

**I Canada strider man om hur margarin tillåts färgas smörgult. (Från hemsidan just-food.com).**

“CANADA: Row over butter-coloured margarine intensifies

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Source: just-food.com editorial team

The Canadian provinces of Alberta and Manitoba have weighed in the trade dispute raging over Quebecs refusal to lift a ban on butter-coloured margarine.

Opposition to the ban has been spearheaded thus far by Ontario, but earlier this summer the oilseed industry asked the two western provinces, as well as neighbouring Saskatchewan, to intervene and offer their support to Ontario, reports the Globe and Mail.

Quebecs refusal to allow anything other than white margarine is hurting producers of vegetable oil-based products, as well as canola growers, oilseed crushers and refiners. Natural-white margarine is reported to be harder to sell to consumers than the coloured variety that looks like butter.

The provinces are challenging Quebecs regulation on the grounds that it constitutes a barrier to free trade and is protectionist. Talks have been rumbling on for more than four years, and in March Ontario decided to resort to the dispute settlement panel that is part of the Agreement on Internal Trade.

Quebec in 1994 agreed to lift the 15-year-old ban by September 1997, but backed down at the eleventh hour, succumbing to intense lobbying on the part of the powerful dairy industry.”

**Min kommentar:**

Att färga ett livsmedel för att det skall likna ett annat har länge varit i strid med redlighetstanken i Livsmedelslagstifningen. Man får inte färga en fisk röd för att den skall likna lax. Men när det gäller just margarin ser Livsmedelsverket mellan fingrarna.