



CIRCULAR

QID/ID/PFI 2011

31 May 2011

To all food importers

All declaring agents are requested to inform the importers on the contents of the circular.

Dear Sirs

HOLD AND TEST OF CERTAIN FOOD PRODUCTS IMPORTED FROM TAIWAN

Please refer to AVA's media release on 30 May 2011 (see attached).

2 In view of the detection of DEHP contamination in one of the samples, AVA is stepping up on the sampling of certain food products from Taiwan. All consignments of fruit juices, energy drinks, tea beverages, jam and jelly will be subjected to hold-and-test with immediate effect until further notice. Sale or distribution is not allowed until approval by AVA. In view of the hold-and-test, all import declarations for these products will be routed for online approval. Other products may still be sampled for testing by AVA.

3 AVA inspectors will be contacting you to collect samples for testing purpose. You may also contact our inspectors at the following numbers to arrange for inspection or if you require further clarification. Thank you.

Contact persons:

Mr Tan Tuang Hong	63253090
Mr Ong Swee Seng	63250788
Ms How Siew Tang	63251214
Mr Zhuo Yong Chang	62215056

Yours faithfully

KOH BOON LIANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
INSPECTION DIVISION
QUARANTINE & INSPECTION DEPARTMENT
for DIRECTOR-GENERAL
AGRI-FOOD & VETERINARY SERVICES

This is a computer generated circular, no signature is required.



AVA Suspends Import of “Sunlight Brand” Beverages Manufactured in Taiwan

Following reports of beverages manufactured in Taiwan found to be contaminated with DEHPⁱ, the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority (AVA) has taken samples of Taiwan manufactured beverages for testing. To date, 26 samples from 13 brands were tested for DEHP. One sample, “Sunlight Brand” (太阳为计) Star Fruit Juice, failed the test. AVA has suspended the import of “Sunlight Brand” beverages and instructed the importer of the product to remove this product from the market and withhold it from sale immediately.

2 Consumers who have bought “Sunlight Brand” beverages, which are manufactured in Taiwan, are advised to discard the products and not consume them.

Impact of DEHP on health

3 The Tolerable Daily Intake (TDI)ⁱⁱ of DEHP as established by the European Union is 0.05 mg/kg body weight per day. This means that a 60-kg adult and a 30-kg child can ingest up to 3 mg and 1.5mg of DEHP respectively daily over a lifetime without significant health risks. In addition, the TDI has incorporated a safety margin of 100 times. Even if consumers have occasionally ingested more than the above amounts, the health risk will still be low.

4 Based on the level of DEHP detected in the sample of “Sunlight Brand” Star Fruit Juice, a 60-kg adult and a 30-kg child can drink up to 420 g (approximately 420 ml) and 210g (210 ml) respectively of the juice everyday over a lifetime without significant health risks.

MEDIA RELEASE

5 Nevertheless, consumers are advised to discard and not consume the affected product.

Tests on beverages, jams and jellies manufactured in Taiwan

6 AVA is monitoring the situation closely. In addition to beverages, AVA will also test jam and jelly manufactured in Taiwan, for DEHP. The public can refer to our website (www.ava.gov.sg) for an updated list of brands that have been tested.

7 Consumers, who may have purchased products of brands that are not in the list, may choose to hold back consumption of these products.

8 Consumers who have any queries can call AVA's hotline at 6325 7625 during office hours (8.30 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday).

ⁱ DEHP is a plasticiser and is added to plastics to make them flexible and soft. DEHP is not meant for food use and should not be added to food.

ⁱⁱ Tolerable Daily Intake (TDI) is the amount of a substance in food or drinking water, which can be ingested daily over a lifetime by humans without significant health risk.

MEDIA RELEASE

Details of affected product: "Sunlight Brand" Star Fruit Juice
 Product Image:



MEDIA RELEASE

Status of brands tested (as at 30 May 2011)

Brands that have passed AVA's tests:

1. Ai Zhi Wei
2. Allswell
3. Asianstory
4. Chen Jian Juang
5. Gino
6. Oceanspray
7. Polar
8. Sagiko
9. Shi Chen
10. Shih Chuan
11. Sweet Garden
12. Yi Mei

Brand(s) that have failed AVA's tests:

1. Sunlight

MEDIA RELEASE