

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

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## **Thailand**

**Post:** Bangkok

### **Thai FDA Revising Standard for Fluoride in Drinking Water**

**Report Categories:**

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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**Report Highlights:**

TH9123: The Thai Food and Drug Administration has notified WTO (G/SPS/N/THA/178) of its change in the food standard for drinking water in sealed containers. The revised notification will limit the level of Fluoride in drinking water to less than 0.7 mg per liter of water.

## Thai FDA Revising Standard for Fluoride in Drinking Water

On August 4, the Thai Food and Drug Administration notified WTO (G/SPS/N/THA/178) of its change in the food standard for drinking water in sealed containers. The revised notification will limit the content of Fluoride computed as Fluorine to less than 0.7 mg. per liter of drinking water. The revised level of Fluoride in drinking water is being reduced from 1.5 mg. per liter and aims to control the problem of dental and skeletal fluorosis found in both children and adults caused from the excessive intake of fluoride. Manufacturers and importers of drinking water in sealed containers, who already registered their products prior to the enforcement date of this notification have to submit the correction within 90 days upon the effective date of this notification. The draft of the revised notification is available below.

In 2008, Thailand imported drinking water including mineral waters valued almost \$ 6 million. U.S. exports of drinking water to Thailand were \$10,167 in 2008. Related MOPH notifications are attached.

### Imports of Drinking Water to Thailand 2006-2008

Country	2006	2007	2008
France	2,888,221	4,077,373	5,197,660
Italy	142,253	223,206	289,980
Norway	7,906	177,406	135,644
Canada	81	2,126	64,226
UK	9,182	24,902	49,938
Japan	2,563	4,206	34,196
Germany	1,210	24,030	29,021
South Korea	20,215	1,476	14,316
USA	1,997	3,578	10,167
Others	169,509	88,552	106,254
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,243,137</b>	<b>4,626,855</b>	<b>5,931,402</b>

(Unofficial)

Notification of the Ministry of Public Health  
Re: Drinking Water in Sealed Containers (No. 6)

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It deems appropriate to amend the notification of the Ministry of Public Health, Re: Drinking water in sealed containers

By the virtue of provisions of Section 5 and 6 (3)(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, by the recommendation of the Food Committee, hereby issues the notification as follows:

Clause 1. The expressions in (s) in Clause 3 (2) of the notification of the Ministry of Public Health No. 61 B.E. 2524 (1981), Re: Drinking water in sealed containers, dated 7<sup>th</sup> September B.E.

2524 (1981), shall be repealed. The following expressions shall be used instead:

“(s) Fluoride, computed as Fluorine not exceeding to 0.7 mg per 1 litre of drinking water”

Clause 2. The manufacturers and importers of drink water in sealed container, who already registered their products as per Notification of the Ministry of Public Health No. 61 B.E.2524 (1981) Re: Drinking Water in Sealed Containers, dated 7<sup>th</sup> September B.E. 2524 (1981), which was amended by the Notification of Ministry of Public Health No. 135 B.E. 2534 (1991) Re: Drinking Water in Sealed Containers (No. 2), dated 26<sup>th</sup> February B.E. 2534 (1991), the Notification of Ministry of Public Health No. 220 B.E. 2544 (2001) Re: Drinking Water in Sealed Containers (No. 3), dated 24<sup>th</sup> July B.E. 2544 (2001), and the Notification of Ministry of Public Health No. 256 B.E. 2545 (2002) Re: Drinking Water in Sealed Containers (No. 4), dated 30<sup>th</sup> May B.E. 2545 (2002), prior to the enforcement date of this notification shall submit its correction within 90 days upon the effective date of this notification.

Clause 3. This notification shall come into force as from the day following date of its publication in the Government Gazette.

Notified on \_\_\_\_\_