

**GENERAL AGREEMENT
ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED
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25 October 1993
Special Distribution

(93-1793)

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.4.

1.	Party to Agreement notifying: <u>UNITED STATES</u>
2.	Agency responsible: Food and Drug Administration (434)
3.	Notified under Article 2.5.2 [X], 2.6.1 [], 7.3.2 [], 7.4.1 [], other:
4.	Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading): Food
5.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Food Labelling: Health Claims and Label Statements; Folate and Neural Tube Defects (42 pages)
6.	Description of content: The Administration is proposing to revise its Food Labelling Regulations to authorize the use of a health claim about the relationship between folate and the risk of neural tube birth defects on labels or in labelling of foods in conventional food form or dietary supplements. This rule is being proposed in response to provisions of the Nutrition Labelling and Education Act of 1990 (the 1990 Amendments) and the Dietary Supplement Act of 1992 (the DS Act) that bear on health claims.
7.	Objective and rationale: Health; to authorize a health claim for folate and neural tube defects and to provide for safe use of folic acid in foods by amending several of its regulations that permit use of folic acid in foods.
8.	Relevant documents: 58 FR 53254, 14 October 1993; 21 CFR, Part 101. Will appear in the Federal Register when adopted.

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| 9. | Proposed date of adoption and entry into force: The agency is proposing that any final rule that may be issued based upon this proposal become effective thirty days after the date of publication, except that for foods that are fortified with folic acid to ensure that the folic acid is safely used, any final rule authorizing a health claim will not be effective until the effective date of the amendment to the Food Additive Regulation for Folic Acid proposed elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register. |
| 10. | Final date for comments: 13 December 1993 |
| 11. | Texts available from: National enquiry point <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or address of other body: |