

**P.U.(A) 437 OF 1985**

**FOOD ACT 1983**

**FOOD REGULATIONS 1985**

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 34 of the Food Act 1983 [Act 281], the Minister makes the following regulations:

**PART VIII  
STANDARDS AND PARTICULAR LABELLING REQUIREMENTS FOR FOOD**

**Tea, Coffee, Chicory and Related Product**

**260. Tea.**

- (1) Tea shall be the product of steaming, drying or firing or any combination of these, of fermented, semi-fermented or non-fermented leaves, buds and tender stems of one or more varieties of *Camellia*.
- (2) Tea -
  - (a) shall not yield more than 7 per cent of total ash of which at least one half shall be soluble in boiling water;
  - (b) shall yield not less than 30 per cent of water soluble extract; and
  - (c) shall not contain spurious, exhausted, decayed or mouldy leaves or stalks and any foreign matter.
- (3) Tea shall not contain any colouring substance, whether permitted or not under these Regulations.

[Am. P.U.(A) 88/03]

**261. Tea dust, tea fanning or tea sifting.**

Tea dust, tea fanning or tea sifting shall be the dust, fanning or sifting of tea as specified in regulation 260. Tea dust shall pass through holes of 0.707 mm size (707 µm). It shall not yield more than 5 per cent of ash insoluble in boiling water. For all other purposes, it shall comply with the standard for tea prescribed in regulation 260.

[Am. P.U.(A) 88/03]

**262. Tea extract, instant tea or soluble tea.**

- (1) Tea extract, instant tea or soluble tea is a dried product made exclusively by the aqueous extraction of tea.
- (2) Tea extract, instant tea or soluble tea--

- (a) shall not contain more than-
  - (i) 20 per cent of total ash; and
  - (ii) 6 per cent of water;
- (b) shall contain not less than-
  - (i) 4 per cent of caffeine; and
  - (ii) 7 per cent of tannin; and
- (c) shall dissolve in boiling water in 30 seconds with moderate stirring and the infusion shall have the colour, taste, and flavour of freshly brewed tea.

[Am. P.U.(A) 162/88]

**263. Scented tea.**

Scented tea, tea dust, tea fanning, tea sifting, tea extract, instant tea or soluble tea as specified in regulations 260, 261 and 262 respectively, shall be tea to which has been added harmless, natural, aromatic substance such as jasmine flowers, rose petals, essence of bergamot, mint or lemon, and spices. It shall not contain other foreign substance.

[Am. P.U.(A) 90/99]

**263A. Tea mix.**

- (1) Tea mix shall be tea, tea dust, tea fanning, tea sifting, tea extract, instant tea or soluble tea as specified in regulations 260, 261 and 262 respectively, with or without sugar, It may contain added harmless, natural or aromatic substance such as jasmine flowers, rose petals, essence of bergamot, mint or lemon, and spices.
- (2) Tea mix may contain permitted food conditioner.
- (3) Every package containing tea mix shall be labelled with a direction for its use.
- (4) Where tea mix is in a ready-to-drink form it shall be construed to be tea drink.

[Ins. P.U.(A) 162/88; Am. P.U.(A) 90/99]

**264. Particular labelling requirement of tea.**

- (1) Where tea, tea dust, tea extract or scented tea is derived exclusively from one location, the name of that location may appear in the label on a package containing such tea, tea dust, tea extract or scented tea, as the case may be.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided by these Regulations, the word "tea", whether alone or used in connection or association with any other words, shall not appear in the label on a package containing tea unless the contents of that package and the label thereof comply with the requirements of these

Regulations.

- (3) There shall be written in the label on a package containing tea extract, instant tea or soluble tea, in larger letters than any other words on the label other than the brand name, the words "tea extract", "instant tea" or "soluble tea", as the case may be.
- (4) There shall be written in the label on a package containing scented tea the words "scented tea" immediately followed, in not less than 4 point lettering, by the name of the scenting substance, or the name of the scenting substance to be conjoined in uniform lettering with the word "tea" as the case may be.

