

MERCOSUR GMC Resolution 12/11 - inorganic contaminants in food

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<https://heavymetalcertified.com/regulations/mercosur-gmc-res-12-2011-inorganic-contaminants>. Retrieved 2026-09-27.

The instrument

This page records the heavy-metal maximum levels set by MERCOSUR GMC Resolution 12/11 - inorganic contaminants in food, the instrument of MERCOSUR Grupo Mercado Comun, 2011. 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.

Transcribed into the Heavy Metal Index regulatory register from the primary text published by MERCOSUR Grupo Mercado Comun; a direct primary-source URL is not tracked for this instrument.

Maximum levels

All values µg/kg (ppb), in the basis the instrument states. 159 maximum levels across 5 analytes and 61 product categories, grouped by analyte and ordered by limit.

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
LEAD (PB) 53 LIMITS			
10	product as offered to consumer	edible ice	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
20	product as offered to consumer	fluid milk ready for consumption and dairy products without addition, undiluted and unconcentrated	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
50	product as offered to consumer	flavored water ice	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
50	product as offered to consumer	fruit juices and nectars	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
50	product as offered to consumer	non-alcoholic beverages excluding juices	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
70	product as offered to consumer	fruit-based ice cream	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
100	product as offered to consumer	bulb vegetables and sheathing leaves	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
100	product as offered to consumer	edible vegetable or animal fats and oils including margarine	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
100	product as offered to consumer	eggs and egg products	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
100	product as offered to consumer	fresh fruits excluding berries and small fruits	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
100	product as offered to consumer	fruiting vegetables of the Cucurbitaceae family	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
100	product as offered to consumer	fruiting vegetables other than Cucurbitaceae	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
100	product as offered to consumer	hard and soft candies and similar products including chewing gum	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
100	product as offered to consumer	leguminous vegetables	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
100	product as offered to consumer	milk cream	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
100	product as offered to consumer	milk or cream ice cream	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
100	product as offered to consumer	mushrooms except Agaricus, Pleurotus, Lentinula, or Lentinus	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
100	product as offered to consumer	raw, frozen, or refrigerated bovine, ovine, porcine, caprine, and poultry meats and raw sausages or breaded products	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
100	product as offered to consumer	roots and tubers	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
100	product as offered to consumer	sugars	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
150	product as offered to consumer; source unit mg/L	wine	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
200	product as offered to consumer	cereals and cereal-based products excluding wheat, rice, derivatives, and oils	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
200	product as offered to consumer	chocolate and cocoa products with less than 40% cocoa	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
200	product as offered to consumer	compotes, jellies, jams, marmalades, and other fruit or vegetable sweets	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
200	product as offered to consumer	condensed milk and dulce de leche	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
200	product as offered to consumer	fermented and fermento-distilled alcoholic beverages except wine	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
200	product as offered to consumer	fresh berries and small fruits	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
200	product as offered to consumer	pulses, dried legume seeds, except soybean	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
200	product as offered to consumer	rice and derivatives except oil	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
200	product as offered to consumer	soybean grain	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
200	product as offered to consumer	wheat and derivatives except oil	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
200	product as offered to consumer	young stems and petioles	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
300	product as offered to consumer	Brassica vegetables excluding loose-leaf Brassicas	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
300	product as offered to consumer	honey	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
300	product as offered to consumer	leaf vegetables including loose-leaf Brassicas and fresh aromatic herbs	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
300	product as offered to consumer	mushrooms of the genera Agaricus, Pleurotus, Lentinula, or Lentinus	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
300	product as offered to consumer	raw, frozen, or refrigerated fish	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
400	product as offered to consumer	cheeses	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
400	product as offered to consumer	chocolate and cocoa-based products with more than 40% cocoa	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
500	product as offered to consumer	bovine, ovine, porcine, and caprine kidneys	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
500	product as offered to consumer	bovine, ovine, porcine, caprine, and poultry liver	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
500	product as offered to consumer	cocoa paste	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
500	product as offered to consumer	crustaceans	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
500	product as offered to consumer	edible offal except liver and kidneys	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
500	product as offered to consumer	roasted coffee beans and powder	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
500	product as offered to consumer	table olives	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
500	product as offered to consumer	tomato concentrates	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
600	product as offered to consumer	tea, yerba mate, and other vegetables for infusion	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
800	product as offered to consumer	dried fruits	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
1000	product as offered to consumer	cephalopod molluscs	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
1000	product as offered to consumer	soluble coffee powder or granules	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
1500	product as offered to consumer	bivalve molluscs	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
2000	product as offered to consumer	food-grade salt	Resolution Annex Part II lead table lead row
TOTAL ARSENIC (TAS) 52 LIMITS			
10	product as offered to consumer	edible ice	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
50	product as offered to consumer	flavored water ice	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
50	product as offered to consumer	fluid milk ready for consumption and dairy products without addition, undiluted and unconcentrated	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
50	product as offered to consumer	non-alcoholic beverages excluding juices	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
100	product as offered to consumer	bulb vegetables and sheathing leaves	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
100	product as offered to consumer	condensed milk and dulce de leche	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
100	product as offered to consumer	edible vegetable or animal fats and oils including margarine	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
100	product as offered to consumer	fermented and fermento-distilled alcoholic beverages except wine	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
100	product as offered to consumer	fruit juices and nectars	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
100	product as offered to consumer	fruit-based ice cream	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
100	product as offered to consumer	fruiting vegetables of the Cucurbitaceae family	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
100	product as offered to consumer	fruiting vegetables other than Cucurbitaceae	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
100	product as offered to consumer	hard and soft candies and similar products including chewing gum	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
100	product as offered to consumer	leguminous vegetables	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
100	product as offered to consumer	milk cream	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
100	product as offered to consumer	milk or cream ice cream	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
100	product as offered to consumer	mushrooms except Agaricus, Pleurotus, Lentinula, or Lentinus	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
