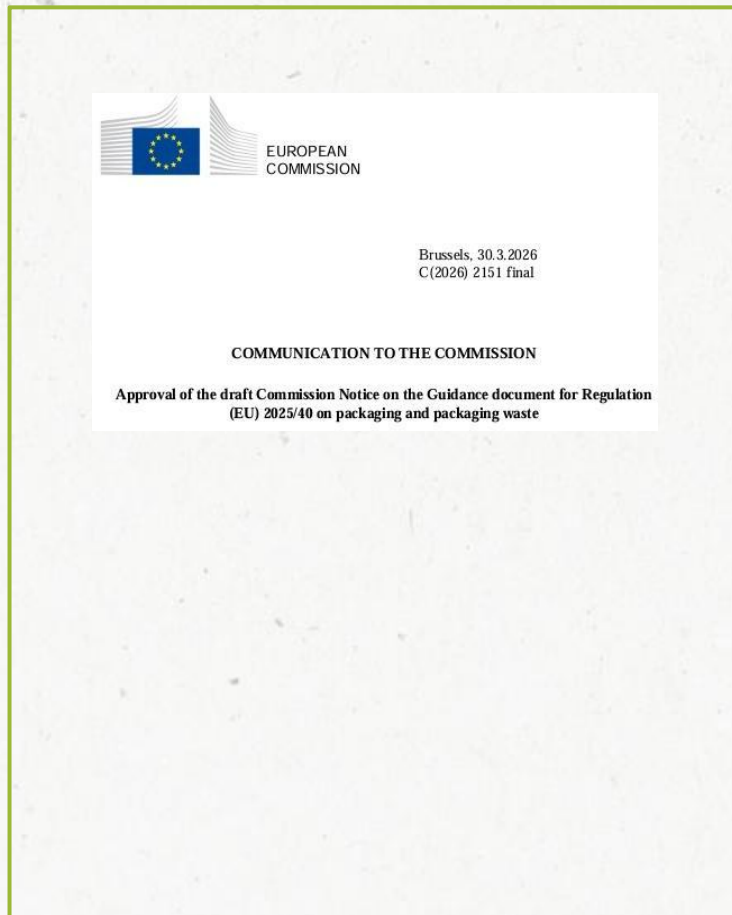
And now? Recommendations

- Reach out to national governments via your trade / industry associations to ensure awareness of the upcoming rules
- Reach out to your packaging suppliers and ask for the technical documentation needed to prove conformity by 12 August 2026

Further information on PPWR published by the European Commission

[EU Commission notice /interpretive guidance & Annex](#) (most important clarification)

[FAQ document](#) (continuously updated)



AGRINFO resources on EU packaging rules

Ghana impact study



REGULATORY IMPACTS

New EU rules on packaging and packaging waste, and bisphenol A

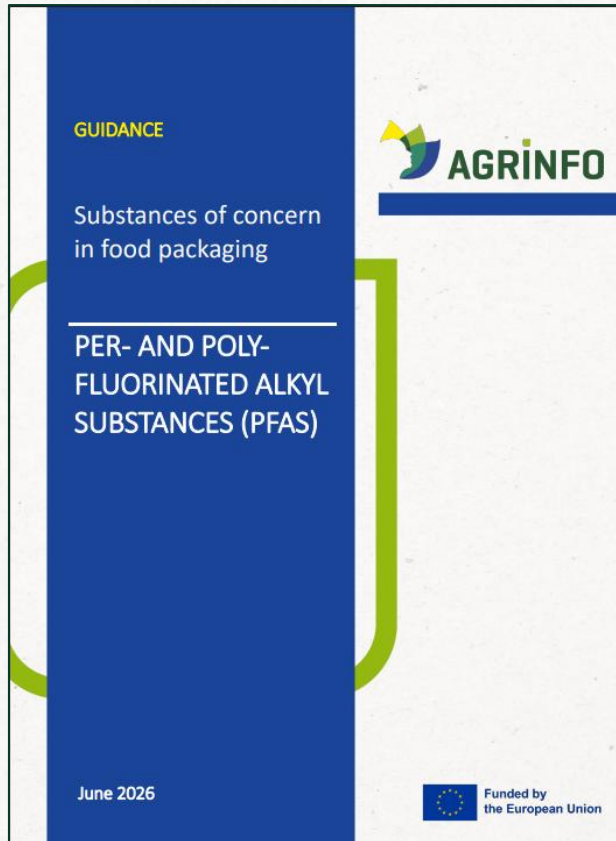
State of play for Ghanaian agri-food operators

