

**File No. Std/SP-10/T(Formaldehyde)**  
**Food Safety and Standards Authority of India**  
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006)  
**FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110 002.**

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The 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2021

**Subject: Direction under Section 18 (2) (d) read with Section 16 (5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 regarding operationalisation of Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2021 relating to limit of naturally occurring formaldehyde in freshwater and marine fish.**

In exercise of the power conferred under section 92 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, FSSAI has framed draft Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2021 specifying the limit of naturally occurring formaldehyde in freshwater and marine fish and the same were operationalised on 10.02.2020 and subsequently re-operationalised on 21.08.2020 and 16.11.2020.

2. These draft regulations are in the process of being notified and the final regulations are likely to take some more time before being notified and enforced. Meanwhile, keeping in mind the public health interest and to ensure food safety and fair practices in food business operations, it has been decided to re-operationalise provisions of these regulations, enclosed herewith, with immediate effect.

3. The Food Business Operators shall follow these regulations and the enforcement of these regulations with immediate effect.

4. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority in exercise of the power vested under Section 18 (2) (d) and 16 (5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

  
(Inoshi Sharma)

**Executive Director (C S)**

**Email: ed-office@fssai.gov.in**

To

1. All Food Safety Commissioner.
2. All Authorized Officer, FSSAI.
3. All Central Designated Offices of FSSAI.

Copy for information to:

1. PPS to Chairperson, FSSAI
2. PS to CEO, FSSAI
3. All Directors, FSSAI

**Notice for operationalisation of Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2021 w.r.t. limit of naturally occurring formaldehyde in freshwater and marine fish.**

1. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, hereby makes the following regulations operational with immediate effect. The Food business operators shall follow these regulations.

2. In the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011, in regulation 2.6, after sub regulation 2.6.1, the following sub regulation shall be inserted namely-

“2.6.2. Limit of Formaldehyde-

- (1) The amount of naturally occurring formaldehyde shall not exceed the limit prescribed in the column (3) for different species of fish as mentioned in the table given below: -

Table

<b>Group &amp; Species</b>	<b>mg/kg, Max.</b>
<b>Group - I (Marine)</b>	
<b>All finfishes</b> (including Barracuda, Billfishes, Bombay Duck, Bullseyes, Catfishes, Croakers, Eels, Filefishes and Puffers, Flat fishes, Goatfishes, Groupers (Rock Cods), Half Beaks and Full Beaks, Horse Mackerel, Leather Jacket (Queen Fish), Mackerel, Mulletts, Other Carangids, Other Clupeoids, Anchovies, Other Perches, Pigface Breems, Pomfrets, Ribbon Fish, Sardines, Seer Fishes/Spanish Mackerel, Silver Bellies/Biddies, Snappers, Tarpons, Threadfin Breems, Threadfins, Tuna and Bonitos, White Fish and any other commercial varieties), <b>elasmobranchs, crustaceans and molluscs except those under Group III &amp; IV</b>	4.0
<b>Group – II (Freshwater Origin)</b>	
Finfishes (including Indian Major Carps, Minor Carps, Exotic Carps, Freshwater Catfishes, Snakeheads/Murrels, Tilapia, Trout and all other freshwater fin fishes), crustaceans and molluscans	
<b>Group – III (Marine)</b>	
Lizard fishes and any other marine fishes not covered under Group I	8.0
<b>Group – IV (Frozen Stored marine fish products)</b>	
All frozen stored marine fish products	100

Note- The above limits are subjected to revision on the basis of data collected over different seasons and geographical locations and upon analysis and recommendation by the scientific panel, as and when required.

(2) For fish and fish products of marine origin other than those mentioned in the table at Group I and II, the limit of naturally occurring formaldehyde shall not be more than 100 ppm.