

Determination of 3-MCPD and its fatty acid esters

3-Monochloropropanediol (3-MCPD) and its fatty acid esters are process contaminants that form during high temperature operations on cereal products and during the process of refining oils and fats.

Given the possible health concern for infants and young children, the maximum levels of the sum of 3-monochloropropanediol (3-MCPD) and 3-MCPD fatty acid esters in infant formulae, follow-on formulae and food for special medical purposes

intended for infants and young children and young child formulae have been established by Regulation (EU) 2020/1322 and incorporated into Regulation (EU) 2023/915.

However, recent occurrence data indicate that lower levels of 3-MCPD and 3-MCPD fatty acid esters can already be achieved.

The Commission has therefore decided to lower these maximum levels in order to ensure a high level of protection of human health.

In particular, the Commission published Regulation (EU) 2024/1003 of 4 April 2024 amending Regulation (EU) 2023/915 Regulation (EU) 2023/915 as regards maximum levels for Sum of **3-monochloroprenopandiol (3-MCPD) and 3-MCPD fatty acid esters, expressed as 3-MCPD** on the following matrices:

Infant formulae, follow-on formulae and food for special medical purposes intended for infants and young children and young-child formulae	placed on the market as powder	from 125 to 80 ppb
	placed on the market as liquid	from 15 to 12 ppb

This Regulation shall enter into force on the 20th day following its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union. It shall apply from 1 January 2025.

Neutron supports the customer in the determination of 3-monochloroprenopandiol (3-MCPD) and its fatty acid esters with the GC-MS/MS technique.

References:

1-Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/1003 of 4 April 2024 amending Regulation (EU) 2023/915 as regards maximum levels for the sum of 3-monochloropropanediol (3-MCPD) and 3-MCPD fatty acid esters in infant formulae, follow-on formulae and food for special medical purposes intended for infants and young children and young child formulae

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/IT/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32024R1003>

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