May 2026

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PFAS guidance





GUIDANCE

Substances of concern in food packaging

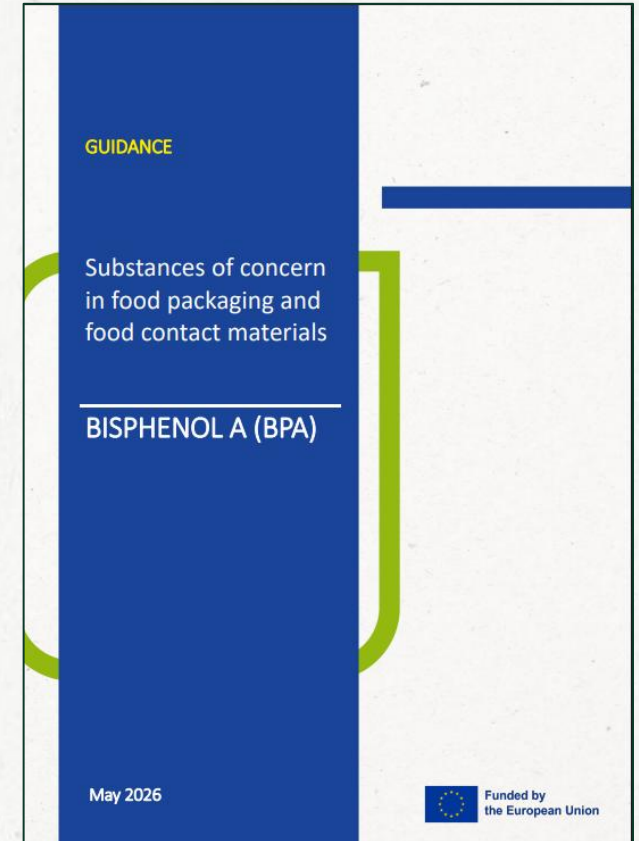
PER- AND POLY-FLUORINATED ALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS)

June 2026

 AGRINFO

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BPA guidance




GUIDANCE

Substances of concern in food packaging and food contact materials

BISPHENOL A (BPA)

May 2026

 Funded by the European Union

AGRINFO additional resources on PPWR

Record (written explanation)

📅 27 Jan 2023 , Revised on 01 Apr 2026

New EU packaging rules explained

Plastics Packaging

View full report → View short version →

Summary

New European Union (EU) rules on packaging and packaging waste, including design and waste management, are set by the packaging and packaging waste Regulation [2025/40](#) (PPWR).


This Regulation aims to:

- avoid and reduce packaging waste, and stimulate reuse
- make all packaging on the EU market recyclable in an economically viable way
- increase the recycling of packaging materials, especially plastic, and their reuse.

The new rules set stricter sustainability, labelling, and conformity requirements on all food packaging, which will also apply to suppliers of packaged food to the EU market who are based outside the EU. Some key requirements are as follows.

Webinar (recording)



YouTube BE Search



EU Packaging and Packaging Waste legislation

Unfolding the new packaging rules for agri-food operators supplying the EU markets

26 February 2026

AGRINFO webinar : new EU packaging rules
Unlisted

AGRINFO additional resources on BPA rules

Record (written explanation)

15 Feb 2024 , Revised on 04 Mar 2026

Ban on bisphenol A (BPA) in food packaging

Food contact materials Packaging

View full report →

View short version →

Summary

The European Union (EU) has adopted stricter rules on the use of bisphenol A (BPA) and related chemicals in food contact materials. This is due to health concerns about the presence in food of BPA that can migrate from food packaging. This new Regulation bans the use of BPA in the manufacture of plastic food contact materials, and other materials including varnishes and coatings, printing inks, and adhesives. There are limited exceptions for the use of BPA in certain plastic film membranes and varnishes on large tanks and vessels used in food production. Where other uses are critical to the manufacture of food contact materials, authorisation may be requested.

