

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Mexico

Post: Mexico

Mexico Approves Additives for Food and Beverages

Report Categories:

Food Processing Ingredients

Approved By:

Erik Hansen

Prepared By:

Dulce Flores

Report Highlights:

On July 16, 2012, the Secretariat of Health (SS) published in the *Diario Oficial* (Federal Register) an agreement on additives approved for use in food, beverages, and dietary supplements. The previous agreement, published in 2006, was revoked.

General Information:

This report summarizes an announcement by the Secretariat of Health (SS) published in Mexico's "Diario Oficial" (Federal Register) on July 16, 2012, on additives and other substances approved for use in food, beverages and dietary supplements.

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a *cursory* review of the subject announcement and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests. In the event of a discrepancy or discrepancies between this summary and the complete regulation or announcement as published in Spanish, the latter shall prevail.

Title: Agreement that establishes additives and processing aids in food, beverages, and dietary supplements, its use and sanitary dispositions.

Important Dates

1. Publication Date: July 16, 2012

2. Effective Date: October 8, 2012 (sixty working days after publication)

Executive Summary:

On July 16, 2012, the Secretariat of Health (SS) announced an agreement that determines the additives and processing aids that can be used in products intended for human consumption. This measure is intended to protect public health by regulating products destined for human use or consumption through the adequate control of additives used in product elaboration. This agreement will be updated every 6 months.

The previous agreement that established the permitted substances to be used as additives in food, beverages, and dietary supplements, published on July 17, 2006, and its modifications, is now revoked. (See Reports [MX6058](#), and [MX6070](#))

The permitted substances for use as additives in products are grouped into eleven annexes that specify for each of the food additives or groups of food additives, the product categories that recognize the use of the additive and, if applicable, the maximum use dosage. The annexes are:

ANNEX I: Additives with different functional classes and an ADI (acceptable daily intake) established;

ANNEX II: Additives with different functional classes that can be used according to Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP);

ANNEX III: Dyes with an ADI;

ANNEX IV: Dyes that can be used according to GMP;

ANNEX V: Substances purified to chew;

ANNEX VI: Enzymes;

ANNEX VII: Sweeteners with an ADI;

ANNEX VIII: Sweeteners that can be used according to GMP;

ANNEX IX: additives permitted in infant formulas, follow-up formulas, and formulas for special nutritional requirements;

ANNEX X: Processing Aids and
ANNEX XI: Flavors.

Additional Information

There may be food and supplement additives still in use today that are not listed in the new agreement but that are listed in the previous agreement, as published in the *Diario Oficial* on July 17, 2006 (as amended), in the appendix to the “Regulation of Sanitary Control of Products and Services” and/or in the Mexican Official Norms. These additives will be granted a grace period of 12 months from the entry into force of this agreement to apply for inclusion. The application process for inclusion is provided in the applicable health requirements and the fourteenth article of this agreement. During the grace period, additives may continue to be used in accordance with the above provisions.

Post strongly recommends that interested parties review the whole text of this agreement as it contains detailed information on various functional and technical classes of additives, information on how to elaborate flavorings, information on how to apply for inclusion of an additive, and other important information. The publication can be found in the [Diario Oficial](#) page.

For More Information

FAS/Mexico Web Site: We are available at www.mexico-usda.com or visit the FAS headquarters' home page at www.fas.usda.gov for a complete selection of FAS worldwide agricultural reporting.

FAS/Mexico YouTube Channel: Catch the latest videos of FAS Mexico at work
<http://www.youtube.com/user/ATOMexicoCity>

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at www.sagarpa.gob.mx, the equivalent of the U.S. Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at www.economia.gob.mx, and the equivalent of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (SALUD) can be found at www.salud.gob.mx. These web sites are mentioned for the reader's convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with, the information contained on the mentioned sites.