

McCormick Says It's Cutting Ingredients Such as Banned Red Dye

By [Deena Shanker](#) – Bloomberg

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McCormick & Co. is working with its partners to remove controversial ingredients like artificial colors from products, Chief Executive Officer Brendan Foley said.

When asked during a Thursday analyst call about Red No. 3, the dye that the [US Food and Drug Administration](#) said would be banned from food by January 2027, Foley said the spice maker is working with companies that it makes products with to improve and reformulate products.

“This could be the removal of artificial colors, sodium reduction, just increasing in clean ingredients,” he said, adding that the company had been taking these steps prior to 2025.

Red No. 3 is common in US supermarkets. About 26% of baking decorations and dessert toppings have the dye, along with many other products such as mints, candy and cookies, according to an analysis performed by [healthy food app GoCoCo](#).

McCormick [reported](#) fourth-quarter profit and sales that beat analyst expectations, but gave full-year adjusted earnings per share guidance [below](#) Wall Street forecasts.

Shares rose 2.3% at 11 a.m. in New York. The stock has gained 12% over the last 12 months, while the S&P 500 index is up 25%.

The company's sales in the Americas have been buoyed in the supermarket, as consumers continue cooking from home and focusing on healthier diets. Foley noted on the call that reformulations to meet consumer demand for healthy products include items in the snacks and beverages categories.

But its "flavor solutions" business, which works with the packaged food and fast food sectors, has been sagging.