

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: May 05, 2021

Report Number: CA2021-0028

Report Name: Health Canada Launches Consultation on Novel Foods
Regulation Focused on Plant Breeding

Country: Canada

Post: Ottawa

Report Category: Biotechnology - Plants and Animals, Grain and Feed, Oilseeds and Products

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Report Highlights:

Health Canada is seeking feedback on two new pieces of guidance for the Novel Foods Regulations, focused on plant breeding. The consultation will be open for 60 days until May 24, 2021 and stakeholders are invited to comment.

Health Canada Launches Consultation on Novel Foods Regulation Focused on Plant Breeding

On March 25, 2021, Health Canada launched a [consultation](#) on two new pieces of guidance for the Novel Foods Regulations, focused on plant breeding. The consultation will be open for 60 days, from March 25 to May 24, 2021.

The two new pieces of guidance are attached. They are:

- Proposed Changes to Health Canada Guidance on the interpretation of [Division 28 of Part B](#) of the Food and Drug Regulations (the Novel Food Regulations): When is a food that was derived from a plant developed through breeding a “novel food”?
- Proposed Health Canada Guidance on the pre-market assessment of foods derived from Retransformants under Division 28 of Part B of the Food and Drug Regulations (the Novel Food Regulations)

Health Canada welcomes feedback on the two new pieces on novelty and retransformations. Their intent is to ensure the guidance:

- Provides greater clarity, predictability, and transparency regarding the regulation of novel foods derived from plants, including those developed using gene editing technologies
- Provides an efficient and predictable pathway to commercialization for new products

To send your feedback, ask questions, or to request a meeting to discuss the consultation documents, the team responsible for the development of the guidelines can be reached at: hc.bmh-bdm.sc@canada.ca

Health Canada is particularly interested in hearing from:

- regulated parties
- interested stakeholders
- general Canadian public

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) will be consulting soon on new guidance for the environmental release of new plant varieties as part of a separate public consultation process.

Attachments:

[Proposed HC Guidance - Retransformants - 2021_03_12.pdf](#)

[Proposed HC Guidance - Novelty Interpretation - 2021_03_12.pdf](#)