

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY
USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT
POLICY

Voluntary Public

Date: 12/10/2013

GAIN Report Number: VM3070

Vietnam

Post: Hanoi

Technical Regulations on Mycotoxin and Heavy Metals MRLs in Foods

Report Categories:

FAIRS Subject Report

Approved By:

Michael Ward

Prepared By:

Bui Huong

Report Highlights:

On January 13, 2011, the Ministry of Health (MOH) issued Circular 2/2011/TT-BYT promulgating: 1) National Technical Regulation QCVN 8-1:2011/BYT regarding the maximum level of mycotoxin allowed in food; and 2) National Technical Regulation QCVN 8-2:2011/BYT regarding the maximum level of heavy metals allowed in food. The Circular entered into force on August 13, 2011, but was never notified to the WTO.

Summary:

On January 13, 2011, the Ministry of Health (MOH) issued Circular 2/2011/TT-BYT to promulgate:

1) Vietnam National Technical Regulation QCVN 8-1:2011/BYT regarding the maximum level of mycotoxin allowed in food; and 2) Vietnam National Technical Regulation QCVN 8-2:2011/BYT regarding the maximum level of heavy metals allowed in food. Circular 02 and Technical Regulations QCVN8-1:2011 and QCVN8-2:2011 were not notified to the World Trade Organization Sanitary and Phytosanitary Committee. The Circular entered into force on August 13, 2011.

The allowed levels of mycotoxin and heavy metal in food regulated in QCVN 8-1:2011/BYT and QCVN 8-2:2011/BYT replaced similar MRLs regulated in MOH's Decision 46/2007/QĐ-BYT, dated December 19, 2007.

Below is unofficial translation of Vietnam National Technical Regulation on level of mycotoxin contamination allowed in food (QCVN 8-1:2011) and Vietnam Technical Regulation on level of heavy metal allowed in food (QCVN 8-2:2011).

1: QCVN 8-1: 2011/BYT: Level of Mycotoxin Contamination Allowed in Food

TT	Food products	ML (µg/kg)		
		Aflatoxin B1	Aflatoxin total	Aflatoxin M1
1.1	Peanuts and other oil seeds as raw material, or need to be treated before use as food or used as a component in food	8	15	KQĐ
1.2	Almonds, chestnuts, dried apricots as raw materials need to be processed before use as food or use as an ingredient in food	12	15	KQĐ
1.3	Chestnuts, Brazilian almonds as raw materials, need to be processed before use as food or use as an ingredient in food	8	15	KQĐ
1.4	Almonds (tree nuts) as raw material, excluding products regulated in 1.2 ; 1.3, need to be processed before use as food or use as an ingredient in food	5	10	KQĐ
1.5	Groundnut, other oilseeds for food and their products <i>Exception: crude vegetable oil for refining and refined vegetable oils</i>	2	4	KQĐ
1.6	Almonds, chestnuts , dried apricots used for consumption or as an ingredient in food	8	10	KQĐ
1.7	Chestnuts, Brazilian almonds used for consumption or as an ingredient in food	5	10	KQĐ
1.8	Chestnuts for food, excluding products regulated in 1.6, 1.7, or used as ingredient in food	2	4	KQĐ

1.9	Dried fruits treated before used as food or a component of food	5	10	KQĐ
1.10	Dried fruits and its products used as food, or a component of food	2	4	KQĐ
1.11	All kind of grains and products derived from grains, including processed products (excluding products regulated in 1.12; 1.15; 1.17)	2	4	KQĐ
1.12	Corn and rice, need to be treated before use as food or an ingredient in food.	5	10	KQĐ
1.13	Of raw milk, heat-treated milk, milk used to produce milk products	KQĐ	KQĐ	0.5
1.14	Spices: - Chili: includes all kinds, chili sauce, chili powder, chili chicken, spicy chili. - Dry including white pepper and black pepper - Nutmeg. - Ginger and turmeric	5	10	KQĐ
1.15	Foods made from grains for infants and babies	0.1	KQĐ	KQĐ
1.16	Milk powder for babies and infants	KQĐ	KQĐ	0.025
1.17	Special diet food indicated for infants	0.1	KQĐ	0.025

2. Safety limits allowed for Ochratoxin A contamination in food:

No	Food products	ML (μg /kg)
2.1	Un-processed grains	5
2.2	All products made from unprocessed cereals, all treated grain products, treated as well as cereals used as food does not include products specified in sections 2.9 and 2.10	3
2.3	Dried grapes	10
2.4	Roasted coffee	5
2.5	Instant coffee (cafe uống ngay)	10
2.6	Wines, fruit wines, including sparkling wine, excluding sweet wine (dessert) and wine of an alcoholic strength $\geq 15\%$	2
2.7	Aromatic wine: including for drinks and cocktails	2
2.8	Grape juice: grape juice concentrates, premium grape wine	2
2.9	Food made from grain for infants and babies	0.5
2.10	Special diet food indicated for infants	0.5
2.11	Spices: - Chili: includes all kinds, chili sauce, chili powder, chili chicken, spicy chili. - Pepper: dry beans, including white and black pepper - Nutmeg - Ginger and turmeric - Mixtures containing one or more of the above	30

