



03 November 2025

Request to Food Industry for Use Level Data on certain Food Additives

Dear Stakeholders,

The principal function of the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) is to protect consumers' health and raise compliance through partnership, science and food law enforcement.

In accordance with Article 27 of [Regulation \(EC\) No 1333/2008](#) on food additives, Ireland, along with other Member States, must maintain systems to monitor the consumption and use of food additives. These systems must be risk-based, and findings are reported annually and confidentially by the FSAI to the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

In 2023, the European Commission published [Commission Recommendation \(EU\) 2023/965](#) to establish a consistent methodology for the collection of data on food additives and food flavourings.

In accordance with Commission Recommendation (EU) 2023/965, for the years 2024 and 2025, a pilot phase was organised to collect data on a small number of food additives and food flavourings, in preparation for a larger monitoring programme in future years. As part of this pilot phase, Ireland is collecting use level data for food additives, which refers to the concentration of the food additive, reported by business operators, to be added to food. Use level data is used as part of the dietary intake assessment of food additives, and to verify the dietary intake estimated in the most recent EFSA assessment. The FSAI will not be collecting use level data for flavourings as part of this monitoring programme, as the EFSA will be collecting this information directly from stakeholders.

For the year 2024, the pilot programme involved the collection of use level data on the following three food additives, used as colours in food:

- Tartrazine (E 102)
- Ponceau 4R, Cochineal Red A (E 124)
- Green S (E 142).

For the current year, 2025, the pilot programme will involve the collection of use level data on the following two food additives which function as a preservative and antioxidant, respectfully:

- Sorbic acid – potassium sorbate (E 200 – 202)
- Butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT) (E 321).

Collection of use level data

To assist food businesses in providing use level data, the FSAI has developed an Excel template. For the year 2025, the FSAI is requesting food businesses, who use the above-mentioned food additives (i.e. E 200, E 202 and E 321) in their products (i.e. food products or additive mixtures), to complete this Excel template and return the data to the FSAI. In completing the Excel template, the following should be noted by food businesses:

1. Instructions on completing the template are provided in the first worksheet of the Excel file.
2. The template itself is contained in the second worksheet of the Excel file.
3. Each field in the template is mandatory, except for the manufacturer's name and contact details, and the brand name of the reported product. However, the FSAI kindly requests that this information is provided, to avoid duplication and if clarifications are required.
4. The information collected in the template will be transmitted directly and confidentially by the FSAI to the EFSA.
5. For some fields in the template, drop-down lists are provided for convenience.

6. The FSAI requests that detailed information is provided on the product to which the food additive is added. This will allow the FSAI to categorise the information in accordance with the EFSA's reporting requirements.
7. The scope of this data collection includes products sold on the Irish market. Therefore, the scope extends to products manufactured outside of Ireland and sold on the Irish market, if it is feasible to obtain information on food additive use levels in such products.

Data protection

In completing the template, the FSAI requires you to fill in your name and address. This is to assist with the processing of the information. These details will not be shared with a third party. Any results shared therefore will be anonymised.

All information submitted will be held securely and in strictest confidence. Access is confined to those who require it. In providing this information, you are giving consent for it to be used for the purposes specified. Once this process has been completed, all data will be securely destroyed.

Further information about the FSAI and data protection may be found on the FSAI's website (www.fsai.ie) or you may contact the FSAI's Data Protection Officer (DPO) at DPO@fsai.ie.

Completed templates

Please send completed templates via email to additives@fsai.ie on or before **Friday, 12 December 2025**.

The FSAI would like to thank all our food industry stakeholders in advance for their continued cooperation and contribution to Ireland's efforts to not only the EU's monitoring recommendations on food additives but also the protection of consumer health.

If you have any questions, please contact additives@fsai.ie.

Kind regards,

Food Safety Authority of Ireland