

18 May 2016

Original: English

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**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures** 

## **NOTIFICATION**

- Notifying Member: <u>EUROPEAN UNION</u>

  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 additives
- 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: Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/683 of 2 May 2016 amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the use of propionic acid-propionates (E 280-283) in tortillas (Text with EEA relevance) Language(s): English, French and Spanish Number of pages: 2

http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2016/SPS/EEC/16 1948 00 e.pdf http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2016/SPS/EEC/16 1948 00 f.pdf http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2016/SPS/EEC/16 1948 00 s.pdf

**6. Description of content:** The use of Propionic acid-propionates is requested for the extension of the shelf-life of tortillas. Propionic acid-propionates are widely used to prevent the growth of moulds in leavened bakery products, due to their minimal effect on yeast and on the odour or taste of the final product.

The European Food Safety Authority ("the Authority"), in its opinion on the re-evaluation of propionic acid (E 280), sodium propionate (E 281), calcium propionate (E 282) and potassium propionate (E 283) as food additives, concluded that there would not be a safety concern from the maximum concentrations of those substances at their currently authorised uses and use levels as food additives. The authorisation of the use of propionates in tortillas is an extension which would not lead to additional concern as the exposure assessment done by the Authority covered food category 07.1 Bread and rolls.

- 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
  - [] 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?
	[X] Yes [] No
	If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:
9.	Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:
10.	Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): 2 May 2016
	Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): 3 May 2016
11.	Proposed date of entry into force: [ ] Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): 23 May 2016
	[X] Trade facilitating measure
12.	Final date for comments: [ ] Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): Not applicable
	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