

Costa Rica RTCR 409:2008 - fishery and aquaculture contaminants

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<https://heavymetalcertified.com/regulations/costa-rica-rtcr409-2008-fishery-contaminants>. Retrieved 2026-09-27.

The instrument

This page records the heavy-metal maximum levels set by Costa Rica RTCR 409:2008 - fishery and aquaculture contaminants, the instrument of SENASA / Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganaderia, 2008. Every value below is transcribed into the Heavy Metal Index register from the primary text and is the value an HMTc standard cites when this jurisdiction binds a certification limit. It is a record of law, not an HMTc threshold.

Costa Rica RTCR 409:2008, official text

Published by SENASA / Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganaderia.

PRIMARY SOURCE 

Maximum levels

All values µg/kg (ppb), in the basis the instrument states. 15 maximum levels across 4 analytes and 12 product categories, grouped by analyte and ordered by limit.

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
LEAD (PB) 5 LIMITS			
200	product as placed on market	tuna and bonito	RTCR 409:2008 section 3.3 lead row 3
300	product as placed on market	fish in general, except tuna and bonito	RTCR 409:2008 section 3.3 lead row 2
500	product as placed on market	crustaceans	RTCR 409:2008 section 3.3 lead row 1
1000	product as placed on market	cephalopods without viscera	RTCR 409:2008 section 3.3 lead row 5
1500	product as placed on market	bivalve molluscs	RTCR 409:2008 section 3.3 lead row 4
CADMIUM (CD) 6 LIMITS			

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
50	product as placed on market	fish in general, except sardine, eel, and swordfish	RTCR 409:2008 section 3.2 cadmium row 2
100	product as placed on market	sardine and eel	RTCR 409:2008 section 3.2 cadmium row 3
300	product as placed on market	swordfish	RTCR 409:2008 section 3.2 cadmium row 6
500	product as placed on market	crustaceans	RTCR 409:2008 section 3.2 cadmium row 1
1000	product as placed on market	bivalve molluscs	RTCR 409:2008 section 3.2 cadmium row 4
1000	product as placed on market	cephalopods without viscera	RTCR 409:2008 section 3.2 cadmium row 5
MERCURY, TOTAL (THG) 3 LIMITS			
500	product as placed on market	crustaceans, cephalopods without viscera, and bivalve molluscs	RTCR 409:2008 section 3.1 mercury row 1
500	product as placed on market	fish in general, except tuna, bonito, eel, marlin, ray, sharks, and swordfish	RTCR 409:2008 section 3.1 mercury row 2
1000	product as placed on market	tuna, bonito, eel, marlin, ray, sharks, and swordfish	RTCR 409:2008 section 3.1 mercury row 3
TIN (SN) 1 LIMIT			
200000	product as placed on market	canned fishery products	RTCR 409:2008 section 3.4 tin row for canned fishery products

Where HMTc cites it

Cells where this instrument holds the strictest government value in force among credible regulators, and therefore binds a published HMTc limit.

NO PUBLISHED STANDARD IS BOUND BY THIS INSTRUMENT YET

A limit recorded above binds nothing today only because another government holds a stricter value for every published cell. It may still bind later, as other jurisdictions relax or as a new subcategory is published.

How this interacts with HMTc

HMTc certification standards adopt the *strictest existing* maximum level set by any credible government, applied cell-by-cell. Where this instrument holds the strictest value for a (product, analyte) cell, it binds the HMTc limit and the standard cites this

page. This page does not set or justify any HMTc threshold; it records the sovereign requirement the program measures against.

A reference page is a record of law, not an HMTc threshold. It states what a government requires; the standard page states what the program requires, and names which instrument binds each cell.