

1976 No. 368

## FOOD AND DRUGS

## Composition and Labelling

Preservatives in Food (Amendment) Regulations  
(Northern Ireland) 1976

Made . . . . . 1st December 1976

Coming into operation . . . . . 10th January 1977

The Department(a) of Health and Social Services in exercise of the powers conferred on it by sections 4, 7, 68 and 68A of the Food and Drugs Act (Northern Ireland) 1958(b) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf and after consultation with such organisations as appear to it to be representative of interests substantially affected by these regulations, hereby makes the following regulations:

*Citation, commencement and interpretation*

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Preservatives in Food (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1976 and shall come into operation on 10th January 1977.

(2) In these regulations “the principal regulations” means the Preservatives in Food Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1975(c), as amended(d).

*Amendment of the principal regulations*

2.—(1) The proviso to regulation 4(1) shall be amended—

(a) by inserting after sub-paragraph (iii) of paragraph (b) the following sub-paragraph (iiiA):—

“(iiiA) in the case of marinated herring, whose pH exceeds 4.5, or marinated mackerel, whose pH exceeds 4.5, if the permitted preservative<sup>2</sup> hexamine is present, to the maximum quantity of that preservative appropriate to that food in accordance with that Schedule and, as regards any other such permitted preservative present, only if, when the quantity of each such preservative is expressed as a percentage of the maximum quantity appropriate to that food in accordance with that Schedule, the sum of those percentages does not exceed one hundred;”;

(b) by inserting after paragraph (g) the following paragraph (h):—  
“(h) any food may have in it or on it formaldehyde introduced in the preparation of that food by the use of the permitted miscellaneous additive dimethylpolysiloxane if that formaldehyde is present in the food in no greater proportion, in relation to the quantity of dimethylpolysiloxane used, than the proportion specified in relation to dimethylpolysiloxane in paragraph (e) of this proviso.”

(a) Formerly Ministry: see 1973 c. 36 Sch. 5 para. 8

(b) 1958 c. 27 (N.I.)

(c) S.R. 1975 No. 277 (II, p. 1291)

(d) S.R. 1976 No. 165 and S.R. 1976 No. 357

(2) Schedule 2 shall be amended—

(a) by substituting for the item "Fruit crystallised or glacé" the following item:—

"Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Specified food	Permitted preservative	Except where otherwise stated, milligrams per kilogram not exceeding—
Fruit, crystallised glacé or drained	Sulphur dioxide or benzoic acid or methyl 4-hydroxybenzoate or ethyl 4-hydroxybenzoate or propyl 4-hydroxybenzoate	100 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000";

(b) by inserting immediately after the item "Hamburgers or similar products" the following item:—

"Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Specified food	Permitted preservative	Except where otherwise stated, milligrams per kilogram not exceeding—
Herring, marinated whose pH exceeds 4.5	Hexamine and either benzoic acid or methyl 4-hydroxybenzoate or ethyl 4-hydroxybenzoate or propyl 4-hydroxybenzoate	50 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000";

(c) by inserting immediately after the item "Jam diabetic" the following item:—

"Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Specified food	Permitted preservative	Except where otherwise stated, milligrams per kilogram not exceeding—
Mackerel, marinated whose pH exceeds 4.5	Hexamine and either benzoic acid or methyl 4-hydroxybenzoate or ethyl 4-hydroxybenzoate or propyl 4-hydroxybenzoate	50 1,000 1,000 1,000 1,000";

(d) by inserting immediately after the item "Pickles" the following item:—

"Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Specified food	Permitted preservative	Except where otherwise stated, milligrams per kilogram not exceeding—
Plants (including flowers and seeds) crystallised, glacé or drained	Sulphur dioxide	100".

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland on 1st December 1976.

(L.S.)

G. Buchanan  
Assistant Secretary

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the regulations but is intended to indicate their general purport.)*

These regulations come into operation on 10th January 1977 and further amend the Preservatives in Food Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1975 as amended.

They—

- (a) extend the list of specified foods which may contain permitted preservatives (regulation 2(1)(a) and 2(2));
- (b) permit the presence in food of formaldehyde, when its presence is due to the use of the permitted miscellaneous additive dimethylpolysiloxane in that food (regulation 2(1)(b)).