



## South Africa

Biotoxins	Products	Limits	References
Paralytic Shellfish Poisons	Shellfish <sup>a</sup>	0.8 mg/kg <sup>b</sup>	The Minister of Health No. R. 491 of 2005 Regulations Relating to Marine Biotoxins
Amnesic Shellfish Poisons	Shellfish <sup>a</sup>	20 mg/kg <sup>c</sup>	
Diarrhetic Shellfish Poisons	Shellfish <sup>a</sup>	Below detection level	

<sup>a</sup> "shellfish" in biotoxin standard refers to all bivalve mollusks, pectinidae, tunicates and marine gastropods but excluding octopus, squids and crustaceans

<sup>b</sup> measured as saxitoxin equivalent per gram of edible shellfish flesh

<sup>c</sup> measured as domoic acid concentration per gram edible flesh

Metal	Products	Maximum level	References
Arsenic (As)	Fish and processed fish	3.0 mg/kg (or mg/l)	The Minister of Health No. R. 500. 30 April 2004. Regulations relating to the maximum levels for metals in foodstuffs
Cadmium (Cd)	Shellfish and shellfish products	3.0 mg/kg (or mg/l)	
	Fish and processed fish	1.0 mg/kg (or mg/l)	
Lead (Pb)	Fish and processed fish	0.5 mg/kg (or mg/l)	
Mercury (Hg)	Shellfish and shellfish products	0.5 mg/kg (or mg/l)	
	Predatory fish, including swordfish	1.0 mg/kg <sup>a</sup> (or mg/l)	
	All other fish and processed fish	0.5mg/kg <sup>a</sup> (or mg/l)	

<sup>a</sup> As methylmercury

Definitions for metal standard :

Fish means all fish species except shellfish.

Shellfish means molluscan bivalves and includes mussels, gastropods and cephalopods.



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Preservative	Products	Quantity permitted	References
Hexamethylenetetramine	Caviar (sturgeon eggs) and other fish eggs, not smoked	1,000 mg/kg when product is marketed	The Minister of Health No. R. 965 of 3 June 1977 Regulations - Preservatives and Antioxidants
Benzoic acid	Fish pastes	500 mg/kg	
	Fish roe and spawn which has been	750 mg/kg	
	Fish sausages	700 mg/kg	
	Fish, smoked and dried	200 mg/kg	
	Fresh fish	100 mg/kg	
	Manufactured fish products, with the exception of frozen fish, salted snoek and canned fish products	700 mg/kg	
	Marinated fish and fish products to be kept under refrigeration	1,000 mg/kg	
Sorbic acid	Fish pastes	500 mg/kg	
	Fish, smoked and dried	600 mg/kg	
	Fresh fish	GMP	
	Salted snoek	1,000 mg/kg	
Methyl-p-hydroxy benzoate	Fish pastes	1,000 mg/kg	
	Marinated fish and fish products to be kept under refrigeration	1,000 mg/kg	



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Preservative	Products	Quantity permitted	References
Propyl-p-hydroxy benzoate	Fish pastes	1,000 mg/kg	- do -
	Marinated fish and fish products to be kept under refrigeration	1,000 mg/kg	
Ethyl 4-hydroxy benzoate	Marinated fish and fish products to be kept under refrigeration	1,000 mg/kg	
Hexamine	Marinated fish and fish products to be kept under refrigeration	50 mg/kg	
Pimaricin	Fish pastes	6 mg/kg	
	Fish roe and spawn which has been cooked, cured and/or smoked	6 mg/kg	
	Fish sausages	6 mg/kg to be applied to the outer inedible casing only	
	Manufactured fish products, with the exception of frozen fish, salted snoek and canned fish products	6 mg/kg	
	Quick frozen lobsters	6 mg/kg	
Sulphur dioxide	Fish sausages	450 mg/kg	
	Manufactured fish products, with the exception of frozen fish, salted snoek and canned fish products	450 mg/kg	



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Preservative	Products	Quantity permitted	References
Sulphur dioxide (continued)	Quick frozen lobsters	30 mg/kg in the raw product	- do -
	Quick frozen shrimps or prawns (raw product)	30 mg/kg in the final product	

Antioxidant	Products	Maximum level	References
Sodium metabisulphite	Any edible fish species canned in tomato-based sauces	30 mg/kg in the final product, expressed as SO <sub>2</sub> , singly or in combination with other sulphites	The Minister of Health No. R. 965 of 3 June 1977 Regulations - Preservatives and Antioxidants
	Canned lobster meat or crab meat		
	Canned shrimps or prawns		
	Maasbanker canned in tomato based sauces		
	Quick frozen shrimps or prawns (raw products)		
Ethylenediaminetetraac etic acid, calcium disodium salt (EDTA)	Canned lobster meat or crab meat	275 mg/kg	
	Canned shrimps or prawns	250 mg/kg	
Sodium bisulphite	Canned lobster meat or crab meat	30 mg/kg in the final product, expressed as SO <sub>2</sub> , singly or in combination with other sulphites	
	Canned shrimps or prawns		



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Antioxidant	Products	Maximum level	References
Sodium bisulphite (continued)	Frozen rock lobster tails		- do -
	Quick frozen shrimps or prawns (raw products)		
Ascorbic acid	Frozen blocks of hake fillets or hake mince	1,000 mg/kg	
Citric acid	Frozen blocks of hake fillets or hake mince	1,000 mg/kg	
Ethyl and propyl gallates	Frozen blocks of hake fillets or hake mince	100 mg/kg	
L-Ascorbic acid	Frozen blocks of hake fillets or hake mince	GMP	
	Quick frozen shrimps or prawns (raw products)	GMP	
L-Ascorbic acid, K and/or Na salts thereof	Quick frozen fillets of cod, haddock, flat fish, hake and ocean perch	1000 mg/kg in the final product, expressed as ascorbic acid ( from potassium or sodium ascorbate )	
Erythorbic acid/sodium erythorbate	Quick frozen fillets of cod, haddock, flat fish, hake and ocean perch	1,000 mg/kg	
	Quick frozen shrimps or prawns (raw products)	GMP	