The new rules apply from **July 2026**; or, in the case of single-use food contact articles intended to preserve fruit and vegetables and fishery products, from **January 2028**.

Webinar (recording)



YouTube ^{BE} Rechercher

New EU rules on food packaging:
BPA (bisphenol A) and
PFAS (per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances)

25 November,
3 & 4 December 2025

AGRINFO

0:00 / 1:02:51

Questions & Answers

Follow-up questions can be sent to agrinfo@colead.link

Thank you



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Annexes



1. Requirements for substances in packaging (Art. 5)

Minimise Substances of Concern (SoC) with “unacceptable risk to human health and the environment”

PFAS = per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances



Food Contact packaging Non-food contact packaging

PPWR text

- By 12 August 2026, all packaging must comply with existing and new thresholds
- The presence must be minimised, incl. in waste management, reuse and recycled materials
- Covers heavy metals, microplastics. PFAS only in food-contact materials
- SoC/PFAS content must be disclosed in technical documentation (Annex VII)

Work in Progress

- By 31 December 2026, the EU Commission must publish a report on the presence of substances of concern in packaging and packaging components
- By 12 August 2030, option for EU Commission to amend PFAS obligations
- By 12 August 2033, the EU Commission must assess whether this obligation needs to be amended

Risks and potential impacts on business

- Higher transparency / evidence
- Increased costs (analysis, reporting)
- Limited testing capacities
- Uncertainty of testing methods
- No EU-standardised method for PFAS testing

1. Thresholds for Substances of Concern

Existing:

- Sum of the concentrations of **lead, cadmium, mercury and hexavalent chromium** resulting from substances present in packaging or packaging components **shall not exceed 100 mg/kg.**

New:

- **Food-contact packaging** shall not be placed on the market if it contains per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS) in a concentration equal to or above the limit values
- Microplastics mentioned regarding their release during waste management

New PFAS limits of:

- 25 ppb (parts per billion = $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$) for individual PFAS
- 250 ppb for the sum of all PFAS in articles
- 50 ppm (parts per million = mg/kg) for **total fluorine**)

For more information on [new EU rules on PFAS](#) (and bisphenol A):

- Recording of AGRINFO webinars available in EN, FR, ES, PO
- Frequently Asked Questions document

<https://agrinfo.eu/book-of-reports/agrinfo-webinar-new-eu-rules-on-bisphenol-a-and-pfas/>

2. Design for Recycling (DfR) (Art. 6)

By 2030, all packaging must be designed for material recycling

PPWR text

- By 2030, all packaging must be designed for recycling
- New packaging design criteria are consolidated in a scoring scheme: recyclability performance grades
- The performance grade will determine the fees for waste management paid by the producer
- Packaging manufacturer must provide information
- (Most) compostables must also be recyclable

Work in Progress

- By 2028, the EU Commission must define the **Design-For-Recycling Criteria** for 30 packaging categories (Annex II Table 1) and the method to **calculate recyclability performance grades**
- The EU Standardisation Organisation (CEN) and the Joint Research Centre provide technical support
- Many private sector guidelines are already in place



Flexible plastic and composite packaging



Beverage cartons



All recycle ready formats (glas, metal, PET)

Risks and potential impacts on business

- Increased investments in recycle-ready formats
- Shift towards recyclable packaging materials
- Increasing waste management fees for composite packaging
- Compostable packaging challenge

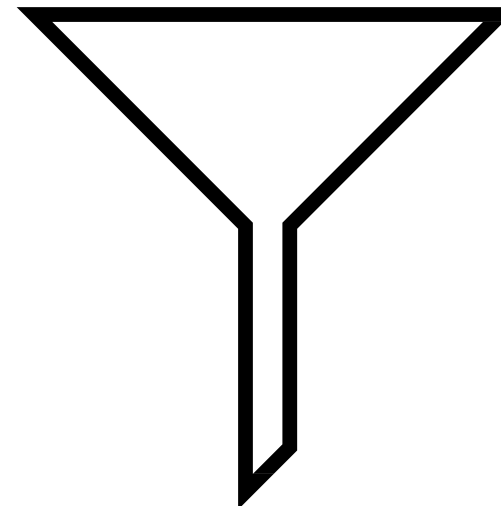
2. How recyclability assessment will work in practise

Proving compliance will be different before and after 2030

Existing rules prevail
“packaging recoverable in form of material recycling”
PPWD, essential requirements, enforced by national authorities and Standard EN 13430:2004



Recyclability criteria
Substances of Concern
Existing Recycling Technologies



Recyclability Grade

- A >95%
- B >80%
- C >70%

Per category
glass, paper/cardboard,
composite paper packaging,
steel, Al, Plastic PET rigid, wood,
cork, textile etc.