**265. Coffee bean.**

Coffee bean shall be the seed of any species of *Coffea*, either raw or roasted.

**266. Coffee or ground coffee or coffee powder.**

- (1) Coffee or ground coffee or coffee powder shall be the pure roasted coffee bean that is ground or otherwise prepared so as to be suitable for making an infusion or decoction. It shall be free from husk and any other substance.
- (2) Coffee or ground coffee or coffee powder-
  - (a) shall not contain more than 7 per cent of water;
  - (b) shall contain -
    - (i) not more than 5 per cent and not less than 3 per cent of ash;
    - (ii) not less than 0.9 per cent of anhydrous caffeine; and
    - (iii) not more than 33 per cent and not less than 22 per cent of water-soluble extract; and
  - (c) shall contain not less than 8.5 per cent of fat.
- (3) Where coffee is derived exclusively from one location, the name of that location may appear in the label on that package of coffee.

[Am. P.U.(A) 162/88, 88/03]

**267. Instant coffee or soluble coffee.**

- (1) Instant coffee or soluble coffee shall be the dried soluble solids obtained from water-extraction of freshly roasted, pure coffee beans. It shall be in the form of free flowing powder or granule having the colour, taste and flavour characteristic of coffee.

- (2) Instant coffee or soluble coffee-
  - (a) shall contain not less than 2.25 per cent of anhydrous caffeine derived from coffee;
  - (b) shall not contain added substance; and
  - (c) shall dissolve in boiling water in 30 seconds with moderate stirring.
- (3) There shall be written in the label on a package containing soluble coffee or instant coffee the words "soluble coffee" or "instant coffee", as the case may be.
- (4) The word "pure" or the words "pure coffee" or any word or words having the same or a similar effect shall not be used on the label on a package containing instant coffee or soluble coffee unless that word or those words are written in uniform lettering not larger than the letters used for the name of the food as specified in subregulation (3) and are immediately followed by the word "extract".

[Am. P.U.(A) 162/88]

**267A. Decaffeinated coffee.**

- (1) Decaffeinated coffee shall be the dried soluble solids obtained from water-extraction of freshly roasted coffee beans where caffeine has been removed.
- (2) Decaffeinated coffee-
  - (a) shall contain not more than 3 g/kg (weight per weight) of anhydrous caffeine; and
  - (b) shall not contain added substance.

[Ins. P.U.(A) 88/03]

**268. Coffee essence or liquid coffee extract.**

- (1) Coffee essence or liquid coffee extract shall be the essence or liquid extract from coffee, with or without the addition of glycerol or sugar or a combination of these. It shall not contain any other added substance. It shall contain not less than 0.5 per cent of anhydrous caffeine derived from coffee.
- (2) There shall be written in the label on a package containing coffee essence or liquid coffee extract-
  - (a) in larger letters than those of any other words on the label, the words "coffee essence" or "liquid coffee extract", as the case may be; and
  - (b) a statement of the percentage of caffeine in the coffee.
- (3) The word "pure" or any word or words having the same or a similar effect shall not be used in the label on a package containing coffee essence or liquid coffee extract.

**269. Coffee mixture.**

- (1) Coffee mixture shall be coffee ground with other food substances.
- (2) Coffee mixture shall contain not less than 50 per cent of coffee.
- (3) There shall be written in the label on a package containing coffee mixture-
  - (a) in larger letters than those of any other words on the label, the words "coffee mixture"; and
  - (b) a statement of the percentage of coffee in the mixture.
- (4) Except for the purpose of expressing the percentage of coffee as required in paragraph (3)(b), the word "coffee" shall not appear in the label on a package containing coffee mixture unless it is conjoined with the word "mixture".
- (5) The word "pure" or any word or words having the same or similar effect shall not be used in the label on a package containing coffee mixture.

[Am. P.U.(A) 183/86, 162/88, 131/02]

**269A. Premix coffee.**

- (1) Premix coffee shall be a preparation made from coffee, instant coffee or coffee essence or liquid coffee extract or coffee mixture as specified in regulations 266 to 269 respectively, with or without sugar.
- (2) Premix coffee may contain milk, creamer and other food and permitted food conditioner.
- (3) Every package containing premix coffee shall be labelled with a direction for its use.
- (4) Where premix coffee is in a ready-to-drink form, it shall be construed to be a coffee drink.