100	product as offered to consumer	pulses, dried legume seeds, except soybean	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
100	product as offered to consumer	sugars	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
200	product as offered to consumer	chocolate and cocoa products with less than 40% cocoa	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
200	product as offered to consumer	roasted coffee beans and powder	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
200	product as offered to consumer	roots and tubers	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
200	product as offered to consumer	wheat and derivatives except oil	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
200	product as offered to consumer; source unit mg/L	wine	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
200	product as offered to consumer	young stems and petioles	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
300	product as offered to consumer	Brassica vegetables excluding loose-leaf Brassicas	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
300	product as offered to consumer	cereals and cereal-based products excluding wheat, rice, derivatives, and oils	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
300	product as offered to consumer	compotes, jellies, jams, marmalades, and other fruit or vegetable sweets	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
300	product as offered to consumer	fresh berries and small fruits	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
300	product as offered to consumer	fresh fruits excluding berries and small fruits	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
300	product as offered to consumer	honey	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
300	product as offered to consumer	leaf vegetables including loose-leaf Brassicas and fresh aromatic herbs	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
300	product as offered to consumer	mushrooms of the genera Agaricus, Pleurotus, Lentinula, or Lentinus	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
300	product as offered to consumer	rice and derivatives except oil	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
300	product as offered to consumer	table olives	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
400	product as offered to consumer	chocolate and cocoa-based products with more than 40% cocoa	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
500	product as offered to consumer	cheeses	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
500	product as offered to consumer	cocoa paste	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
500	product as offered to consumer	eggs and egg products	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
500	product as offered to consumer	food-grade salt	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
500	product as offered to consumer	raw, frozen, or refrigerated bovine, ovine, porcine, caprine, and poultry meats and raw sausages or breaded products	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
500	product as offered to consumer	soluble coffee powder or granules	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
500	product as offered to consumer	tomato concentrates	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
600	product as offered to consumer	tea, yerba mate, and other vegetables for infusion	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
800	product as offered to consumer	dried fruits	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
1000	product as offered to consumer	bivalve molluscs	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
1000	product as offered to consumer	bovine, ovine, porcine, and caprine kidneys	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
1000	product as offered to consumer	bovine, ovine, porcine, caprine, and poultry liver	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
1000	product as offered to consumer	cephalopod molluscs	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
1000	product as offered to consumer	crustaceans	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
1000	product as offered to consumer	edible offal except liver and kidneys	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
1000	product as offered to consumer	raw, frozen, or refrigerated fish	Resolution Annex Part II arsenic table total arsenic row
CADMIUM (CD) 47 LIMITS			
10	product as offered to consumer	flavored water ice	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
10	product as offered to consumer; source unit mg/L	wine	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
20	product as offered to consumer	fermented and fermento-distilled alcoholic beverages except wine	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
20	product as offered to consumer	non-alcoholic beverages excluding juices	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
50	product as offered to consumer	Brassica vegetables excluding loose-leaf Brassicas	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
50	product as offered to consumer	bulb vegetables and sheathing leaves	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
50	product as offered to consumer	edible ice	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
50	product as offered to consumer	fluid milk ready for consumption and dairy products without addition, undiluted and unconcentrated	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
50	product as offered to consumer	fresh berries and small fruits	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
50	product as offered to consumer	fresh fruits excluding berries and small fruits	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
50	product as offered to consumer	fruit juices and nectars	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
50	product as offered to consumer	fruit-based ice cream	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
50	product as offered to consumer	fruiting vegetables of the Cucurbitaceae family	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
50	product as offered to consumer	fruiting vegetables other than Cucurbitaceae	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
50	product as offered to consumer	milk or cream ice cream	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
50	product as offered to consumer	mushrooms except Agaricus, Pleurotus, Lentinula, or Lentinus	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
50	product as offered to consumer	raw, frozen, or refrigerated bovine, ovine, porcine, caprine, and poultry meats and raw sausages or breaded products	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
50	product as offered to consumer	raw, frozen, or refrigerated fish except named cadmium exception species	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
100	product as offered to consumer	bonito, mojarra, eel, lisa, jurel, emperor fish, mackerel, sardine, tuna, and achedia or lenguadillo	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table fish exception row
100	product as offered to consumer	cereals and cereal-based products excluding wheat, rice, derivatives, and oils	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
100	product as offered to consumer	condensed milk and dulce de leche	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
100	product as offered to consumer	honey	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
100	product as offered to consumer	leguminous vegetables	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
100	product as offered to consumer	pulses, dried legume seeds, except soybean	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
100	product as offered to consumer	roasted coffee beans and powder	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
100	product as offered to consumer	roots and tubers	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
100	product as offered to consumer	young stems and petioles	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
200	product as offered to consumer	chocolate and cocoa products with less than 40% cocoa	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
200	product as offered to consumer	leaf vegetables including loose-leaf Brassicas and fresh aromatic herbs	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
200	product as offered to consumer	melba fish	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
200	product as offered to consumer	milk cream	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
200	product as offered to consumer	mushrooms of the genera Agaricus, Pleurotus, Lentinula, or Lentinus	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
200	product as offered to consumer	soluble coffee powder or granules	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
200	product as offered to consumer	soybean grain	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
200	product as offered to consumer	wheat and derivatives except oil	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
300	product as offered to consumer	anchovy and swordfish	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
300	product as offered to consumer	chocolate and cocoa-based products with more than 40% cocoa	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
300	product as offered to consumer	cocoa paste	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
400	product as offered to consumer	rice and derivatives except oil	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
400	product as offered to consumer	tea, yerba mate, and other vegetables for infusion	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
500	product as offered to consumer	bovine, ovine, porcine, caprine, and poultry liver	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
500	product as offered to consumer	cheeses	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row