3. Recycled Plastic Content (Art. 7)

Boosting secondary material uptake for plastics



Non-PET Food-contact materials (PP, PE)



PET

PPWR text

- Binding targets for r-content in **plastic part** in packages
 - Food: 10% by 2030, 25% by 2040
 - Non-Food: 35% by 2030, 65% by 2040
- Recyclates made from **post-consumer** plastic waste, according to EU standards
- Exemption for plastic part < 5% of total weight of package, infant food, compostable packaging
- Packaging producers must report per packaging format as average per manufacturing plant and year

Work in Progress

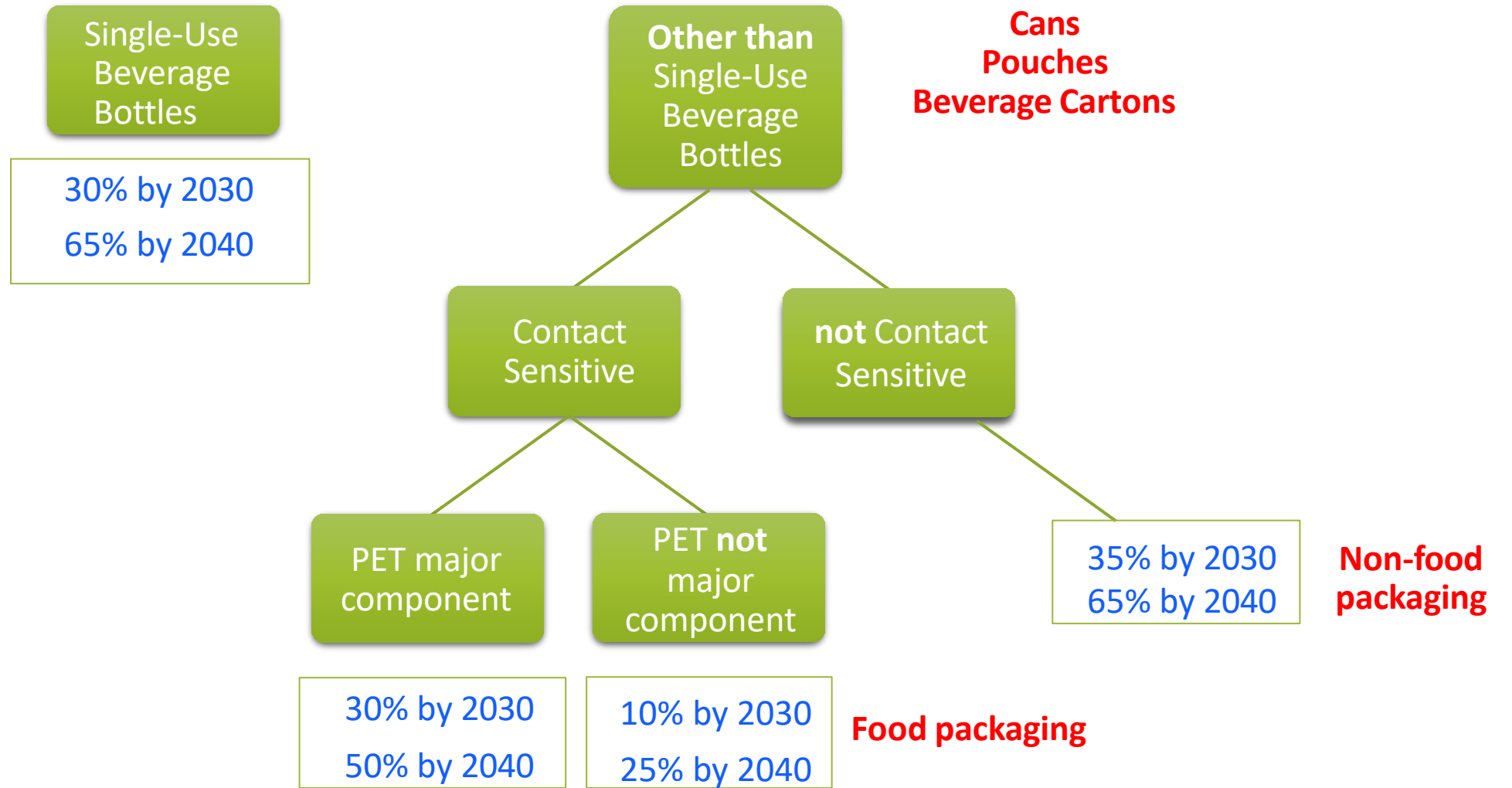
- By 31 December 2026, the EU Commission must publish a calculation method
- By 1 January 2028, the EU Commission must re-assess the availability (quantity, price) resulting in potential derogations for specific sectors
- By 12 February 2028, the EU Commission is expected to decide if bio-based polymers may substitute recycled polymer content

