

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/CAN/647
7 January 2013

(13-0039)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English/
French

NOTIFICATION

1. Notifying Member: <u>CANADA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2. Agency responsible: Health Canada
3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Ascorbic acid in olives (ICS Codes: 67.080, 67.220)
4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners <input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries:
5. Title of the notified document: Notice of Modification to the <i>List of Permitted Preservatives</i> to Enable the Use of Ascorbic Acid as a Preservative in Olives - Reference Number NOM/ADM-0004 Language(s): English and French Number of pages: 3 and 4
6. Description of content: This document provides information on Health Canada's modification to the <i>List of Permitted Preservatives</i> to enable the use of ascorbic acid as a preservative in olives. Health Canada's Food Directorate has recently completed a detailed safety assessment of a food additive submission seeking approval to add ascorbic acid to olives for use as a preservative. Ascorbic acid is already permitted for use in Canada as an antioxidant preservative in a variety of foods at various levels of use. However, it is not permitted for use in olives, which are a standardized food in Canada. Since no safety concerns have been raised through this assessment, the department has therefore enabled the use of ascorbic acid when used as an antioxidant preservative in olives at levels consistent with Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP). Health Canada's Food Directorate is committed to reviewing any new scientific information on the safety in use of any food additive, including ascorbic acid.

<p>7. Objective and rationale: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.</p>
<p>8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text)</p> <p>The <i>Codex Standard for Table Olives</i> (CODEX STAN 66-1981), which was elaborated jointly between the Codex Alimentarius and the International Olive Oil Council, specifically provides for the use of ascorbic acid as an antioxidant in olives at a maximum level of use of 0.2 g/kg (i.e. 0.02%).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. <i>Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code</i>, chapter number)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. <i>ISPM number</i>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:</p>
<p>9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: Health Canada's Food and Nutrition - "Public Involvement and Partnerships" Website, posted 20 December 2012 (available in English and French): http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/consult/index-eng.php (English) http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/consult/index-fra.php (French)</p>
<p>10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): The proposed food additive use will be legally enabled once it is published in Health Canada's <i>List of Permitted Preservatives</i> "http://hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/securit/addit/list/11-preserv-conserv-eng.php".</p> <p>Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy):</p>
<p>11. Proposed date of entry into force: <input type="checkbox"/> Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): The food additive uses noted in this document, come into force the day on which the modifications are made to the <i>List of Permitted Preservatives</i> "http://hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/securit/addit/list/11-preserv-conserv-eng.php". The uses noted in this document are an extension of use of a food additive that is currently permitted for use in Canada.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Trade facilitating measure</p>
<p>12. Final date for comments: <input type="checkbox"/> Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 4 March 2013</p> <p>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p>

13. Texts available from: [] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

The electronic version of: "Notice of Modification to the *List of Permitted Preservatives* to Enable the Use of Ascorbic Acid as a Preservative in Olives - Reference Number NOM/ADM-0004" can be downloaded at:

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/consult/nom-adm-0004/document-consultation-eng.php>
(English)

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/consult/nom-adm-0004/document-consultation-fra.php>
(French)