2.12	Licorice root used for herbal tea	20
2.13	Licorice extract for beverage or to mix	80

3. Safety limits allowed for Patullin contamination in food:

No	Food products	ML (μg / /kg)
3.1	Fruit juice, pure fruit juice, fruit puree	50
3.2	Alcoholic beverages, cider, fermented drinks made from apples or containing apple juice	50
3.3	The apple products (meat apple) including apple jam, apple puree is used as a food product does not include the provisions in sections 3.4 and 3.5	25
3.4	Apple juice and apple products (apple flesh), including apple jam and apple puree for infants and young children.	10
3.5	Baby foods, except cereal foods for infants and young children	10

4. Safety limits allowed for Deoxynivalenol contamination in food:

No	Food products	ML μg (/kg)
4.1	Unprocessed wheat and millet	1750
4.2	Unprocessed cereals, excluding wheat, millet and corn	1250
4.3	Material corn seed, excluding unprocessed corn seed used for making wet flour.	1750
4.4	Cereals used for food, cereals, seeds (germ) used as a food, not including products specified in section 4.7; 4.8; 4.9	750
4.5	Pasta (dry)	750
4.6	Bread, cakes, biscuits, snacks and breakfast food (breakfast) made from cereals	500
4.7	Foods made from cereals and foods for infants and young children (dried)	200
4.8	Milled maize with particle size $> 500 \mu\text{m}$	750
4.9	Milled maize with particle size $\leq 500 \mu\text{m}$	1250

5. Safety limits allowed for Fumonisin contamination in food:

No	Food Products	Fumonisin Total - ML ($\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$)
5.1	Material seed corn, excluding corn used for making wet flour	4000
5.2	Corn for food, corn used as ingredient in food, excluding products regulated in 5.3; 5.4	1000
5.3	Snacks and breakfast made from corn	800
5.4	Corn products used for infant and young children	200
5.5	Milled maize with particle size $> 500 \mu\text{m}$	1400
5.6	Milled maize with particle size $\leq 500 \mu\text{m}$	2000

6. Safety limits allowed for Zearalenone contamination in food:

No	Food product	ML (μg /kg)
6.1	Un-processed cereals, excluding corn	100
6.2	Un-processed corn, excluding corn for making wet flour	350
6.3	Cereal for food, cereal flour, seed sperm (excluding products regulated in 6.6 ; 6.7 ; 6.8 ; 6.9 ; 6.10)	75
6.4	Refined corn oil	400
6.5	Bread, cakes, biscuits, snacks and breakfast food (breakfast) made from cereals	50
6.6	Food made from corn, snacks and desserts (breakfast) made from corn	100
6.7	Food made from cereals (except food made from corn) and food for infants and young children	20
6.8	Food made from corn for infants and young children	20
6.9	Milled maize with particle size $> 500 \mu\text{m}$	200
6.10	Milled maize with particle size $\leq 500 \mu\text{m}$	300

Note: KQĐ: Not regulated

2. QCVN 8-2: 2011/BYT: Level of Heavy Metal Contamination Allowed in Food

Safety Limit of Level of Contamination of Arsenic (As), Cadmium (Cd), Lead (Pb), Mercury (Hg), Methyl Mercury (MeHg), Zinc (Zn) allowed in food

No	Products	Maximum Level allowed (mg/kg)					
		(As)	(Cd)	(Pb)	(Hg)	(MeHg)	(Zn)
1	Milk and Milk products	0,5	1,0	0,02	0,05	-	-
2	Meat and Meat products	1,0	-	-	0,05	-	-
3	Meat of buffalo/cattle/pork/lamb and poultry	-	0,05	0,1	-	-	-
4	Horse meat	-	0,2	-	-	-	-
5	Liver of buffalo/cattle/pork/lamb and poultry	-	0,5	-	-	-	-
6	Kidney of buffalo/cattle/pork/lamb	-	1,0	-	-	-	-
7	By products of Buffalo/cattle/pork/lamb and poultry	-	-	0,5	-	-	-
8	Canned cooked meat products (Minced meat, ham, pork shoulder pork), salted beef, canned of processed meat)						
		For canned products by using tinfoil box	-	-	-	-	-
	For canned products by not using tinfoil	-	-	-	-	-	50
9	Animal oil and fat	0,1	-	0,1	-	-	-
10	Vegetable butter, vegetable oils	0,1	-	0,1	-	-	-
11	Cruciferous vegetables (cải)	-	0,05	0,3 ⁽¹⁾	-	-	-
12	Onion	-	0,05	0,1	-	-	-
13	Fruits uses as vegetable	-	0,05 ⁽²⁾	0,1 ⁽³⁾	-	-	-
14	Vegetable leaves	-	0,2	0,3	-	-	-

