

FAQ on Contaminant limits applicable to Processed Eucheuma Seaweed (INS 407a)

1. Are the horizontal parameters such as heavy metal limits applicable to INS 407 and 407a different?

Answer: No. They are the same.

The heavy metal limits for Carrageenan (INS 407) have been listed under the Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulation, 2011 and are as follows:

Lead - 5 ppm

Arsenic - 3 ppm

Cadmium - 1.5 ppm

Mercury - 1.0 ppm

Since Processed Eucheuma Seaweed (INS 407a) is basically semi refined carrageenan obtained from either *Eucheuma cottonii* or *E. spinosum* (from the Rhodophyceae class of red seaweeds), it shall comply with the heavy metal limits specified for carrageenan (INS 407) in the FSS (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulation, 2011.