

A top-down view of a blue bowl filled with alphabet soup. The soup is a vibrant orange color, and the pasta letters are yellow. Several acronyms are clearly visible, including FDA, FCC, FSIS, USDA, and EFSA. The bowl sits on a piece of light brown burlap fabric, which is placed on a dark wooden surface. To the left of the bowl is a sprig of fresh green parsley, and to the right is a silver spoon. The overall composition is centered and visually appealing, with the text overlaid on the bowl's contents.

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF  
**REGULATORY GROUPS**  
AND THEIR IMPACT ON FOOD COLORS

Navigating the global waters of food and drink regulations can be complex, especially when conversations overflow with acronyms.



European Food Safety Authority

## **WHO ARE THEY?**

The European Food Safety Authority is an independent scientific agency in Europe that evaluates food risks and publishes scientific opinions.

## **IMPACT ON FOOD COLOR:**

These [scientific opinions](#) are used by the European Commission (EC), Member States, and the European Parliament to make decisions and develop legislation on food safety, such as the EC's specifications for color additives and food additives which are commonly enforced throughout the European Union by the Member States.



### **WHO ARE THEY?**

Food Chemicals Codex is a part of the USP Convention (United States Pharmacopeia). They publish internationally recognized standards (monographs) for food additives.

### **IMPACT ON FOOD COLOR:**

The FDA will cite US FCC monographs for additives that can be used in conjunction with colors. The FCC monographs are recognized as standards by several countries including Canada and Mexico. For natural products, the FCC is developing monographs for botanical products that will be used as the specification's basis for some color additives to be internationally accepted. This will include testing methods and identification techniques.





# FDA

## WHO ARE THEY?



The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is an agency under Health and Human Services that provides oversight on food, drug, cosmetic, and medical devices in the United States.

## IMPACT ON FOOD COLOR:

The FDA is responsible for ensuring the safety of food colorants in the U.S. and upholds the Food Safety Modernization Act through inspection, foreign vendor certification, hazard analysis, risk-based preventive controls, and other implementation activities for human foods.



## **WHO ARE THEY?**

The Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) is the authority in the Australian Government Health portfolio that develops and publishes food standards for Australia and New Zealand.

## **IMPACT ON FOOD COLOR:**

FSANZ's specifications are published in The Food Standards Code which defines additives and their use in various food categories.

*fssai*

  
FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS  
AUTHORITY OF INDIA

*Inspiring Trust, Assuring Safe & Nutritious Food*



## **WHO ARE THEY?**

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) publish the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations.

## **IMPACT ON FOOD COLOR:**

The regulations in the Food Safety and Standards Amendment details purity regulations for colors and other additives, as well as governs their use in food product categories.





## WHO ARE THEY?

The Joint Expert Committee on Food Additives comprised of The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization. They set standards of consumption and acceptable daily intake for food additives specified in the Codex Alimentarius.

## IMPACT ON FOOD COLOR:

The Codex is the “Food Code” of standards, definitions of food categories, and additives allowed in them. Countries can rely on JECFA monographs when they do not have specifications of their own developed (many developing countries use these for international trade). JECFA is also the central repository for the INS (International Numbering System) that helps with the assigning and evaluation of new sources for additives.



**JECFA**

JOINT FAO/WHO  
EXPERT COMMITTEE  
ON FOOD ADDITIVES



## WHO ARE THEY?

The Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare is a cabinet level ministry responsible for food standards in Japan.



## IMPACT ON FOOD COLOR:

They set the JSFA (Japanese Standards for Food Additives) which are the specifications for the use of color in foods.





## **WHO ARE THEY?**

The National Health in Family Planning Committee approves the use of food additives in China and issues the Guobiao Standards (GB).

## **IMPACT ON FOOD COLOR:**

The NHFPC creates the specifications for various food additives in their use in food categories in China.





## WHO ARE THEY?

The United States Department of Agriculture is a cabinet-level department made up of 29 agencies who oversee programs from farm-to-fork. Some of these include:



NUTRITION



AGRICULTURE



RURAL  
DEVELOPMENT



FOOD



NATURAL  
RESOURCES



PUBLIC  
POLICY

## IMPACT ON FOOD COLOR:

- Oversees farming practices (seed, planting, irrigation, pesticide use, and harvesting) of raw materials for natural colors
- The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) of the USDA helps US and foreign companies understand one another's food production regulations and labeling requirements for ingredients.
- The National Organic Program (NOP) of the USDA regulates the use of food additives like [colors used in organic foods.](#)