STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1971 No. 882

FOOD AND DRUGS

COMPOSITION AND LABELLING

The Preservatives in Food (Amendment) Regulations 1971

Made - - - -	*25th May* 1971
Laid before Parliament	*4th June* 1971
Coming into Operation	*1st September* 1971

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Secretary of State for Social Services, acting jointly, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by sections 4 and 123 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955(a), as read with the Secretary of State for Social Services Order 1968(b), and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, hereby make the following regulations, after consultation with such organisations as appear to them to be representative of interests substantially affected by the regulations:—

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Preservatives in Food (Amendment) Regulations 1971, and shall come into operation on 1st September 1971.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(c) shall apply to the interpretation of these regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

Amendment of principal regulations

2. The Preservatives in Food Regulations 1962(d), as amended (e), shall be further amended as follows:—

(*a*) by substituting for paragraph (*c*) of the proviso to regulation 3(1) thereof the following paragraph:—

"(*c*) any specified food in relation to which two or more permitted preservatives are specified in Schedule 1 may contain an admixture of those preservatives as follows:—

(i) in the case of bacon, ham or pickled meat, to the maximum quantity of each such preservative appropriate thereto in accordance with that Schedule;

(ii) in any other case, only if, when the quantity of each such preservative present in that food is expressed as a percentage of the maximum quantity of that preservative appropriate to that food

(a) 4 & 5 Eliz. 2. c. 16.
(b) S.I. 1968/1699 (1968 III, p. 4585).
(c) 1889 c. 63.
(d) S.I. 1962/1532 (1962 II, p. 1655).
(e) There is no amendment which relates expressly to the subject matter of these regulations.

in accordance with that Schedule, the sum of those percentages does not exceed one hundred;";

(*b*) by deleting paragraphs (*f*), (*g*) and (*j*) from the said proviso;

(*c*) by inserting in Schedule 1 thereto immediately before the item relating to beer the following item:—

"Column 1 Specified Food	Column 2 Permitted Preservative	Column 3 Parts per Million Not exceeding—
Bacon	Sodium nitrate	500
	Sodium nitrite	200";

(*d*) by inserting in Schedule 1 thereto immediately after the item relating to grape juice products (unfermented, intended for sacramental use), the following item:—

"Column 1 Specified Food	Column 2 Permitted Preservative	Column 3 Parts per Million Not exceeding—
Ham	Sodium nitrate	500
	Sodium nitrite	200";

(*e*) by substituting in Schedule 1 thereto for the items relating to meat, pickled, cooked and meat, pickled, uncooked the following item:—

"Column 1 Specified Food	Column 2 Permitted Preservative	Column 3 Parts per Million Not exceeding—
Meat, pickled	Sodium nitrate	500
	Sodium nitrite	200".

In Witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 13th May 1971.

(L.S.)

J. M. L. Prior,
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Keith Joseph,
Secretary of State for Social Services.

25th May 1971.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Regulations.*)

These amending regulations, which come into operation on 1st September 1971—

(*a*) impose limits on the amounts of sodium nitrate and sodium nitrite which may be added to bacon and ham;

(*b*) impose a limit on the amount of sodium nitrate which may be added to pickled meat; and

(*c*) impose in respect of all pickled meat, the limit on the amount of added sodium nitrite, which formerly applied only to cooked pickled meat.

By the principal regulations, subject to the same limits, potassium nitrate and potassium nitrite are permitted alternatives for sodium nitrate and sodium nitrite respectively.