

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

NO. 7091

6 February 2026

FOODSTUFFS, COSMETICS AND DISINFECTANTS ACT, 1972

(ACT No. 54 OF 1972)

**REGULATIONS RELATING TO MAXIMUM LEVELS OF MYCOTOXINS IN
FOODSTUFFS**

The Minister of Health has, under section 15 (1) of the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act. No.54 of 1972), made the Regulations in the Schedule hereto.

DR PAKISHE AARON MOTSOALEDI, MP

MINISTER OF HEALTH

DATE:

19/11/2025

SCHEDULE

Definitions

1. In these Regulations, any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall have that meaning and unless the context indicates otherwise: -

“**bran**” means a product obtained from the milling of wheat or maize consisting mainly of the outer layers of the kernel;

“**ergot sclerotia**” means the sclerotia of the fungus *Claviceps purpurea*;

“**further processing**” means intended to undergo an additional processing or treatment that has been proven to reduce levels of mycotoxins before being used as an ingredient in foodstuffs, otherwise processed or offered for human consumption;

“**Maximum Level (ML)**” means the maximum concentration of a substance permitted in the foodstuff;

“**ready-to-eat**” means food that may not undergo an additional processing or treatment to reduce levels of mycotoxins before being used as an ingredient in foodstuffs, otherwise processed or offered for human consumption; and

“**the Act**” means the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act No. 54 of 1972).

Contaminated food

2. (1) For the purpose of section 2 (1)(b)(i) of the Act, foodstuff listed in column II of the Table of the Annexure is deemed to be contaminated, impure, or is deemed to be harmful or injurious to human health, when it contains the mycotoxin in column I in amounts exceeding the corresponding level in column IV when measured using accredited analytical method.

(2) A person may not sell a foodstuff with levels that exceed the maximum level of mycotoxins prescribed by these Regulations unless stipulated otherwise in other relevant national regulations.

(3) The foodstuffs listed in column II of the Annexure include foodstuff as defined in the relevant Codex Standards and or other applicable national Regulations unless otherwise specified.

Sampling and Analysis

3. (1) The sampling and analytical methods must be in accordance with the methods specified in the latest:

- (a) Codex Recommended Methods of Analysis and Sampling CXS 234-1999; and
- (b) Codex General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed CXS 193-1995.

(2) Other sampling methods and other internationally ratified analytical methods may be used as alternative or complementary methods, provided that their implementation provides an equivalent level of public health protection.

Repeal of laws

4. Regulations governing tolerances for fungus-produced toxins in foodstuffs published under Government notice No. R. 1145 of 8 October 2004; Regulations governing tolerances for fungus-produced toxins in foodstuffs published under Government notice R.751 of 17 July 2009, and Regulations governing tolerances for fungus-produced toxins in foodstuffs amendment published under Government notice No. 987 of 05 September 2016, are hereby repealed.

Commencement

5. These Regulations come into operation 24 months after the date of publication of notice.

Short title

6. These Regulations are called Regulations Relating to the Maximum Levels of Mycotoxins in Foodstuffs, 2025.

ANNEXURE

Table 1: Maximum Levels of Mycotoxins in Foodstuffs

Mycotoxins	Foodstuff	Notes/Remarks	ML: ($\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ or $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$)
I	II	III	IV
Aflatoxins, Total (B1+B2+G1+G2)	Almonds (whole commodity)	Ready-to-eat	10
	Almonds (whole commodity)	Intended for further processing	15
	Brazil nuts (shelled)	Ready-to-eat	10
	Brazil nuts (shelled)	Intended for further processing	15
	Hazelnuts (whole commodity)	Ready-to-eat	10
	Hazelnuts (whole commodity)	Intended for further processing	15
	Peanuts	Intended for further processing	15
	Pistachios (whole commodity)	Ready-to-eat	10
	Pistachios (whole commodity)	Intended for further processing	15
	Dried figs (whole commodity)	Ready-to-eat	10
	All other foodstuffs	Ready-to-eat	10
		Aflatoxin B1 should not exceed 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$	
	Maize grain	Destined for further processing	15
	Flour, meal, semolina and flakes derived from maize	Excludes bran	10
	Husked rice (whole commodity)		20
	Polished rice (whole commodity)		5
	Sorghum grain (whole commodity)	Destined for further processing	10
	Cereal-based food for infants and young children	Whole commodity as sold; not reconstituted or otherwise prepared for consumption	5
	Chilli pepper, nutmeg (dried/dry)	Whole/Powder/Crushed/Ground	20

Mycotoxins	Foodstuff	Notes/Remarks	ML: (μ g/kg or μ g/L)
I	II	III	IV
Aflatoxin M1	Milk		0.5
Deoxynivalenol (DON)	Cereal-based foods for infants and young children	As sold; not reconstituted or otherwise prepared for consumption	200
	Flour, meal, semolina and flakes derived from wheat, maize or barley	Excludes bran	1 000
	Cereal grains (wheat, maize and barley)	Destined for further processing	2 000
Fumonisins (B1+B2)	Raw maize grain (whole commodity)	Destined for further processing	4 000
	Maize flour and maize meal		2 000
Ochratoxins A	Wheat (whole commodity)	The ML applies to raw common Wheat, raw durum wheat, raw spelt and raw emmer	5
		Destined for further processing	
	Raw Barley	The ML applies to raw barley	5
	Raw Rye	The ML applies to raw rye	5
	Chilli pepper, paprika, nutmeg (dried/dry)	Whole/Powder/Crushed/Ground	20
Patulin	Grape Juice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole commodity (not concentrated) or commodity reconstituted to the original juice concentration The ML applies also to grape juice used as an ingredient in other beverages. 	2
	Apple juice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole commodity (not concentrated) or commodity reconstituted to the original juice concentration The ML applies also to apple juice used as an ingredient in other beverages. 	
	Pear Juice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole commodity (not concentrated) or 	50

Mycotoxins	Foodstuff	Notes/Remarks	ML: (µg/kg or µg/L)
I	II	III	IV
		commodity reconstituted to the original juice concentration • The ML applies also to pear juice used as an ingredient in other beverages.	
Ergot sclerotia	Wheat, rye, barley and oats	Whole Commodity	0.05% (m/m)
	Durum Wheat		0.5% (m/m)