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# End of plastic packaging of fruit and vegetables: what calendar?

Publié le 18 février 2022 - Legal and Administrative Information Directorate (Prime Minister)

## Illustration 1

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Cucumbers under cellophane, pears in carpet, courgette in plastic bag... Plastic packaging for certain fruit and vegetables will be banned from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022. As provided by the anti-waste law for a circular economy, it will no longer be possible to sell unprocessed fresh fruit and vegetables packaged in plastic, with a progressive ban for the most fragile. *Service-Public.fr* gives you the timetable foreseen in the decree issued on 12 October *Official Journal*.

From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022, may no longer be sold under plastic packaging:

- Leeks, courgette, aubergine, peppers, cucumbers, potatoes and carrots « *normal* » (not raw), round tomatoes, onions and turnips « *normal* », cabbages, cauliflower flowers, squash, parsnips, radishes, root vegetables, Jerusalem artichokes.
- Apples, pears, bananas, oranges, clementines, kiwis, mandarins, lemons, grapefruits, plums, melons, pineapples, mangoes, passion fruits and khakis.

In order to give manufacturers time to settle alternative solutions, certain fruit and vegetables will be exempt from this obligation by 30 June 2026. Thus, certain products may be sold in plastic packaging:

**Until 30 June 2023:** chopped or elongated tomatoes or Heart segment tomatoes, cherry or cocktail tomatoes, early onions, turnips, Brussels sprouts, green beans, grapes, peaches, nectarines and apricots.


**Until 31 December 2024:** salads, chews, young shoots, aromatic herbs, spinach, oneself, edible flowers, bean sprouts mungo, spinach, endives, asparagus, broccoli, early potatoes, early carrots, small carrots, mushrooms, cherries, cranberries, cranberries and physalis;


**Until 30 June 2026:**

- fruits and vegetables sold in batches of 1,5 kg or more;
- those at risk of deterioration through their bulk sale:
  - raspberries, strawberries, currants, turreted and currant, blackcurrants, and kiwis;
  - fruit « *ripe* » collected at maturity;
  - germinated seeds (Alfafa, lentils, soy, etc.).

By 2026, all fruits and vegetables will be sold without plastic packaging. However, a 6-month tolerance period is provided for the disposal of packaging stocks.

 **Please note :** the obligation does not apply to processed products, i.e. cut or peeled fruit and vegetables, as they may be found in supermarkets.

 **FYI :** 37% fruits and vegetables are now sold in packaging. This measure is expected to eliminate more than one billion useless plastic packaging each year.

 **Reminder :** From 1<sup>st</sup> in January 2022, labels on fruit and vegetables, plastic tea bags and plastic toys distributed in fast food restaurants will also be banned.

## Statute and miscellaneous references

- Decree No. 2021-1318 of 8 October 2021 on the obligation to present unprocessed fresh fruit and vegetables for sale without a compound packaging for all or part of plastic material [↗ \(https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/eli/decret/2021/10/8/TREP2106919D/jo/texte\)](https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/eli/decret/2021/10/8/TREP2106919D/jo/texte)
- Law of 10 February 2020 on combating waste and the circular economy [↗ \(https://www.vie-publique.fr/loi/268681-loi-lutte-contre-le-gaspillage-et-economie-circulaire\)](https://www.vie-publique.fr/loi/268681-loi-lutte-contre-le-gaspillage-et-economie-circulaire)

## Additional topics

- Against waste and for the circular economy: what the law provides [↗ \(https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/actualites/A13849?lang=en\)](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/actualites/A13849?lang=en)
- Single use plastic products: new prohibitions [↗ \(https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/actualites/A14571?lang=en\)](https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/actualites/A14571?lang=en)

## For more information, please contact

- Towards the end of plastic packaging around fruits and vegetables [↗ \(https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/vers-fin-des-emballages-plastique-autour-des-fruits-et-legumes\)](https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/vers-fin-des-emballages-plastique-autour-des-fruits-et-legumes)  
Ministry of Environment

- Plastic pollution: the announced end to plastic packaging around fresh fruit and vegetables [↗ \(https://www.economie.gouv.fr/pollution-plastique-fin-emballages-plastiques-autour-fruits-legumes-frais\)](https://www.economie.gouv.fr/pollution-plastique-fin-emballages-plastiques-autour-fruits-legumes-frais)  
*Ministry of Economy*
- Combating plastic pollution: publication of the decree banning plastic packaging around fresh fruit and vegetables [↗ \(https://agriculture.gouv.fr/lutte-contre-la-pollution-plastique-un-decret-encadrant-linterdiction-des-emballages-plastiques\)](https://agriculture.gouv.fr/lutte-contre-la-pollution-plastique-un-decret-encadrant-linterdiction-des-emballages-plastiques)  
*Ministry of Agriculture*