PAFF AN 02-03/07/2026

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EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, XXX
SANTE/2536135/2026 CIS
(POOL/G5/2026/2536135/2536135-EN CIS.docx)
[…](2026) XXX draft

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) …/...

of XXX

concerning the authorisation of molybdenum chelate of EDTA as a feed additive for honeybees (holder of authorisation: Oligofeed SAS)

(Text with EEA relevance)

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(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2003 on additives for use in animal nutrition[1], and in particular Article 9(2) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 provides for the authorisation of additives for use in animal nutrition and for the grounds and procedures for granting such an authorisation.

(2) In accordance with Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003, an application was submitted for the authorisation of molybdenum chelate of EDTA. That application was accompanied by the particulars and documents required under Article 7(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.

(3) The application concerns the authorisation of molybdenum chelate of EDTA as a feed additive for honeybees and bumblebees, requesting that additive to be classified in the category 'nutritional additives', in the functional group 'compounds of trace elements'.

(4) The European Food Safety Authority ('the Authority') concluded in its opinion of 27 January 2026[2] that molybdenum chelate of EDTA is safe for the target species, as well as for consumers and the environment, when used at the maximum recommended use level of 8 mg/hive per feeding. The Authority also concluded that molybdenum chelate of EDTA should be considered a skin and respiratory sensitiser, that inhalation and dermal exposure are considered a risk and should be minimised, while the additive is not irritant to skin nor to eyes. It could not conclude on the efficacy of molybdenum chelate of EDTA as a nutritional additive in honeybees and bumblebees but concluded that the supplementation of the additive at 8 mg/hive has the potential to be efficacious as a zootechnical additive for honeybees. However, no conclusion could be reached on the efficacy of molybdenum chelate of EDTA when supplemented to bumblebees. It did not consider that there is a need for specific requirements of post-market monitoring. The Authority also verified the report on the methods of analysis of the feed additive in feed submitted by the Reference Laboratory set up by Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.

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1 OJ L 268, 18.10.2003, p. 29, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2003/1831/oj.

2 *EFSA Journal.* 2026;24:e9918, https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2026.9918.

(5) On 2 March 2026, the applicant withdrew the application for the authorisation of molybdenum chelate of EDTA for bumblebees, and on 12 May 2026 it requested molybdenum chelate of EDTA to be reclassified in the category ‘zootechnical additives’ and in the functional group ‘physiological condition stabilisers’.

(6) In view of the above, the Commission considers that molybdenum chelate of EDTA satisfies the conditions provided for in Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003. Accordingly, the use of that substance should be authorised for honeybees. Considering that molybdenum chelate of EDTA is to be fed to honeybees via sugar-based complementary feed, it is appropriate to prohibit the use of the additive when the honey supers are on and during the honey harvesting season to avoid honey adulteration. In addition, the Commission considers that appropriate protective measures should be taken to prevent adverse effects on the health of the users of the additive.

(7) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1
Authorisation

The substance specified in the Annex, belonging to the additive category ‘zootechnical additives’ and to the functional group ‘physiological condition stabilisers’, is authorised as an additive in animal nutrition, subject to the conditions laid down in that Annex.

Article 2
Entry into force

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union.*

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission
The President
Ursula VON DER LEYEN