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GAIN Report

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Voluntary - Public

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GAIN Report Number: TH0117

Thailand

Post: Bangkok

Thai FDA Revised Standard for Edible Salt

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Approved By:

Mr. John Wade, Agricultural Counselor

Prepared By:

Sukanya Sirikeratikul

Report Highlights:

TH0117: The Thai Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has revised the standards of table salt, which is directly sold to the consumers. The draft notification is included in the report.

General Information:

In order to reduce the problem of the Iodine deficiency in children and pregnant women in Thailand, the Thai Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has revised the standard of edible salt for direct sale to the consumers. In the proposed revised Notification of the Ministry of Public Health, the edible salt must contain Iodine at the quantity of not less than 30 mg and not exceed 100 mg per 1 kg of the edible salt. In addition, the wording of “Iodized Edible Salt” has to be displayed in adjacent to the name of food. Both local producers and importers of table salt are required to abide by the standards set in this revised notification.

Thailand imported table salt from the US valued at \$73,775 in 2008 and \$51,502 in 2009.

(Draft)

Notification of the Ministry of Public Health

Re: Edible Salt

Whereas it is deemed appropriate to revise the Notification of the Ministry of Public Health regarding Edible Salt.

By the virtue of provisions of Sections 5 and 6 (3) (4) (6) (7) and (10) of the Food Act B.E. 2522 (1979), in which contain provisions in relation to the restriction of Rights and Liberties of the Persons, in respect of which Section 29 and in conjunction with Section 33, Section 41, Section 43 and Section 45 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand so permit by virtue of provisions of law; the Minister of Public Health hereby issues the notification as follows:

Clause 1. The Notification of the Ministry of Public Health No. 153 (B.E. 2537 (1994)) Re: Edible Salt dated March 2, 1994 shall be repealed.

Clause 2. Edible salt is prescribed food to have qualities or standards

Clause 3. Edible salt means the salt used for cooking or seasoning food stuff in which it is packed in the container which is ready to directly distribute to consumers.

Clause 4. Edible salt shall contain Iodine at the quantity of not less than 30 mg and not exceed 100 mg per 1 kg of the edible salt.

Clause 5. The use of edible salt packaging shall follow the Notification of the Ministry of

Public Health Re: Food Containers

Clause 6. The edible salt production shall be complied with criterion prescribed by the office of Food and Drug Administration

Clause 7. Labeling of edible salt shall be exempted from the Notification of the Ministry of Public Health Re: Labeling but it shall be in Thai language, foreign language may also be displayed; and shall, at least, display statements identifying the following details:

1. Name of the food
2. The wording of "Iodized Edible Salt". The font size shall not be less than 5mm and clearly seen and read. The wording shall be together with the name of the food
3. Thai FDA's registration number
4. Name and address of edible salt producer or packer of, which produced locally. Name and address of the edible salt importer and exporting countries. If any.

For domestic produced edible salt, name and address of the head office of producer or packer may be displayed

1. Month and year, which the food still be in good quality or standard accompanying with the wording "should consume before"
2. Net weight in Metric system
3. A statement "should keep it in shred and dry area"

Clause 8. This notification does not affect the edible salt, which is manufactured for export or for using in food industries.

Clause 9. This notification shall be in effect after a year of its publication in the Royal Gazette.

Notified on_____