

Applications helpdesk – Novel foods application procedure until 31 December 2017

Authorisation and use of novel foods and food ingredients have been harmonised in the European Union since 1997 when Regulation EC 258/1997 on novel foods and novel food ingredients was adopted. In 2013, the Commission presented a proposal for a new Regulation. The co-legislators the European Parliament and the Council have reached an agreement on the new Regulation in November 2015. Novel foods will be subject to a new authorisation procedure fully centralised at EU level. EFSA will conduct a scientific risk assessment for the novel food application, while the Commission will manage the files of each applicant and put forward a proposal for the authorisation of a novel food which is found to be safe. The new rules apply as of 1 January 2018.