Risks and potential impacts on business

- Impact depends on product: non-food requires higher amounts but different r-polymers than food
- General challenges: analysis, traceability and reporting particularly for imported packaging
- Availability of recycled polymers, potential competition for recyclates incl shortage
- Technical details determine the economic viability of recyclers

3. Recycled Plastic Content (Art. 7)

The product determines the obliged amount of recycled plastic content



4. Compostable / biodegradable packaging (Art. 9)

New obligations for packaging made of biodegradable plastic polymers and other biodegradable materials

PPWR text

- By 12 February 2028, sticky labels and single use permeable tea coffee bags must be **industrially compostable** (EU standard)
- In addition, EU Member States can oblige
 - a) this packaging to be home compostable
 - b) other packaging formats (lightweight plastic carry-bags) to be compostable
- All packaging which is not obliged to be compostable must be also recyclable

Work in Progress

- The EU Standardisation Organisation (CEN) revises the compostable packaging standard to reflect the scientific and technological developments



All other
compostable
packaging



Sticky labels
Tea/coffee bags

Risks and potential impacts on business

- Material shift on sticky labels (bananas, vegetables) and tea/coffee bags
- Decreasing compostables use in other applications
- Diverging implementation in EU Member States

4. Compostable / biodegradable packaging (Art. 9)

New obligations for packaging made of biodegradable plastic polymers and other biodegradable materials

Use of compostable materials obligatory



If companies decide to use compostable materials for other applications, the materials need to be compostable AND recyclable



5. Packaging minimisation (Art. 10)

EU legislation tackling double walls, false bottoms and unnecessary layers of packaging

PPWR text

- By 1 January 2030, all packaging weight and volume must be reduced to the minimum (Art 10, Annex IV) without impeding its functionality
- Targeted packaging features: double walls, false bottoms and unnecessary layers of packaging
- Exempt: packaging design that is protected or a shape which is a trademark or products with protected geographical indication under EU law

Work in Progress

- In February 2027, the EU Standardisation Organisation (CEN) will start to prepare or update harmonised standards to calculate packaging minimisation



Glass bottles



Heavier plastic bottles



Flexible lightweight packaging (pouches)
Beverage cartons

Risks and potential impacts on business

- Material/packaging shift in high-impact sectors (spirits, cosmetics)
- “Trickle down effect” for non-EU producers. Brand owners need to invest in new packaging formats

5. Packaging minimisation (Art. 10)

Targeted formats



6. Reduction of excessive packaging (Art. 24)

EU legislation limits **empty space ratio** in sales packaging, grouped - transport- and e-commerce packaging

PPWR text

- By 12 February 2028, **sales packaging** empty space must be minimised. Total internal volume of sales packaging vs volume of the packaged product
- By 1 January 2030, empty space ratio **max 50%** for **grouped, transport or e-commerce packaging**. Total volume vs volume of packaging contained therein
- Space filled with bubble wrap etc. counts as empty. Air between/ within packed food or protective gases are not

Work in Progress

- By 2028, the EU Commission defines the method to calculate the empty space ratio.