LIMIT MG/KG	BASIS	PRODUCT SCOPE	PROVISION
500	product as offered to consumer	crustaceans	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
500	product as offered to consumer	food-grade salt	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
1000	product as offered to consumer	bovine, ovine, porcine, and caprine kidneys	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
2000	product as offered to consumer	bivalve molluscs	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
2000	product as offered to consumer	cephalopod molluscs	Resolution Annex Part II cadmium table cadmium row
MERCURY, TOTAL (THG) 5 LIMITS			
500	product as offered to consumer	bivalve molluscs	Resolution Annex Part II mercury table total mercury row
500	product as offered to consumer	cephalopod molluscs	Resolution Annex Part II mercury table total mercury row
500	product as offered to consumer	crustaceans	Resolution Annex Part II mercury table total mercury row
500	product as offered to consumer	fish except predators	Resolution Annex Part II mercury table total mercury row
1000	product as offered to consumer	predatory fish	Resolution Annex Part II mercury table total mercury row
TIN (SN) 2 LIMITS			
150000	product as offered to consumer	beverages in tinplate containers including fruit and vegetable juices	Resolution Annex Part II tin table tin row
250000	product as offered to consumer	foods in tinplate containers except beverages	Resolution Annex Part II tin table tin row

BASIS Values appear in the basis the instrument states; no conversion is applied on this page. A standard citing a value in a different basis discloses the conversion on its own derivation table.

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.