

TECHNICAL BULLETIN #2008-8

Color Additives for use in Human Foods which are Exempt from FDA Batch Certification

(Commonly referred to as "Natural" Food Colors)

Excerpted from the United States FDA Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 21, Part 73, Subpart A

<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfCFR/CFRSearch.cfm?CFRPart=73>

- **Annatto Extract** - 21CFR § 73.30
- **Dehydrated Beets** (Beet Powder) - 21CFR § 73.40
- **Beta Carotene**, Natural & Synthetic - 21CFR § 73.95
- **Canthaxanthin** - 21CFR § 73.75 *General use: ≤ 30 mg/lb of solid or semisolid food or per pint of liquid food.*
- **Caramel** - 21CFR § 73.85
- **Cochineal Extract / Carmine** - 21CFR § 73.100
- **Carrot Oil** - 21CFR § 73.300
- **Fruit Juice** - 21CFR § 73.250
- **Grape Color Extract** - 21CFR § 73.169 *Non-beverage food only.*
- **Grape Skin Extract** (enocianina) - 21CFR § 73.170 *Still and carbonated drinks and ades, beverage bases and alcoholic beverages (in accordance with Parts 4 & 5 of 27CFR).*
- **Mica-based Pearlescent Pigment** - 21CFR § 73.350 *(i) In amounts up to 1.25 percent, by weight, in the following foods: Cereals, confections and frostings, gelatin desserts, hard and soft candies (including lozenges), nutritional supplement tablets and gelatin capsules, and chewing gum. (ii) In amounts up to 0.07 percent, by weight, in the following: (A) Distilled spirits containing not less than 18 percent and not more than 23 percent alcohol by volume but not including distilled spirits mixtures containing more than 5 percent wine on a proof gallon basis. (B) Cordials, liqueurs, flavored alcoholic malt beverages, wine coolers, and cocktails. (C) Non-alcoholic cocktail mixes and mixers, such as margarita mix, Bloody Mary mix, and daiquiri mix, but excluding eggnog, tonic water, and beverages that are typically consumed without added alcohol (e.g., fruit juices, fruit juice drinks, and soft drinks). (iii) In egg decorating kits used for coloring the shells of eggs in amounts consistent with good manufacturing practice.*
- **Paprika & Paprika Oleoresin** - 21CFR § 73.340 & 21CFR73.345
- **Riboflavin** - 21CFR § 73.450
- **Saffron** - 21CFR § 73.500
- **Sodium Copper Chlorophyllin** - 21CFR § 73.125 *Citrus-based dry beverage mixes only: ≤ 0.2 percent by wt. of the dry mix -*
- **Spirulina Extract** - 21CFR § 73.530 *Approved for coloring confections (including candy and chewing gum), frostings, ice cream and frozen desserts, dessert coatings and toppings, beverage mixes and powders, yogurts, custards, puddings, cottage cheese, gelatin, breadcrumbs, and ready-to-eat cereals (excluding extruded cereals).*
- **Synthetic Iron Oxide** - 21CFR § 73.200 *(i) In sausage casings intended for human consumption in an amount not exceeding 0.10 percent by weight of the finished food. [Revised 4/21/2015] (ii) In soft and hard candy, mints, and chewing gum at levels consistent with good manufacturing practice, except that it may not be used to color foods for which standards of identity have been issued under section 401 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, unless the use of the added color is authorized by such standards.*
- **Titanium Dioxide** - 21CFR § 73.575 *Limited to ≤ 1.0% by wt. of food.*
- **Tomato Lycopene Extract or Concentrate** - 21CFR § 73.585
- **Turmeric & Turmeric Oleoresin** - 21CFR § 73.600 & 21CFR § 73.615
- **Vegetable Juice** - 21CFR § 73.260

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