

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** September 04, 2025

**Report Number:** IS2025-0018

**Report Name:** Israel Notifies WTO on Adopting Changes to EU Regulations and Directives Related to Pesticides and Food Flavorings and Additives

**Country:** Israel

**Post:** Tel Aviv

**Report Category:** Country/Regional FTA's, Trade Policy Incident Report, Trade Policy Monitoring, WTO Notifications, Third Country Influence

**Prepared By:** Hila Zakay

**Approved By:** Jenny Morgan

**Report Highlights:**

Israel has adopted European Union (EU) food regulations and directives as part of its "Food Reform" initiative, aligning its food legislation with EU updates through a public comment process and World Trade Organization (WTO) notifications. On August 12, 2025, Israel issued four WTO notifications regarding changes to EU regulations on pesticide residue levels, food flavorings, and food additives, inviting public comments and detailing implementation timelines.

## A. Background

Israel adopted European Union (EU) Regulations and Directives as part of Israel's "Food Reform" initiative (for more on the information see GAIN report: IS2024-0022: Israel Adopts Additional European Union Standards for Agricultural Imports).<sup>1</sup> Under the "Adoption by Reference" mechanism outlined in the Food Reform, Israel aligns its food regulations with updates made by the EU. To do so, the Ministry of Health publishes proposed changes to Israel's food laws, based on EU Regulations and Directives, on the Israeli "[Tazkirim](#)" website for public comment before they become official. The WTO notifications outlined below were published after the publication on the "Tazkirim" website. As the adoption mechanism of EU changes is relatively new, the order of publication is not set under the food legislation and may vary.

## B. WTO Notifications on Adopting Changes to EU Regulations and Directives

On August 12, 2025, Israel issued four notifications to the WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) on the adoption of changes made by the EU into the Israeli food legislation. All four notifications were previously reported in full, by FAS Tel-Aviv as detailed below.

- [G/TBT/N/ISR/1399](#)<sup>2</sup> – Maximum residue levels of pesticide in or on food or feed of plant or animal origin – Changes to Regulation EC 396/2005.
  - See GAIN report table entry 22-27 [Israel Invites Public Comments on Changes to EU Directive No 396-2005 on MRLs | IS2025-0014](#) , Published On: **July 24, 2025**.
- [G/TBT/N/ISR/1400](#)<sup>3</sup> – Food flavorings and certain food ingredients with flavoring properties for use in and on food – Changes to Regulation EC 1334/2008.
  - See GAIN report [Israel Invites Public Comments on Changes to EU Regulation No 1334 2008 | IS2025-0013](#) , Published On: **July 23, 2025**.
- [G/TBT/N/ISR/1401](#)<sup>4</sup> – Food additives – Changes to Regulation EC 1333/2008.  
[G/TBT/N/ISR/1402](#)<sup>5</sup> – Food additives – Changes to Regulation 231/2012.
  - For both notifications, see GAIN report [Israel Seeks Public Comments on Implementation of Changes to European Union Regulations Related to Food Improvement Agents | IS2025-0015](#) , Published On: **July 31, 2025**.
    - G/TBT/N/ISR/1401 – Table entry 4-7
    - G/TBT/N/ISR/1402 – Table entry 9-10
    - Omission in the GAIN report: Last table entry (1) missing: Implementation Date for EU amended Regulation October 27, 2025, Implementation Date for Israeli Legislation December 27, 2025.

<sup>1</sup> [GAIN IS2024-0022 Translated Documents Related to Israel's Adoption of Additional European Union Standards for Agricultural Imports](#)

<sup>2</sup> <https://epingalert.org/en/Search/Index?&viewData=G%2FTBT%2FN%2FISR%2F1399>

<sup>3</sup> <https://epingalert.org/en/Search/Index?countryIds=C376&viewData=G%2FTBT%2FN%2FISR%2F1400>

<sup>4</sup> <https://epingalert.org/en/Search/Index?countryIds=C376&viewData=G%2FTBT%2FN%2FISR%2F1401>

<sup>5</sup> <https://epingalert.org/en/Search/Index?countryIds=C376&viewData=G%2FTBT%2FN%2FISR%2F1402>

**Attachments:**

[G TBT N ISR 1399.pdf](#)

[G TBT N ISR 1400.pdf](#)

[G TBT N ISR 1401.pdf](#)

[G TBT N ISR 1402.pdf](#)