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Public Statement

The EU moves towards the setting of maximum levels for 3-MCPD esters

Brussels, 25 September 2020 – With the formal adoption of the Regulation setting maximum values for 3-MCPD esters¹, the European Commission takes a further step in the risk management of these substances that arise during processing. The legislation will enter into force on 1st January 2021.

After EFSA provided an up-dated opinion on 3-MCPD esters in January 2018, the EU launched risk management discussions with a view to limit the exposure of consumers to these substances. FEDIOL provided input and experience from the processing side where appropriate.

In order to tackle the food safety issue, FEDIOL members have for several years engaged in the development of specific technologies to prevent and reduce the occurrence of 2- and 3-MCPD esters in vegetable oils. The 3-MCPDE mitigation techniques have required investments and are now being implemented by companies at each of their processing facilities to ensure that EU maximum levels required by the new Regulation (EU) No 2020/1322 will be met.

ENDS

Note to editors:

FEDIOL, the EU vegetable oil and protein meal industry association, represents the interests of the European oilseed crushers, vegetable oil refiners and bottlers. FEDIOL members are 10 national associations and associated company members in 7 other EU countries.

With about 180 facilities in Europe, the sector provides 20,000 direct employments. Its members process approximately 55 million tonnes of raw materials a year, both of EU origin and imported from third country markets. The sector crushes oilseeds, notably rapeseed, sunflower seed, soybeans and linseed into oils and meals and refines those crude oils from crushing and crude tropical oils, notably palm oil, palm kernel oil and coconut oil. The meals and the crude and refined oils are sold for food, feed, technical and energy uses essentially on the European market.

More information can be found on the FEDIOL website.

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¹ Regulation (EU) No 2020/1322 amending Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006 as regards maximum levels of 3-monochloropropane diol (3-MCPD), 3-MCPD fatty acid esters and glycidyl fatty acid esters in certain foods as published on the Official Journal on 23 September 2020.