

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

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Thailand

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The Thai FDA proposes banning the use of partially hydrogenated oils

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

FAIRS Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

The Thai Food and Drug Administration drafted a new requirement that would prohibit the use of partially hydrogenated oils in foods.

General Information:

The Thai FDA proposes banning the use of partially hydrogenated oils in foods

The Thai Food and Drug Administration drafted a new requirement that would prohibit the use of partially hydrogenated oils in foods due to evidence indicating that the intake of trans fats derived from partially hydrogenated oil increases the risk of coronary heart disease. Other countries, including the United States in 2015, have implemented similar requirements prohibiting the use of partially hydrogenated oils by food manufacturers. Under this new requirement, partially hydrogenated oils would be banned for foods that are produced or imported for sale in Thailand. However, these oils would still be allowed in food production for export purpose. The draft regulation is available on the WTO website for comment (WTO Notification Number: G/SPS/N/THA/242) until January 20, 2018. If implemented, the prohibition would come into effect one year after its publication in the Royal Gazette.

Below is an unofficial translation of the proposed regulation notified to the WTO as G/SPS/N/THA/242.

(Unofficial Translation)

(Draft)

Notification of Ministry of Public Health

No..... B.E.....

Re: "Prescribed Prohibited Substances to be Used in Foods (No. 3)

Based on a convincing level of scientific evidence, a high intake of trans fats derived from partially hydrogenated oil increases the risk of coronary heart disease.

By the authority of the first paragraph of Section 5 and Section 6(5) of the Food Act B.E. 2522 (1979), the Minister of Public Health hereby issues the notification as follows:

Clause 1 The following shall be added as Clause 2.13 under Clause 2 of the notification of the Public Health No. 151 B.E. 2536 (1993) regarding Prescribed Prohibited Substances to be Used in Foods, dated 28 December 1993.

"2.13 Partially hydrogenated oil, except when used in food for export."

Clause 2 This notification shall come into force one year after the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

End of Report.