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PART I : SECTION (I) – GENERAL

Government Notifications

FOOD ACT, No. 26 OF 1980

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Health in consultation with the Food Advisory Committee under Section 32 of the Food Act, No. 26 of 1980.

RENUKA HERATH RANAWEERA,
Minister of Health and Women’s Affairs.

Colombo,

2 A – D 032244 – 3,460 (94/06)
These regulations may be cited as Food (Preservatives in Milk) Regulations 1994 and shall come into operation on 01st September, 1994.

1. No person shall use any preservatives in milk.

2. Provided however that under exceptional circumstances set out in Section 6 of this regulation, Hydrogen Peroxide of the food quality grade may be used as a preservative in milk and milk collecting centres and/or factories.

3. However, when Hydrogen Peroxide (H₂O₂) is used in milk at milk collecting centres and/or factories, it shall be brought to the notice of the Director-General of Health Services or the Provincial Director of Health Services or the Deputy Provincial Director of Health Services or the Divisional Director of Health Services or the Divisional Health Officer or the Medical Officer of Health of the area within a period of 12 hours from the time Hydrogen Peroxide was used in the milk by such responsible person in the collecting centre/factory.

4. Whenever permitted, no person shall add or cause to be added a concentration of Hydrogen Peroxide (H₂O₂) exceeding 0.05 per cent at any stage of the product.

5. Notwithstanding the above provisions, the Chief Food Authority (Director-General of Health Services) may authorise specific producers of milk, the use of Hydrogen Peroxide (H₂O₂) provided that the requirements under these regulations are satisfied.

6. The exceptional circumstances referred to under these regulations shall be –

   (a) breakdown of cooling equipment;
   (b) power failure;
   (c) break-down of milk transport;
   (d) inability to operate milk chilling centres due to natural calamities, civil unrest, strikes, acts of war, etc.

7. However in the use of Hydrogen Peroxide (H₂O₂) as a preservative in milk the following conditions shall be strictly complied with –

   (a) that the addition is not made by milk producers but by a trained authorised and responsible Representative of the particular Milk Factory;
   (b) that the records of the use of Hydrogen Peroxide (H₂O₂) are maintained;
   (c) that the milk is checked regularly for residual Hydrogen Peroxide (H₂O₂) at the receiving factory and records maintained;
   (d) that the use of Hydrogen Peroxide (H₂O₂) shall be carefully monitored by a qualified Quality Control Officer of the relevant factory.

8. The relevant Divisional Director of Health Services, the Medical Officers of Health or the District Health Officer shall inform the milk collecting centre or the factory regarding the decision to permit the use of Hydrogen Peroxide (H₂O₂) as a preservative in milk.

9. It shall be an offence punishable under the Food Act, No. 26 of 1980 and the Regulations published thereunder for any producer, collector, processor or any other person to use Hydrogen Peroxide (H₂O₂) in milk other than as prescribed under these regulations.