

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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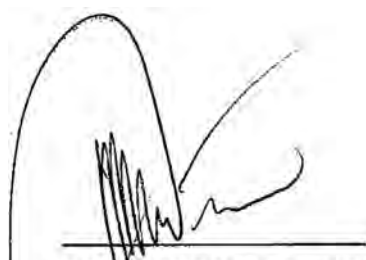
## FOODSTUFFS, COSMETICS AND DISINFECTANTS ACT, 1972

(ACT NO. 54 OF 1972)

## REGULATIONS RELATING TO MAXIMUM LEVELS OF METALS IN FOODSTUFFS

I, Dr A Motsoaledi, the Minister of Health intends, in terms of section 15(1) of the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act No. 54 of 1972), to make the Regulations in the Schedule.

Interested persons are invited to submit, within three (3) months of the date of publication of this Notice, any comments or representations on the proposed Regulations, to the Director- General of Health, Private Bag X828, Pretoria, 0001 or by *email* to *Tsiany@health.gov.za* (for the attention of the Director: Food Control).



DR A MOTSOALEDI, MP  
MINISTER OF HEALTH  
DATE: 9/8/2016

## SCHEDULE

### 1. Definitions

In these Regulations a word or expression defined in the Act bears the meaning so assigned and, unless the context otherwise indicates –

**"maximum level"** means the highest acceptable level of a substance which is determined according to the edible content of the foodstuff, i.e. that part of the foodstuff that is normally consumed;

**"metal"** includes any chemical form of that metal; and

**"the Act"** means the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act No. 54 of 1972).

### 2. General Provisions

(1) For the purpose of section 2(1)(b)(i) of the Act, foodstuff listed in column II of Table 1 of Annexure A is hereby deemed to be contaminated, impure or decayed, or is deemed to be harmful or injurious to human health, if it contains the metal in column I in amounts exceeding the corresponding level in column III when measured.

(2) A person may not import, manufacture or sell a foodstuff with levels that exceed the maximum level of metals prescribed by this regulation, unless stipulated otherwise in the relevant Regulation.

### 3. Repeal

(1) These Regulations repeal the following Regulations on the day that these Regulations come into operation:

- (a) The Regulations Relating to Maximum Levels of Metals in Foodstuffs published under Government Notice No.R.500 of 30 April 2004, as amended by Government Notice No. R. 545 of 23 May 2008,and;
- (b) The Regulations Regarding Food and Water Vessels published under Government Notice No. 1575 of 10 September 1971.

#### **4. Commencement**

- (1) These Regulations shall come into operation three months after the date of publication of the final Regulations.

## ANNEXURE

Table 1: Maximum levels for metals in foodstuffs

Metal	Foodstuff	Maximum Level (mg/kg) or (mg/l)
Antimony(Sb)	Natural mineral water	0.005
Arsenic, total (As-tot)	Edible fats and Oil	0.1
	Fat spreads and blended spreads	0.1
	Natural mineral water	0.01
	Salt, food grade	0.5
Arsenic, Inorganic(As-in)	Rice, polished	0.2
	Rice, husked	0.35
Cadmium (Cd)	Brassica vegetables	0.05
	Bulb vegetables	0.05
	Fruiting vegetables, cucurbits	0.05
	Leafy vegetables	0.2
	Root and tuber vegetables	0.1
	Stalk and stem vegetables	0.1

Metal	Foodstuff	Maximum Level (mg/kg) or (mg/l)
	Legumes vegetables	0.1
	Cereal, Pulses and Legumes (Excluding wheat)	0.1
	Wheat	0.2
	Rice, polished	0.4
	Marine bivalve molluscs (Excluding oysters and scallops)	2.0
	Cephalopods (Without viscera)	2.0
	Natural mineral water	0.003
	Salt, food grade	0.5
Lead (Pb)	Cereal grains	0.2
	Pulses	0.2
	Brassica vegetables	0.1
	Leafy vegetables	0.3
	Legume vegetables	0.1
Lead (Pb)	Bulb vegetables	0.1
	Fruiting vegetables, cucurbits	0.05

Metal	Foodstuff	Maximum Level (mg/kg) or (mg/l)
Lead (Pb)	Fruiting vegetables, other than cucurbits (Excluding fungi, mushrooms and sweet corn)	0.05
	Fungi, mushrooms and sweet corn	0.1
	Root and tuber vegetables	0.1
	Berries and other small fruits (Excluding cranberry, currant and elderberry)	0.1
	Cranberry, currant and elderberry	0.2
	Fruits, except berries and other small fruits	0.1
	Canned fruit cocktail	0.1
	Canned tropical fruit salad	0.1
	Canned grape fruit	0.1
	Canned mandarin oranges	0.1
	Canned mangoes	0.1
	Canned pineapple	0.1
	Canned raspberries	0.1
	Canned strawberries	1.0
Jams (fruit preserves) and jellies	1.0	

Metal	Foodstuff	Maximum Level (mg/kg) or (mg/l)
	Mango chutney	1.0
	Preserved tomatoes	1.0
	Table olives	1.0
	Pickled cucumbers	1.0
	Processed tomato concentrates	1.5
	Canned vegetables (Excluding canned brassica, canned leafy vegetables and canned legume vegetables)	0.1
	Canned brassica, canned leafy vegetables and canned legume vegetables	1.0
	Canned asparagus	0.1
	Canned carrots	0.1
	Canned green beans and canned wax beans	1.0
	Canned mushrooms	0.1
	Canned green peas	1.0
	Canned mature processed peas	0.1
	Canned palmito	0.1
	Canned sweet corn	0.1

Metal	Foodstuff	Maximum Level (mg/kg) or (mg/l)
	Canned Brassica vegetables	1.0
	Canned Leafy vegetables	1.0
	Canned Legume vegetables	1.0
	Fruit juices, nectars and ready-to-drink juices (Excluding juices and nectars from berries and small fruits and passion fruit juices)	0.03
	Passion fruit juices, juices and nectars from berries and small fruits	0.05
	Canned chestnuts and canned chestnuts purée	1.0
	Meat of cattle, pigs and sheep	0.1
	Meat and fat of poultry	0.1
	Cattle, Edible offal of	0.5
	Pig, Edible offal of	0.5
	Poultry, Edible offal of	0.5
	Fish (Whole commodity, in general after removing the digestive tract)	0.3
	Edible fats and oils	0.1
	Fat spreads and blended spreads	0.1
	Natural mineral waters	0.01



Metal	Foodstuff	Maximum Level (mg/kg) or (mg/l)
	Milk	0.02
	Secondary milk products	0.02
	Infant formula, formula for special medical purposes intended for infants and follow-up formula ( whole commodity).	0.01
	Infant formula, formula for special medical purposes intended for infants and follow-up formula (in the ready-to-use product)	0.02
	Salt, food grade	2.0
	Wine	0.2
Mercury (Hg)	Natural mineral waters	0.001
	Salt, food grade	0.1
Methylmercury	Fish (Except predatory fish)	0.5
	Predatory fish (Such as shark, swordfish, tuna and pike)	1.0
Tin (Sn)	Canned beverages	150
	Canned foods (Other than beverages)	250
	All uncanned meat and meat products	50