[Ins. P.U.(A) 88/03]

**270. Chicory.**

- (1) Chicory shall be the powder obtained by roasting and grinding the cleaned and dried root of *Cichorium intybus*, with or without the addition of edible fat, edible oil or sugar, in a proportion not exceeding 2 per cent.
- (2) Chicory-

- (a) shall not contain more than 10 per cent and not less than 3.5 per cent of ash;
- (b) shall not contain more than 2.5 per cent of ash insoluble in dilute hydrochloric acid; and
- (c) shall contain not less than 50 per cent of water soluble extract.

[Am. P.U.(A) 183/86]

**271. Coffee and chicory**

- (1) Coffee and chicory shall be a mixture of coffee and chicory. It shall not contain any added substance.
- (2) Coffee and chicory shall contain not less than 50 per cent of coffee.
- (3) There shall be written in the label on a package containing coffee and chicory--
  - (a) in larger letters than those of any other words on the label, the words "coffee and chicory"; and
  - (b) a statement of the percentage of coffee in the mixture.
- (4) Except for the purpose of expressing the percentage of coffee as required in paragraph (3)(b), the word "coffee" shall not appear in the label on a package containing coffee and chicory unless it is conjoined with the words "and chicory".
- (5) The word "pure" or any word or words having the same or a similar effect shall not be used in the label on a package containing coffee and chicory.

[Am. P.U.(A) 162/88]

**272. Instant coffee and chicory or soluble coffee and chicory extract.**

- (1) Instant coffee and chicory or soluble coffee and chicory extract shall be the dried soluble solids prepared from water extraction of coffee and chicory as specified in regulation 271.
- (2) Instant coffee and chicory or soluble coffee and chicory extract--
  - (a) shall contain not less than 50 per cent of coffee.
  - (b) may contain sugar; and
  - (c) shall dissolve in boiling water in 30 seconds with moderate stirring.
- (3) There shall be written in the label on a package containing instant coffee and chicory or soluble coffee and chicory extract-

- (a) in larger letters than those of any other words on the label, the words "instant coffee and chicory" or "soluble coffee and chicory extract", as the case may be;
  - (b) a statement of the percentage of coffee in the mixture.
- (4) Except for the purpose of expressing the percentage of coffee as required in paragraph (3)(b), the words "instant coffee" or "soluble coffee" shall not appear in the label on a package containing instant coffee and chicory or soluble coffee and chicory extract unless those words are conjoined with the words "and chicory" or "and chicory extract", as the case may be.
- (5) The word "pure" or any word or words having the same or a similar effect shall not be used in the label on a package containing instant coffee and chicory or soluble coffee and chicory extract.

[Am. P.U.(A) 162/88]

**273. Coffee and chicory essence or liquid coffee and chicory extract.**

- (1) Coffee and chicory essence or liquid coffee and chicory extract shall be the essence or liquid extract from coffee and chicory as specified in regulation 271, with or without the addition of glycerol or sugar or glucose or any combination of these. It shall contain not less than 0.25 per cent anhydrous caffeine derived from coffee.
- (2) There shall be written in the label on a package containing coffee and chicory essence or liquid coffee and chicory extract-
- (a) in larger letters than those of any other words on the label, the words "coffee and chicory essence" or "liquid coffee and chicory extract", as the case may be; and
  - (b) a statement of the percentage of coffee in the mixture.
- (3) The word "coffee" shall not appear in the label on a package containing coffee and chicory essence or liquid coffee and chicory extract unless it is preceded by the word "liquid" in the case of liquid coffee and chicory extract and conjoined with the words "and chicory essence" or "and chicory extract", as the case may be.
- (4) The word "pure" or any word or words having the same or a similar effect shall not be used in the label on a package containing coffee and chicory essence or liquid coffee and chicory extract.