



Circular

AV 19.01.007

30 January 2019

To all Food Importers / Manufacturers

All declaring agents are requested to inform the importers of the contents of this circular.

Dear Sir/Madam

FOOD (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2019

The Food (Amendment) Regulations 2019 will come into operation on 1 February 2019.

2. This set of amendments includes the incorporation of new food additives into the Food Regulations and additional uses for existing food additives. The existing health claim relating to barley beta-glucan will also be extended to include oat beta-glucan. These changes are generally in line with international practice and are trade facilitating measures.

3. To better protect consumer health, a maximum limit of 0.35 ppm for inorganic arsenic in husked rice will be included in the Food Regulations, in line with the limit adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the international food standards setting body.

4. Other changes include the deletion of maximum limits for copper from the Tenth Schedule of the Food Regulations, deletion of the maximum limit of 5 ppm for formaldehyde in smoked meat, smoked sausage and smoked fish, as well as removal of the requirement for eggs treated with mineral hydrocarbons to be marked with the word "SEALED" on the shell.

5. The food industry has been consulted via a public consultation exercise from 6 September 2018 to 5 November 2018. A summary of the comments received and AVA's response can be downloaded from:

<http://www.ava.gov.sg/legislation>

(Select "Sale of Food Act", then click on "Response to Comments Received from the Public Consultation on the Draft Food (Amendment) Regulations 2019")

6. The Food (Amendment) Regulations 2019 can be downloaded from the AVA website from 1 February 2019:

<http://www.ava.gov.sg/legislation>

(Select "Sale of Food Act", then click on "Food (Amendment) Regulations 2019")

7. With effect from 1 February 2019, all traders may make use of the new provisions for food additives, as well as the health claim for oat beta-glucan, subject to the conditions laid out in the Food Regulations. Traders are also reminded to ensure that your food products available for sale on or after 1 February 2019 comply with the requirements. AVA will facilitate traders to comply with these requirements.

8. Please contact the following AVA officers should you need clarification on the amendments:

Ms Leong Ai Ling (6805 2931 or email: leong_ai_ling@ava.gov.sg)

Mr Cheng Chee Seng (6805 2910 or email: cheng_chee_seng@ava.gov.sg)

Yours faithfully

ADELENE YAP (Ms)
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REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION GROUP
AGRI-FOOD AND VETERINARY AUTHORITY

This is a computer generated circular and no signature is required.