EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 07 SEPTEMBER 2015 - 08 SEPTEMBER 2015
(Section Toxicological Safety of the Food Chain)

CIRCABC Link: https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/55b2edd3-069e-40fd-ad4a-8b163f54ff1f

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation (EU) amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1334/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards prohibiting the use of flavouring substance p-mentha-1,8-dien-7-al.

Out of the 2500 chemically defined flavouring substances included in the European Union list, there are number of flavouring substances under evaluation which were included in the list subject to the submission of additional scientific toxicological studies in order to address their potential for genotoxicity due to their chemical structure.

One of the substances of this kind are a group of alicyclic aldehydes with the alpha, beta unsaturation in their ring or the side-chain and their precursors**.** The European Food Safety Authority evaluated this group of substances in its opinion published on 25 July 2015 and, on the basis of the studies submitted, concluded that the substance *p*-mentha-1,8-dien-7-al [FL-no: 05.117] is genotoxic *in vivo* and that, accordingly, there is a safety concern for its use as a flavouring substance.

The Commission submitted to the Committee a Regulation removing this substance from the Union list as a matter of urgency.

The vote was taken. The Commission also indicated that this substance is considered representative for the other substances in this subgroup and therefore there is a potential safety concern for these other substances unless further evidence proves otherwise. Therefore appropriate measures for these other substances in this group are also under elaboration, which will be presented for opinion at a forthcoming meeting.

Vote taken: unanimous in favour.