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## GOVERNMENT NOTICES GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

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### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DEPARTEMENT VAN GESONDHEID

No. R. 114

10 February 2006

**FOODSTUFFS, COSMETICS AND DISINFECTANTS ACT, 1972 (ACT NO. 54 OF 1972)**

#### **REGULATIONS RELATING TO FOOD-GRADE SALT**

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 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 three months of the date of publication of this notice.

### **SCHEDULE**

#### **Definitions**

1. In these regulations any expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall bear that meaning and, unless the context indicates otherwise-

“compound **foodstuff** means a foodstuff which contains food-grade salt as an ingredient or flavourant and in which the crystalline characteristic of the food-grade salt has been changed owing to it being dissolved or absorbed by other ingredients present in the foodstuff and in which the presence of potassium iodate has an undesirable effect on the characteristics of such foodstuff;

“contaminant” means any substance which, although not added intentionally to a foodstuff, is present in such foodstuff as a result of the production (including operations carried out in crop husbandry and veterinary medicine), manufacture, processing, preparation, treatment, packing, packaging, transport or holding of such foodstuff or as a result of environmental contamination, but does not include insect fragments, rodent hair and other extraneous matter;

“food additive” means any substance not normally consumed as a foodstuff by itself and not normally used as a typical ingredient of the foodstuff, whether or not such substance has nutritive value which is intentionally added to a foodstuff for a technological (including sensoric) purpose in the manufacture, processing, preparation, treatment, packing, packaging, transport or storage of such foodstuff and which results or may reasonably be expected to result (directly or indirectly) in such substance or the by-products thereof becoming a component of or otherwise affecting the characteristics of such foodstuff, but does not include any substance added to foodstuffs for maintaining or improving nutritional qualities or contaminants;

“food-grade salt” means a crystalline product consisting of 97% sodium chloride which is used as an ingredient or flavourant in or on foodstuff, and which may be obtained from the sea, underground rock salt deposits or natural brine, and which may also be referred to as table salt, cooking salt, flavoured salt or dendritic salt;

“impermeable packaging material” means material which consists of one or more of the following substances: Low density polyethylene, high density polyethylene, woven polypropylene or similar materials, and includes polycoated cardboard;

“iodated salt” means food-grade salt to which 35 to 65 mg/kg of potassium iodate has been added;

“low sodium salt” means salt containing less than 67% sodium chloride;

“natural secondary products” means products other than sodium chloride which are naturally present in the raw material from which food grade salt is manufactured;

“nutrient” means any substance which is consumed as a constituent of a foodstuff and which provides energy or which is needed for growth, development and the maintenance of life or a deficiency of which causes characteristic biochemical or physiological changes to occur;

“the Act” means the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act No. 54 of 1972).

### Composition

2. (1) Food-grade salt shall not contain less than 97% sodium chloride on a dry matter basis, exclusive of food additives.

(2) The remainder of the food-grade salt referred to in subregulation (1) shall comprise natural secondary products which are present in varying proportions depending on the origin and the method of production of the salt and which are composed mainly of –

- (a) calcium sulphates, potassium sulphates and magnesium sulphates;
- (b) calcium carbonates, potassium carbonates, magnesium carbonates and sodium carbonates;
- (c) calcium bromides, potassium bromides, magnesium bromides and sodium bromides: and
- (d) calcium chlorides, potassium chlorides and magnesium chlorides.

(3) Food-grade salt may be used as a carrier for food additives or nutrients for technological or public health reasons.

**Iodation**

3. (1) No person may sell food-grade salt unless iodine, which is between 35 and 65 ppm (mg/kg) has been added to such salt.

(2) Potassium iodate shall be ~~used~~ for the iodation of food-grade salt.

(3) ~~Imported~~ food-grade salt shall contain between 35 and 65 ppm (mg/kg) iodine on entering the Republic of South Africa.

(4) Food-grade salt which is exported from the Republic of South Africa may contain more than 65 ppm (mg/kg) of iodine.

(5) Iodated food-grade salt shall be packed in impermeable packaging material.

(6) Sampling of iodated salt for compliance monitoring purposes in terms of subregulation (1) shall be done at the point of processing and packaging, and shall be done in accordance with the Codex Standard *for* Food-Grade Salt (CX STAN 150-1985) Appendix.

## Food additives

4. Food-grade salt may contain any food additive listed in Column I of the table below, subject to the conditions and limits indicated opposite thereto in Column II.

