



Food Safety & Quality

We are aware of the recent Congressional Report and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) announcement related to heavy metals in baby foods and juices. As a company owned by 700 family farmers, this is a deeply personal issue to us. We are extremely proud of the quality and safety of our products and support measures that ensure that all food products are safe - especially those we feed our children.

We are completely confident that all Welch's juice is safe and strictly complies with all government regulations for juice – in the United States and in every country around the globe where our products are marketed.

Heavy metals such as lead and other elements are naturally present in the soil, air, and water. Therefore, they also are found in very low, harmless levels in many fruits and vegetables. The FDA has published guidelines for these naturally occurring elements in juice. Ongoing third-party testing shows that our products are far below these recommendations.

We support FDA's ongoing review of these guidelines in pursuit of updated standards that are science-based, achievable and that continue to provide safe products for consumers.

Over the past 150 years, Welch's cooperative of family farmers has and continues to explore and implement ways to improve our products. We have made considerable progress. For example, as science and technology have evolved, so has our company's ability to minimize heavy metal content to the lowest possible levels in our products. We have invested in research, development, and technological processes that work toward this goal, and we take great pride and ownership in having best-in-class protocols in our industry. These include:

- Imposing strict heavy metal standards on all of our suppliers.
- Conducting regular audits of supplier ingredients and facilities.
- Sharing best practices with our suppliers.
- Regularly testing incoming materials using third-party laboratories.
- Frequently analyzing all of our ingredients and processes for risk.
- Testing to confirm levels in our finished product are well below the Federal guidelines.

Third-party audits and testing confirm that Welch's products are far below all Federal guidelines. Our commitment to quality and safety is why consumers can have confidence in our products in every state of our nation and around the world.