Grouped & transport, e-commerce packaging



Sales packaging



Primary packaging for food and beverages

Risks and potential impacts on business

- Impact depends on calculation method and availability (cost, amount) of innovative packaging
- “Trickle down effect” for non-EU producers. Brand owners to invest in new packaging formats for transport and sale

6. Reduction of excessive packaging (Art. 24)

Targeted formats



7. Reuse targets for transport packaging (Art. 29.1-5)

Mandatory reuse obligations will impact exports to the EU in cases the transport packaging is not changed

PPWR text

- By 1 January 2030, 40% of transport packaging reusable; 100% reusable for transports between sites of one operator or within a Member State
- By 1 Jan 2030, 10% for grouped packaging outside of sales packaging
- By 2040: 70% aspirational

Work in Progress

- By February 2027, determination of a minimum number for the rotations for reusable packaging



Transport from the first warehouse in the EU on



Plastic pallet strips and wraps (tbc)



Cardboard, big bags, jute bags in contact with food

Applies to (closed list): pallets, foldable plastic boxes, boxes, trays, plastic crates, intermediate bulk containers, drums, pails, canisters, including flexible formats or pallet wrappings or straps for stabilisation and protection of products put on pallets during transport

Exempt:

- flexible packaging in food contact (e.g. big bags, jute bags)
- cardboard transport packaging
- single use plastic pallet straps and wraps (100% and 40% target)

Risks and potential impacts on business

- “Trickle down effect” for non-EU producers: targets apply when import procedures are completed / first warehouse
- Reorganisation of transport packaging in little time
- Risk of disruption of transport packaging supply

7. Reuse targets for alcoholic & non-alcoholic beverages (Art 29.6)

Reuse obligations exempt dairy, wine and potentially juices

PPWR text

- 2030: at least 10% binding
2040: 35% aspirational
- Except milk (beverages), highly perishable beverages, grape and aromatized wine
- Reported by final distributor (>100 m²)
- Calculated by total number of units of sales
- Various options to get exemptions

Work in Progress

- By 30 June 2027, the EU Commission must publish the calculation method
- By 2034, the EU Commission will review the target and decide on obligatory 2040 targets
- Member States can define higher national reuse targets



Nectars
Pouches, Beverage
cartons



Juices
Cans, PET



Milk, wine
Glas

Risks and potential impacts on business

- Imported beverages likely to fall in the 90% non-reusable part
- Exemption for juices confirmed mid-2027
- All producers will finance the creation of re-use schemes via the waste management fees
- Consumer preference for reusable formats

8. Labelling (Art. 12)

EU-harmonised labels intend to facilitate distribution across the EU single market

PPWR text

- By 12 August 2028:
 - packaging must carry a sorting label
 - compostable packaging must be labelled as such.
- By 12 February 2029, reusable packaging must be labelled as such
- By 1 January 2030, packaging must disclose substances of concern (SoC)
- Voluntary labels: recycled and bio-based content
- Visual label or QR code

Work in Progress

- By 12 August 2026, the EU Commission decides on pictograms for sorting labels
- By 1 January 2030, the EU Commission decides on the identification of SoC.

