

This opinion is that of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed and has not been adopted or endorsed by the European Commission. The views may not in any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of the Commission. This opinion is intended to assist national authorities in the application of Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on food additives. Only the Court of Justice of the European Union is competent to authoritatively interpret Union law.

**OPINION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED TO
ACHIEVE A HARMONISED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EU LEGISLATION**

Subject: Use of polyols and acesulfame K (E 950) in chewing gum

Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 lays down a Union list of food additives approved for use in food and their conditions of use. A question was raised on the understanding of Annex II as regards the use of acesulfame K in chewing gum with added polyols.

On 17 September 2018 the Standing Committee endorsed unanimously the following:

In Part E of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 in food category 05.3 ‘Chewing gum’ polyols are approved for use at *quantum satis* with the restriction ‘only with no added sugar’.

Thus polyols can be used in chewing gums ‘with no added sugars’ as defined in Article 3(2)(e) of Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008. It applies to products ‘with no added sugars’ in which acesulfame K (E 950) is used as a flavour enhancer (i.e. the maximum use level 800 mg/kg applies) as well as to products in which acesulfame K is used as a sweetener (i.e. the maximum use level 2000 mg/kg applies).

The same principle applies to other substances authorised as both sweeteners and flavour enhancers in chewing as well (i.e. aspartame, sucralose, thaumatin, neohesperidine DC, neotame and advantame).