				(4)			
15	Bean family vegetable	-	0,1	0,2	-	-	-
16	Plant roots and tubers used as vegetable	-	0,1 ⁽⁵⁾	0,1 ₍₆₎	-	-	-
17	Plant stems used as vegetable	-	0,1	-	-	-	-
18	Mushroom	-	0,2	0,3	-	-	-
19	Grain	1,0	0,1 ⁽⁷⁾	0,2	-	-	-
20	White rice	-	0,4	-	-	-	-
21	wheat	-	0,2	-	-	-	-
22	Tropical fruits, edible fruit shell	-	-	0,1	-	-	-
23	Tropical fruits, inedible fruit shell	-	-	0,1	-	-	-
24	Berries and other small fruits	-	-	0,2	-	-	-
25	Citrus fruits	-	-	0,1	-	-	-
26	Apple group	-	-	0,1	-	-	-
27	Seed fruits	-	-	0,1	-	-	-
28	Jam (fruit jam) and agar	-	-	1,0	-	-	-
29	Dried fruits and vegetable	1,0	-	2,0	-	-	-
30	Canned fruits and vegetable	-	-	1,0	-	-	250
31	Vegetable and fruit juice (mg/l)	-	-	0,05 ₍₈₎	-	-	-
32	Tea and tea products	1,0	1,0	2,0	0,05	-	-
33	Coffee	1,0	1,0	2,0	0,05	-	-
34	Cacao and cacao products(including chocolate)	1,0	0,5	2,0	0,05	-	-
35	Spices (excluding curry powder)	5,0	1,0	2,0	0,05	-	-
36	Curry powder	1,0	1,0	2,0	0,05	-	-
37	Sauces (mg/l)	1,0	1,0	2,0	0,05	-	-
38	Salt	0,5	0,5	2,0	0,1	-	-
39	Sugar	1,0	1,0	2,0	0,05	-	-
40	Honey	1,0	1,0	2,0	0,05	-	-
41	Vinegar (mg/l)	0,2	1,0	0,5	0,05	-	-
42	Anchovies, tuna, bream two stripes, eel, fish items, mackerel Japan, fish Luvar, sardines, and herring		0,1	-	-	-	-
43	Foot fin fish, catfish, tuna, eel, fish painting, cod, horse tongue flounder, marlin, flounder sail, fish alum, large salamanders, small cod, Dogfish, rays, red fins, fish, flag leaves, pits, scabbard fish, sea bream, shark, snake mackerel, sturgeon, swordfish	-	-	-	1,0	-	-
44	Muscle of swordfish	-	0,3	-	-	-	-
45	Muscle of fish	-	-	0,3	-	-	-
46	Fish (excluding predatory fish)	-	-	-	-	0,5	-

47	Predatory fish (such as shark, swordfish, tuna, asparagus and others)	-	-	-	-	1,0	-
48	Crustaceans (excluding brown meat of crab, head and chest lobster and large crustaceans)	-	0,5	0,5	0,5	-	-
49	Bivalve mollusks	-	2,0	1,5	-	-	-
50	Mollusk (without organs)	-	2,0	1,0	-	-	-
51	Seafood products and other seafood products	-	0,05	-	0,5	-	-
52	Mineral water (mg/l)	0,01	0,003	0,01	0,001	-	-
53	Bottle drinking water (mg/l)	0,01	0,003	0,01	0,006	-	-
54	Wine (mg/l)	-	-	0,2	-	-	-
55	Canned beverages (mg/l)	-	-	-	-	-	150
56	Food formula for new born baby and small children (ready to eat)	-	-	0,02	-	-	-
57	Supplemental food			3,0	0,1	-	-
	Functional food derived from dried seaweed or seaweed products	-	3,0				
	Functional foods are not derived from dried seaweed or seaweed products	-	1,0				
58	Canned food products excluding beverages.	-	-	-	-	-	250

Note:

(-) Not specified

(1) Does not include kale

(2) Does not include tomatoes, mushrooms

(3) Does not include mushroom

(4) Include cruciferous leafy vegetables including spinach, but not bina vegetable

(5) Does not include unpeeled potatoes, celery

(6) Includes potatoes peeled

(7) Does not include wheat, rice, bran, germ

(8) Includes NECTA, instant drink