

New restrictions on the sale of Lye Water food additives

有关最新枧水的销售限制，请联系：

有關最新枧水的銷售限制，請聯係：

Xin liên lạc với địa chỉ dưới đây để biết thêm chi tiết về những hạn chế mới trong việc bán Nước Tro

Who should read this bulletin?

Any food retailers, wholesalers and importers who sell or supply the food additive – Lye Water for household use or anyone who might want to do this in the future.

How will the law change in South Australia?

An Australia-wide change means that from **1 September 2010** you will no longer be able to sell or supply Lye Water food additives that have a **pH higher than 11.5** for household use. This change only applies to Lye Water that is packed and sold as a food additive.

You will still be able to sell Lye Water with a pH of 11.5 and below. You will still be able to sell Lye Water for commercial purposes (e.g. commercial food manufacture and restaurants).

This change applies to Lye Water food additives containing any sodium or potassium carbonate, sodium or potassium silicate, sodium or potassium phosphate or sodium or potassium hydroxide.

Why is this happening?

A number of serious injuries have occurred in Australia where children have accidentally swallowed Lye Water. Lye Water is a liquid used in small amounts in some Asian and African cooking, but it can cause serious life-threatening burns if swallowed undiluted straight from the bottle. A national decision has been made that the availability of Lye Water should be restricted to minimise the risk of harm.

The pH of Lye Water products can vary. The higher the pH, the more dangerous the Lye Water is. So from 1 September 2010 the most dangerous types of Lye Water cannot be sold.

How do I know if I am obeying the law?

You must remove any stock of Lye Water food additives with a pH higher than 11.5 from your shelves by 1 September 2010. You might want to consider how much stock to hold prior to this date.

Penalties apply, so to know if your Lye Water is legal to sell, retailers are strongly encouraged to contact their supplier to find out the ingredients and pH of any current or new stock you want to sell. The best way to be sure is to ask your supplier to provide this information in writing.

Importers and wholesalers are strongly encouraged to ask for this information with Lye Water deliveries so they can make certain their products can be legally sold in South Australia.

For more information

Carolyn Lewis

Public Health

SA Health

Citicentre, 11 Hindmarsh Square, Adelaide SA 5000

Telephone: 8226 7100 Fax: 8226 7102

www. <http://www.health.sa.gov.au/PEHS/envirom-health-index.htm>



Two types of Lye Water sold in Australia