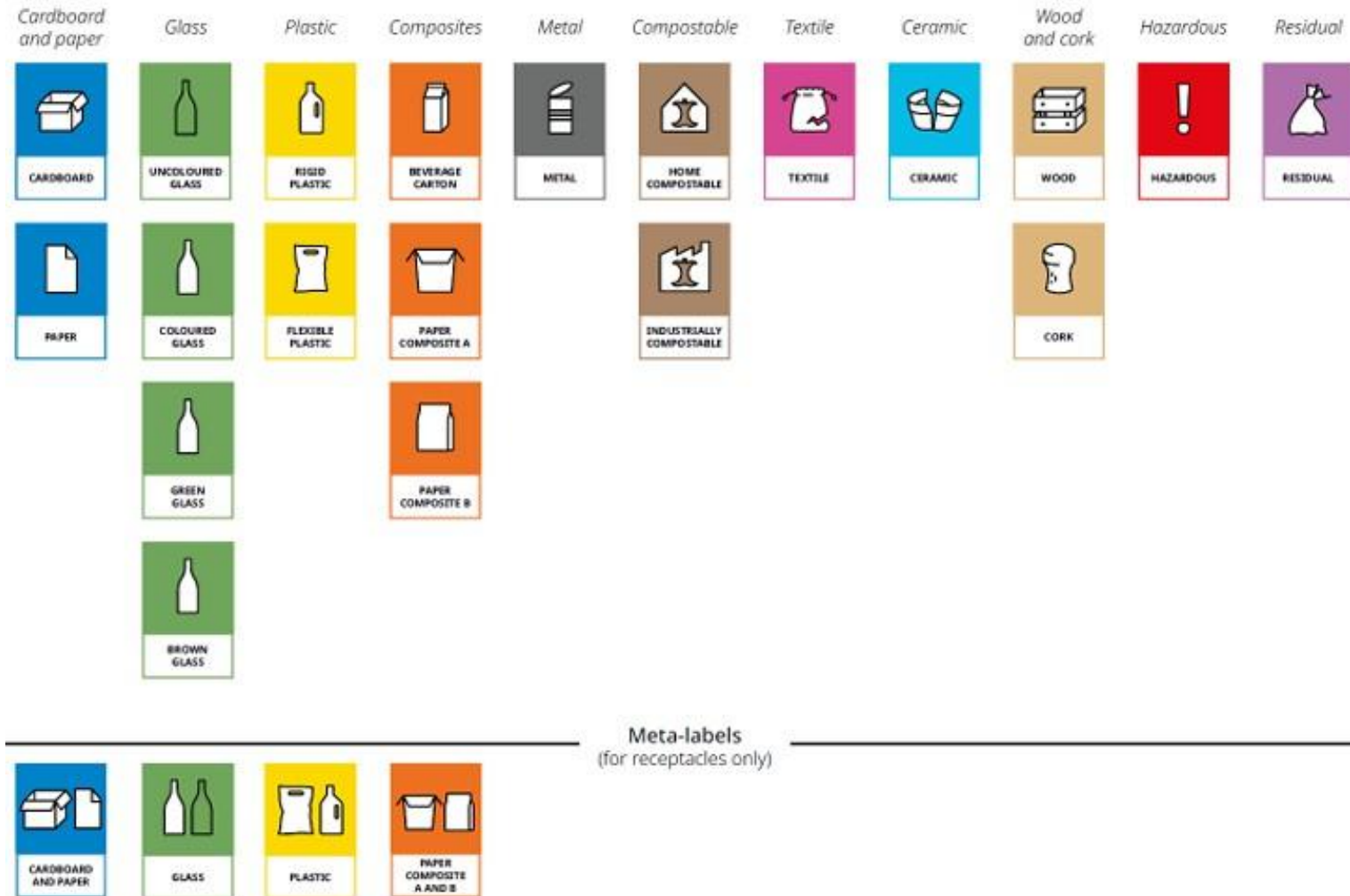
Risks and potential impacts on business

- Simplification for businesses (one harmonised label)
- Investments in label changes
- The sorting labels decide in which waste stream the packaging ends up after use (some are more expensive)

8. Proposed sorting labels

Might be still subject to change till 12 August 2026!

Figure ES 1. Final label proposal (colour and text)



9. Restrictions on use of certain packaging formats (Art. 25)

EU-wide bans on „unnecessary“ and harmful packaging

PPWR text

- From 1 January 2030, formats and uses listed in **Annex V** are prohibited.
- Most relevant for food:
 - Single-use *plastic* packaging for fresh fruit and vegetables below 1,5 kg (nets, bags, trays, containers). Exemptions possible.
 - Single-use *plastic* packaging for condiments, preserves, sauces, coffee creamer, sugar, and seasoning in accommodation and food services

Work in Progress

- By 12 February 2027, the EU Commission publishes guidelines with examples and provide a **non-exhaustive list of fruits and vegetables that are excluded from the bans.**
- By 12 February 2032, the EU Commission must assess the positive environmental impact of the restrictions



(Flexible) single-use plastic packaging; food service & accommodation



Fresh fruit & vegetable packaging



Paper-based packaging

Risks and potential impacts on business

- Investments in alternative packaging for fresh fruits below 1,5 kg
- Resources to prove eligibility for exemptions (avoid water or turgidity loss, microbiological hazards or physical shocks, oxidation or risk commingling organic fruits & vegetables)