I Food additives	II Maximum level in the final product
[a] Anticaking agents Tricalcium phosphate Calcium and/or magnesium carbonate Calcium, magnesium, sodium-aluminium or calcium-aluminium silicates Calcium, potassium or sodium salts or myristic, palmitic or stearic acids Magnesiumoxide Silicon dioxide, amorphous Calcium, potassium or sodium Ferrocyanides	20 mg/kg GMP GMP GMP GMP GMP 10 mg/kg singly or in combination expressed as $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]^{3-}$
(b) Emulsifiers Polysorbate 80	10 mg/kg
(c) Processing aid Dimethylpolysiloxane	10 mg residue/kg

## Contaminants

5. Food-grade salt shall not contain contaminants listed in Column I of the table exceeding the maximum levels indicated opposite thereto in Column II.

I Contaminant	II Maximum level (mg/kg)
Arsenic	0,5 expressed as As
Copper	2 expressed as Cu
Lead	2 expressed as Pb
Cadmium	0,5 expressed as Cd
Mercury	0,1 expressed as Hg

### Labelling

6. (1) The name of the product as declared on the label shall be "salt".

(2) In close proximity to the name "salt" referred to in subregulation (1), a description of the type of salt shall be affixed.

(3) Where food grade-salt is not iodated in accordance with these regulations, the term 'non-iodated salt' shall appear on the label.

(4) Where food-grade salt is used as a carrier for one or more nutrients and sold as such for public health reasons –

(a) the name of the product shall be declared on the label, for example, "iodated salt", "salt fortified with iron" or "salt fortified with vitamins";

(b) added nutrients shall be declared on the label;

(c) the claim "Iodated for better health" and the official iodation logo to that effect shall be reserved only for food-grade salt fortified with iodine and may be displayed on the label or in advertising material, and the display thereof shall be in accordance with Annexure I of these regulations;

(d) iodine shall –

- (i) be in the list of ingredients and shall be identified as potassium iodate; and
- (ii) be indicated as the elemental mineral, **i.e.** iodine, in the table with nutritional information:

(e) any person who uses the official health claim and logo on labels or in advertising material other than in accordance with these regulations or any other regulations under the Act, shall be guilty of an offence.

(5) An indication of either the origin of food-grade salt or the method of production of such food-grade salt may be declared on the label.

(6) Notwithstanding the provisions of these regulations, food-grade salt shall be labelled in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations Governing the Labelling and Advertising of Foodstuffs, Government Notice No. R. **2034** of **29** October **1993**.

#### Methods of analysis

7. The methods which shall be used for determining the content of sodium chloride and the content of other constituents and properties in food-grade salt are listed in Annexure 11.

#### Application and exemptions

**8. (1)** These regulations shall apply to salt used as -

- (a) a foodstuff or as an ingredient of a foodstuff for direct sale to the consumer and for foodstuff manufacturing; or
- (b) a carrier of food additives or nutrients.

(2) These regulations shall not apply to salt from origins other than those referred to in the definition of "food-grade salt", especially not salt which is a by-product of chemical industries or low sodium salt.

(3) The provisions of regulation 3 of these regulations shall not apply to -


(a) salt intended for the manufacture of compound foodstuffs; and

(b) salt available at pharmacies in packages of 500 grams or less which is labeled 'non-iodated salt'.

(4) Processors, packers or importers of food grade salt products packed in quantities not larger than 250 g who wish, for any reason, to be exempted from the provisions of regulation 3 shall apply to the Director-General of the Department of Health, for the attention of the Directorate: Food Control.

Repeal

9. Government Notice No. R. 239 of 16 March 2001, as corrected by Government Notice No. R. 1102 of 9 November 2001 and amended by Government Notice No. R. 1368 of 21 December 2001, is hereby repealed.

