
GOVERNMENT NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

No. R. 249

30 March 2010

FOODSTUFFS, COSMETICS AND DISINFECTANTS ACT, 1972

(ACT NO. 54 OF 1972)

REGULATIONS RELATING TO TRANS FAT IN FOODSTUFFS

The Minister of Health intends, under section 15 (1) of the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act 54 of 1972), to make the regulations set out in the Schedule.

Interested persons are invited to submit any substantiated comments or representations on the proposed regulations to the Director-General of Health, Private Bag X828, Pretoria, 0001 (for the attention of the Director: Food Control), within 3 months from the date of publication of this notice.

SCHEDULE

1. Definitions

In these regulations-

“**the Act**” means the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act No. 54 of 1972), and any expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall bear such meaning;

“**trans-fats**” means all the geometrical isomers of monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fatty acids having non-conjugated, interrupted by at least one methylene group, carbon-carbon double bonds in the trans configuration.

2. Maximum trans-fat content of foodstuffs

In line with section 2(1)(a)(iv) of the Act, the sale, manufacturing and importation of any oils and fats, including emulsions with fat as the continuous phase, either alone or as part of processed foods, which are intended for human consumption or assumed to be intended for

human consumption, in the retail trade, catering businesses, restaurants, institutions, bakeries et cetera, of which the trans-fat content exceeds 2 gram per 100 grams of end product foodstuff as consumed, is prohibited.

3. Trans-fat free claim

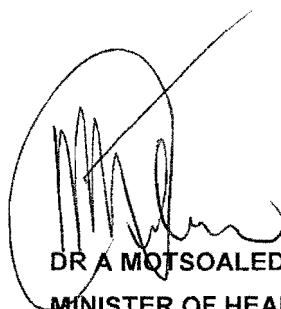
Products that claimed to be "free of trans-fat", the content of trans-fat shall be less than or equal to 0.01 gram per 100 grams of the end product foodstuff as consumed.

4. Methodology

- (a) The preferred method to detect the presence of trans fats in foodstuffs shall be the latest updated version of AOAC method 996.06 or AOCS method Ce 1h-05; or a combination of these methods.
- (b) The preferred GC column shall be any of the following or similar: CP-Sil 88, SP-2560, BPX-70.
- (c) An internal standard shall be used for quantification eg: C11:0, C13:0, C17:0, C21:0 or C23:0.

5. Commencement

These regulations shall come into operation 6 months after the date of final publication.



DR A MOTSOLEDI, MP
MINISTER OF HEALTH
DATE: 12/3/2010