

Council Regulation (EEC) No 315/93 of 8 February 1993  
laying down Community procedures for contaminants in food

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THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 100a thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission<sup>(1)</sup>,

In cooperation with the European Parliament<sup>(2)</sup>,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee<sup>(3)</sup>,

Whereas it is important to adopt measures with the aim of progressively establishing the internal market over a period expiring on 31 December 1992; whereas the internal market shall comprise an area without internal frontiers in which the free movement of goods, persons, services and capital is ensured;

Whereas the differences in rules adopted by the Member States may hinder the functioning of the common market and whereas it is necessary to lay down a procedure for the adoption of harmonized Community rules;

Whereas contaminants may enter into food at any stage from production to consumption;

Whereas it is essential, in the interest of public health protection, to keep these contaminants at levels which are toxicologically acceptable;

Whereas further elimination must be carried out whenever it is achievable through good working practices; whereas compliance with such good practices can be efficiently monitored by public authorities, given the vocational training and experience of their agents;

Whereas this Regulation must apply without prejudice to the provisions adopted in the context of more specific Community rules;

Whereas it is appropriate in terms of health protection to encourage the search for a comprehensive approach to the question of contaminants in food;

Whereas the Scientific Committee for Food set up by Decision 74/234/EEC<sup>(4)</sup> must be consulted on all questions which may have an effect on public health,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

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**Changes to legislation:** There are outstanding changes not yet made to Council Regulation (EEC) No 315/93. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

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- (1) OJ No C 57, 4.3.1992, p. 11.
- (2) OJ No C 129, 20.5.1991, p. 104 and Decision of 20 January 1993 (not yet published in the Official Journal).
- (3) OJ No C 223, 31.8.1992, p. 24.
- (4) OJ No L 136, 20.5.1974, p. 1.

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole legislation item and associated provisions**

- Signature words omitted by [S.I. 2019/639 reg. 10](#)
- Art. 2(4)-(8) inserted by [S.I. 2019/639 reg. 7](#)
- Art. 2(4)(c) omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/639, reg. 7 by [S.I. 2020/1504 reg. 8\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- Art. 2(7) words substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/639, reg. 7 by [S.I. 2020/1504 reg. 8\(3\)\(b\)\(i\)](#)
- Art. 2(7)(b) words substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/639, reg. 7 by [S.I. 2020/1504 reg. 8\(3\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#)
- Art. 2(7)(d) omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/639, reg. 7 by [S.I. 2020/1504 reg. 8\(3\)\(b\)\(iii\)](#)
- Art. 2(7)(d) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/1013 reg. 25](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S.I. 2019/1013 revoked immediately before IP completion day by S.I. 2020/1504, regs. 1(2), 21(e))
- Art. 2(8)(d) omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/639, reg. 7 by [S.I. 2020/1504 reg. 8\(3\)\(c\)](#)