  
**ME TSHABALALA-MSIMANG**  
**MINISTER OF HEALTH**



## ANNEXURE I

### REQUIREMENTS FOR THE USE OF THE LOGO AND HEALTH CLAIM

- (a) Wherever the health claim or the official logo is used, it shall be printed ~~in~~ a prominent position on the ~~main~~ panel in bold print against a contrasting or clear background on ~~all~~ types of packaging materials. The logo shall be clearly visible, legible and indelible.
- (b) The mandatory nutritional information declaration as described in the relevant Annex to the Regulations ~~Relating to the Labelling and Advertising of Foodstuffs~~, Government Notice No. R. ~~2034 of 29 October 1993~~, shall be printed on the back or side panel in letters at least 1 mm in height for lower case letters, or a bigger letter size in the case of polypropylene packaging ~~material~~, provided the information is legible.
- (c) ~~The~~ nutritional information declaration referred to in Regulation 6 (4) (b) as well as nutritional information relevant to the iodation specifications shall be declared per 100 grams.
- (d) The official logo shall be a minimum size of 25 mm for paper and plastic packaging and a minimum size of 100 mm for woven polypropylene packaging.
- (e) The design of the logo shall be constructed as indicated in facsimile 1.
- (f) The logo may be printed in monochrome as per facsimile 1, or in any of ~~the~~ selected main colours of the packaging.
- (g) Where the full-colour version of the logo is used, the following colours shall be used in accordance with facsimile 2:

Grass:

Green 1      Pantone 390      (45c    100y)

**Male's shorts:**

Green 2      Pantone 349      (100c 100y 54k)

**Sun:**

Orange 1      Pantone 123      (28m 100y)

**Back female's arms x 2, legs x 2, head:**

Orange 2      Pantone 138      (53m 100y 8k)

**Back female's skirt, front female's eyes x 2:**

Blue ■      Pantone 3015      (100c 40k)

**Front female's T-shirt:**

Blue 2      Pantone 274      (100c 100m 30k)

**Sky:**

Blue 3      Pantone 290      (10c)  
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**Front female's arms x 2, legs x 2, head:**

Flesh      Pantone 719      (15m 18y)

**Male's T-shirt:**

Yellow      Process yellow      (100y)

**Male's arms x 2, legs x 2, head:**

Brown      Pantone 470      (56m 78y 40k)

**Back female's T-shirt, mouth, front female's skirt and mouth:**

Red      Pantone 485      (100m 100y)

**Male's hair, eyes x 2, mouth, back female's hair, eyes x 2, front female's hair, outer circular border, all payoff lines:**

Black      Process black

Facsimile 1



Facsimile 2:



## ANNEXURE II

### METHODS OF ANALYSIS

#### 1. Determination of sodium chloride content method

The determination of sodium chloride content method allows for the calculation of sodium chloride content in food-grade salt as provided for in regulation 2 based on the result of the determination of sulphates, halogens, calcium, magnesium, potassium and Loss on drying. Convert sulphate to calcium sulphate and the unused sulphate first to magnesium sulphate and any remaining sulphate to sodium sulphate. Convert unused magnesium to magnesium chloride. Convert potassium chloride. Convert unused halogens to sodium chloride. Report sodium chloride on a dry matter basis, multiplying the percentage sodium chloride by  $100/100-P$ , where P is the percentage loss on drying.

#### 2. Test methods for other constituents and properties in food-grade salt

I Substance/property tested for in food-grade salt	II Test method
Insoluble matter	ISO 2479-1972 Determination of matter insoluble in water or in acid and the preparation of principal solutions for other determinations.
Sulphate content	ISO 2480-1972 Determination of sulphate content. Barium sulphate gravimetric method.
Halogens	ISO 2481-1973 Determination of halogens, expressed as chlorine. Mercurimetric method.
Calcium and magnesium contents	ISO 2482-1973 Determination of calcium and magnesium contents. EDTA complexometric methods.
Potassium content	ESPA/CN-E/103-1994 Determination of potassium content by sodium tetraphenylborate volumetric

	method <del>or</del> alternatively according to the <b>ESPA/CN-E/104-1994</b> Flame atomic method.
Loss on drying (conventional method)	ISO 2483-1973 Determination of the <b>loss of mass</b> at 110 °C
Copper content	<b>ESPA/CN-E/101-1994</b> Determination <del>of</del> copper content. Zinc dibenzyl dithiocarbamate photometric method.
Arsenic content	<b>ESPA/CN-E/105-1994</b> Determination <del>of</del> arsenic content. Silver diethyldithiocarbamate photometric method.
Mercury content	<b>ESPA/CN-E/106-1994</b> Determination <del>of</del> total mercury content. Cold vapour atomic absorption spectrometric method.
Lead content	<b>ESPA/CN-E/108-1994</b> Determination of total lead content. Flame atomic absorption spectrometric method.
Cadmium content	<b>ESPA/CN-E/107-1994</b> Determination <del>of</del> total cadmium content. Flame atomic absorption spectrometric method.
Iodine content	<b>ESPA/CN-E/109-1996</b> Determination <del>of</del> total iodine content. Titrimetric method with sodium thiosulphate.

Abbreviations used in table: