

NOTICE OF THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

No.92 (B.E.2528)

re Prescription of Quality or Standard for Food Containers,
Use of Food Containers and Prohibition of Use of Things
as Food Containers

By virtue of section 5 and section 6 (6) and (9) of the Foods Act B.E. 2522, the Minister of Public Health hereby gives a notice as follows:—

1. The following shall be repealed:

- (1) Notice of the Ministry of Public Health No.7 (B.E.2522) re Prescription of Quality or Standard for Food Containers, Use of Food Containers and Prohibition of Use of Things as Food Containers dated 24th August 1979;
- (2) Notice of the Ministry of Public Health No.8 (B.E.2522) re Use of Plastic Bags or Plastic Sheets as Food Containers dated 24th August 1979;
- (3) Notice of the Ministry of Public Health No.17 (B.E.2522) re Prescription of Standard Quality of Earthenware and Enamelware Vessels used for Packing Foods dated 13th September 1979.

2. In this Notice,—

- (1) "container" means a thing used for packing food, whether by filling or wrapping or by whatever means, and includes the lid or stopple;
- (2) "ceramic vessel" means a nonmetal and inorganic product hardened after baking or melting at a high temperature, used as a container;
- (3) "enameled metal vessel" means a product coated on its already-shaped metal surface with a chemical to prevent corrosion, used as a container.

3. Ceramic vessels and enameled metal vessels consist of—

- (1) shallow vessels, which means vessels of a depth not more than 25 millimetres when measured vertically from the deepest point internally to the horizontal level of the topmost part of the rim;
- (2) deep vessels, which means vessels of a depth when measured in pursuance of (1) more than 25 millimetres:

(a) "small deep vessel" means vessel of a capacity less than 1.1 litre;

(b) "large deep vessel" means vessel of a capacity from 1.1 litre upwards;

- (3) infant-food containers, which means vessels for packing food for infants from birth to 12 months old;
- (4) cooking utensils, which means utensils so made as to be capable of withstanding heat, used in preparing food.

4. A container must have or conform to the following quality or standard:

- (1) Must be clean;
- (2) Must have never been used for packing or filling food or any other substance before unless it is glass, ceramic, enameled metal or plastic and does not possess the prohibited descriptions in article 7 and article 8;
- (3) Must not give out any heavy metal or other substance to contaminate the food in a volume likely to be harmful to health;
- (4) Must contain no germs;
- (5) Must give out no colour to contaminate the food.

5. Containers made of plastic must have or conform to not only the quality or standard in article 4 but also the quality or standard in the Schedule 1 to this Notice.

Plastics in the form of sheet or bag which are used as food containers must not be made from used plastics and must not be added with any colour except in the following cases, that is to say—

- (1) in the case of laminate plastics, only the layer not coming into direct contact with the food;
- (2) in the case of plastics which are used for packing shelled fruits.

6. Containers which are ceramic vessels or enameled metal vessels must have or conform to not only the quality or standard in article 4 but also the quality or standard with respect to lead and cadmium as follows: The fused-out volumes of the metals as detectable when analysed according to the method prescribed in the AOAC (Association of Official Analytical Chemists) Journal of the United States of America, 13th Edition 1980, articles 25.031 to 25.034, or according to the method prescribed in the AOAC Journal of

the United States of America of 1983, Volume 66, Part 3, Pages 610 to 619 in the case of cooking utensils, shall not exceed the limits in the Schedule 2 to this Notice.

7. Use of a container which has previously been used to pack or wrap a fertilizer, poisonous substance or substance likely to be harmful to health as a food container is prohibited.

8. Use of a container which is made for packing other thing which is not a food or which bears a design or any statement that may cause a misconception with respect to the material parts of the food contained therein as a food container is prohibited.

This Notice shall take effect on the day following the date of its publication in the Government Gazette.

Given this 19th day of July, 1985

MARUT BUNNAK
Minister of Public Health

Schedule 1 to Notice of the Ministry of Public Health No.92 (B.E.2528)

Type of Plastic Descriptions	Maximum Content Allowed (milligramme per kilogramme)								
	(Polyvinyl-chloride)	(Polyethylene Poly-propylene)	(Polystyrene)	(Polyvinylidene chloride)	Polyethylene teraphthalate	Other types of Plastic	Laminate, the side that contacts with the food of which is polyethylene plastic, such as milk or soft drink containers	(Melamine)	Wholly Laminate Plastic, the side that contacts with the food of which is polystyrene plastic, for packing milk or milk products and soft drinks
(a) Lead	100	100	100	100	100	—	20	—	20
(b) Cadmium	100	100	100	100	100	—	—	—	—
(c) Barium	—	—	—	100	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Dibutyltin Compound	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(e) Cresyl phosphate	1,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(f) Vinyl Chloride Monomer	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(g) Vinylidene Chloride	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
(h) Volatile substances, that is toluene, ethyl benzene, isopropyl benzene, n-propyl benzene and styrene	—	—	5,000 (2,000)**	—	—	—	—	—	1,500
(i) Phenol	—	—	—	—	—	30	—	Not any*	—
(j) Formaldehyde	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	Not any*	—
(k) Antimony	—	—	—	—	0.05	—	—	—	—
(l) Germanium	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—
(m) Heavy metal (expressed in terms of lead)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1*	—
(n) $KMnO_2$ Reducing Substance	10	10	10	10	10	10	5	10*	5
(o) Leftover substance evaporable in water (in case of food with pH value exceeding 5)	30	30	30	30	30	—	15	30*	15
(p) Leftover substance from substance evaporable in acetic acid of 4% concentration (in case of food with pH value exceeding 5)	30	30	30	30	30	30	15	30*	15
(q) Leftover substance from substance evaporable in alcohol of 20% concentration (in case of food containing alcohol)	30	30	30	30	30	—	15	30*	15
(r) Leftover substance from substance evaporable in n-heptane (in case of fats, oils and foods containing fats)	150	150 (30)**	240	30	30	—	15	30*	15
(s) Arsenic	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
(t) Extracts by n-Hexane	—	—	—	—	—	—	26,000	—	—
(u) Substances soluble in Xylene	—	—	—	—	—	—	113,000	—	—

Note: * Must be analysed at working temperature

— Need not be analyzed

()** Where used at a temperature higher than 100 degrees celsius.

Schedule 2

to Notice of the Ministry of Public Health No.92 (B.E.2528)

Product	Lead (Milligramme per Litre)	Cadmium (Milligramme per Litre)
Shallow vessels	7	0.7
Small deep vessels	5.0	0.5
Large deep vessels	2.5	0.25
Infant-food containers	2.5	0.25
Cooking utensils	5.0	0.5

Notification on the 25th July 1964