



19 June 2019

(19-4183)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English/French

NOTIFICATION

1. Notifying Member: <u>CANADA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2. Agency responsible: Health Canada
3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Maximum levels for inorganic arsenic in polished (white) and husked (brown) rice (ICS Code: 67.060)
4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners <input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries:
5. Title of the notified document: Health Canada's Proposal to Add Maximum Levels for Inorganic Arsenic in Polished (White) and Husked (Brown) Rice to the List of Contaminants and Other Adulterating Substances in Foods - Reference Number: NOP/ADP C-2019-2. Language(s): English and French. Number of pages: 5
6. Description of content: Health Canada has conducted a scientific assessment which supports the establishment of maximum levels (MLs) for inorganic arsenic in polished (white) and husked (brown) rice. These MLs would also apply to these types of rice when used as ingredients in other foods. The Government is also collecting more data on rice-based foods, including products for infants and young children. This will inform the Department's future consideration of whether additional MLs for such foods are required. If it is determined that additional MLs for other rice-based foods are warranted, then Health Canada will announce its intention to establish these MLs via a separate notice. The purpose of this communication is to publically announce the Department's intention in this regard and to provide the appropriate contact information for any inquiries or feedback on the new maximum levels for inorganic arsenic in rice and the proposed next steps for other rice-based foods.
7. Objective and rationale: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.
8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text): In 2014 and 2016, the Codex Alimentarius Commission established MLs of 0.2 ppm and 0.35 ppm for inorganic arsenic in polished (white) and husked (brown) rice, respectively (CODEX STAN 193-1995). The proposed MLs by Health Canada align with those established by the Codex Alimentarius.

<p><input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:</p>
<p>9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: Health Canada's Food and Nutrition - 'Public Involvement and Partnerships' Website, posted 14 June 2019 (available in English and French): https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/food-nutrition/public-involvement-partnerships.html (English) https://www.canada.ca/fr/sante-canada/services/aliments-nutrition/participation-public-partenariats.html (French)</p>
<p>10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): The proposed ML will be legally enabled once it is published in Health Canada's List of Contaminants and Other Adulterating Substances in Foods (https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/food-nutrition/food-safety/chemical-contaminants/contaminants-adulterating-substances-foods.html).</p> <p>Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy):</p>
<p>11. Proposed date of entry into force: <input type="checkbox"/> Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): The ML noted in this document comes into force the day on which the modification is made to the List of Contaminants and Other Adulterating Substances in Foods (https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/food-nutrition/food-safety/chemical-contaminants/contaminants-adulterating-substances-foods.html).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Trade facilitating measure</p>
<p>12. Final date for comments: <input type="checkbox"/> Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 27 August 2019</p> <p>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p>

13. Text(s) available from: [] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

Health Canada's Proposal to Add Maximum Levels for Inorganic Arsenic in Polished (White) and Husked (Brown) Rice to the List of Contaminants and Other Adulterating Substances in Foods - Reference Number: NOP/ADP C-2019-2 is available through the following weblinks:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/food-nutrition/public-involvement-partnerships/proposal-add-maximum-levels-inorganic-arsenic-white-and-brown-rice-list-of-contaminants-other-adulterating-substances/document.html> (English)

<https://www.canada.ca/fr/sante-canada/services/aliments-nutrition/participation-public-partenariats/proposition-ajouter-concentrations-maximales-arsenic-inorganique-dans-riz-blanc-et-riz-brun-liste-contaminants-autres-substances-adulterantes/document.html> (French)

Canada's Notification Authority and Enquiry Point

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