



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 2.1

CX/FA 26/56/2 Add.1

March 2026

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEx COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES

Fifty-sixth Session

MATTERS REFERRED BY THE 29TH SESSION OF THE CODEx COMMITTEE ON FATS AND OILS (CCFO29)¹

Technological justification for the use of lauric arginate ethyl ester (INS 243) as a preservative in products conforming to the *Standard for fat spreads and blended spreads* (CXS 256-1999)

1. CCFO29(2026) noted that there was no agreement on the technological use of lauric arginate ethyl ester (INS 243) as a preservative in products conforming to CXS 256-1999.
2. CCFO29 agreed to forward the following information to CCFA:
 - (a) The food additive, lauric acid arginate ethyl ester (INS 243), is used in certain countries as a preservative (antimicrobial agent) in foods conforming to CXS 256-1999. It inhibits the growth of spoilage microorganisms, including bacteria, yeasts, and moulds in products such as margarine and margarine-like table spreads, mayonnaise and spoonable and pourable salad dressings, at use levels up to 200 ppm. Its efficacy is attributed to its stability in the aqueous phase, which commonly supports microbial proliferation.
 - (b) Other Members noted that SORBATES (INS 200, 202, 203) and BENZOATES (INS 210, 211, 212 and 213) were the only preservatives with numerical acceptable daily intake (ADI) values for use in some fat spreads and blended spreads conforming to CXS 256-1999 and were considered technologically justified for use as preservatives when the standard was established. Some countries, were not aware of the technological need for the use of arginate ethyl ester (INS 243) in products conforming to CXS 256-1999.

RECOMMENDATIONS

3. CCFA56 is invited to consider the replies from CCFO29 as described above.

¹ REP26/FO paragraphs 8 and 9(iv)