

REGULATIONS RELATING TO METALS IN FOODSTUFFS

Government Notice No. R. 1518 of 9 September 1994

The Minister of Health has in terms of section 15(1) of the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act No. 54 of 1972), made the regulations in the Schedule.

SCHEDULE

Definitions

1. 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.
2. For the purposes of section 2(1)(b)(i) of the Act in so far as it is applied and applicable to foodstuffs, any foodstuffs listed in the Annexure to these regulations shall be deemed to be contaminated, impure or decayed or harmful or injurious to human health if it contains the metals lead, copper, mercury, zinc, cadmium, arsenic, tin and antimony in amounts greater than the amounts indicated opposite the relevant foodstuff in the Annexure to these regulations.
3. Regulations 3(2) of the regulations made under the repealed Food, Drug and Disinfectants Act, 1929 (Act No. 13 of 1939), as published by Government Notice No. 575 of 28 March 1930 and amended by Government Notices Nos. R. 838 of 7 June 1957 and R. 3228 of 5 September 1969, is hereby deleted.

ANNEXURE

MAXIMUM LIMITS FOR METALS IN FOODSTUFFS

(mg/kg or mg/1P)

Foodstuff	Lead (Pb)	Copper (Cu)	Mercury (Hg)	Zinc (Zn)	Cadmium (Cd)	Arsenic (As)	Tin (Sn)	Antimony (Sb)
Meat (including processed meat and organs).....	0,5	30,0	0,05	40,0	2,0	1,0	40,0	1,0
Canned meat (excluding solid meat packs in rectangular cans until 1997-12-31).....	1,0	30,0	0,05	40,0	2,0	1,5	200,0	1,0
Solid meat packs in rectangular cans until 1997-12-31.....	2,0	30,0	0,05	40,0	2,0	1,5	200,0	1,0

Foodstuff	Lead (Pb)	Copper (Cu)	Mercury (Hg)	Zinc (Zn)	Cadmium (Cd)	Arsenic (As)	Tin (Sn)	Antimony (Sb)
Fish (including processed fish).....	1,0	30,0	0,5*	40,0	1,0	1,0	40,0	1,0
Canned fish.....	4,0	30,0	0,5*	40,0	1,0	1,5	200,0	1,0
Swordfish and other billed fish, tuna and shark (including canned tuna).....	4,0	30,0	1,0*	40,0	1,0	1,5	40,0H	1,0
Shellfish (including cephalopods) and shellfish products.....	4,0	50,0	1,0*	300,0	3,0	3,0	40,0	1,0
Fruit and vegetables.....	0,5	30,0	0,03	40,0	0,1	1,0	40,0	1,0
Canned fruit and vegetables.....	1,0	30,0	0,03	40,0	0,1	1,5	200,0	1,0
Milk.....	0,05	2,0	0,01	5,0	0,005	0,1	40,0	0,15
Eggs.....	0,1	30,0	0,03	40,0	0,01	1,0	40,0	1,0
Cereals and processed cereals.....	0,5	30,0	0,05	40,0	0,1	1,0	40,0	1,0
Gelatin.....	10,0	30,0	0,05	100,0	0,1	2,5	200,0	10,0
All cool drinks, including fruit juices and spring or mineral water (not canned).....	0,3	5,0	0,01	5,0	0,01	0,2	40,0	0,15
Beer, cider and ale (not canned).....	0,3	5,0	0,01	5,0	0,01	0,2	40,0	0,15
Any canned drink.....	1,0	5,0	0,01	5,0	0,01	0,2	200,0	0,15
Any other foodstuff.....	0,5	30,0	0,05	40,0	0,01	1,0	200,0	1,0
For other alcoholic liquor products refer to the Liquor Products Act, 1989 (Act No. 60 of 1989).....								

* As methylmercury
H 200 mg/kg for canned Tuna