GMP means good manufacturing practice



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Food Additive	Products	Conditions and limits	References
<b>Emulsifier/ Stabiliser/ Thickener</b>			
Agar	Canned hake, mackerel and jack mackerel (maasbanker) and sardines and sardine-type products <sup>a</sup>	20,000 mg/kg in the packing medium only single or in combination with other permitted thickener or jellyian agents	The Minister of Health No. R. 2527 of 13 November 1987 Regulations Governing Emulsifiers, stabilisers and thickeners and the amounts thereof that foodstuffs may contain
Alginic acid and its calcium, potassium and sodium salts			
Carob bean gum			
Carrageenan			
Guar gum			
Pectin (amidated and non-amidated)			
Xanthan gum			
Chemically modified starches	maasbanker	60,000 mg/kg	
	sardines and sardine type products <sup>a</sup> in the packing medium only singly or in combination	20,000 mg/kg	
Tragacanth gum	maasbanker	20,000 mg/kg in the packing medium only single or in combination with other permitted thickener or jellyian agents	
	Caviar	3,000 mg/kg	



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Food Additive	Products	Maximum level (as pure dye)	References
<b>Colourant</b>			
Allura red AC	Fish and crustacean pastes or pates, fish roe, salmon substitute, surimi <sup>b</sup> and smoked or preserved fish	500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated	The Minister of Health No. R. 2527 of 13 November 1987 Regulations Governing Emulsifiers, stabilisers and thickeners and the amounts thereof that foodstuffs may contain
Azorubine or carmoisine		500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated	
Bet a-apo-8'-carotenal		500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated	
Ethylester of bet a-apo-8'-carotenoic acid		500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated	
Brilliant Black BN or black PN		500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated	
Brilliant blue FCF		500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated	
Brown HT		500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated	
Cochineal, natural red or carminic acid		500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated	
Curcumin		500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated	
Green S		500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated	
Indigotine or indigo carmine		500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated	
Lutein		500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated	
Lycopene		500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated	
Patent blue V		500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated	
Ponceau 4R or cochineal red A		500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated	
Sunset yellow F CF or orange yellow S		500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated	
Tartrazine	500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated		
Quinoline yellow	500 mg/kg unless otherwise indicated		



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Food Additive	Products	Maximum level	References
<b>Colourant</b>			
Annatto	Fish	20 mg/kg (as bixin)	The Minister of Health No. R. 2527 of 13 November 1987 Regulations Governing Emulsifiers, stabilisers and thickeners and the amounts thereof that foodstuffs may contain
Brown FK	Smoked and cured fish	20 mg/kg	

**a** “sardines and sardine-type products” shall mean the following species:

*Sardinapilchardus*(Walbaum);  
*Sardinops melanosticta, neopilchardus, ocellata, sagaxorcaerulea*;  
*Sardinella aurita, anchovia, brasiliensis or maderensis*;  
*Clupea harengus*;  
*Clupea antipodum, bassensis or fuegensis*;  
*Sprattus sprattus (Clupea sprattus)*;  
*Hyperlophus vittatus*;  
*Nematalosa vlaminghi*;  
*Itromeus micropus*;  
*Ethmidium maculatus*;  
*Engraulis anchoita*;  
*Engraulis ringens*; and  
*Engraulis capensis*;

**b** “surimi” means refined, stabilized, frozen fish mince which is used to manufacture products such as fish sausage and seafood analogue products such as crab sticks





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Veterinary Medicine	Products	Maximum residue limit	References
Albendazole	Aquaculture product	0.1 mg/kg	Regulations governing the maximum limits for veterinary medicine and stock reedy residues that may be present in foodstuffs, as amended by : government notice No. R.1387 of 19 November 1999
Amoxicillin		0.05 mg/kg	
Ampicillin		0.05 mg/kg	
Azaperone		0.05 mg/kg	
Carazolol		0.005 mg/kg	
Cloramphenicol		0.01 mg/kg	
Cloxacillin		0.3 mg/kg	
Dapsone		0.025 mg/kg	
Dicloxacillin		0.3 mg/kg	
Dimetridazole		0.01 mg/kg	
Febantel		0.01 mg/kg	
Febendazole		0.01 mg/kg	
Monensin		0.05 mg/kg	
Netobimin		0.1 mg/kg	
Nitrofurans (All substances belonging to the nitrofurans group)		0.005 mg/kg <sup>a</sup>	
Oxacillin		0.3 mg/kg	
Ofendazole		0.01 mg/kg	
Ronidazole		0.002 mg/kg	
Sulphadimidine		0.1 mg/kg	
Sulphonamide group (All substances belonging to the sulphonamide group)		0.1 mg/kg <sup>a</sup>	
Tetracycline group (All substances belonging to the tetracycline group)	0.1 mg/kg <sup>a</sup>		
Tilmicosin	0.05 mg/kg		
Trimethoprim	0.05 mg/kg		
Oxytetracycline	Aquaculture fish	0.1 mg/kg	

<sup>a</sup> The combined total residues of all substances within this group shall not exceed limits indicated.