

ESA DEFINITIONS OF CULINARY HERBS AND SPICES

Herbs and spices

Culinary herbs and spices are edible parts of plants which are traditionally added to foodstuffs for their natural flavouring, aromatic and visual properties.

For more details see ESA List of Culinary Herbs and Spices.

Herb and spice blends*

These mixtures only contain herbs and spices and, if necessary, permitted anti-caking agents.

* The terms blend, mix and mixture are interchangeable.

Seasonings**

A seasoning is a blend of permitted food ingredients added as necessary to achieve the purpose for which it is designed, that is, to improve the taste, eating quality and/or functionality of a food.

It typically contains one or more herbs and/or spices and other flavour-enhancing or flavour-imparting ingredients.

** The seasoning category includes seasonings with functional properties, for example thickening, emulsifying, preserving, tenderizing, colouring.