



DRAFT TANZANIA STANDARD

Food additives - Labelling

Draft for stakeholder's comments P3



0 Foreword

Labelling is an essential requirement in the use and trade of all food additives. Its purpose is to inform the purchaser and user in an unambiguous manner of the contents inside the package or container. It is important that the declaration and claims made in the label are true and reflect the product packed. Manufacturers of food additives and trade agencies have often been labelling food additives anyhow. The arbitrary labeling of the food additives with only fancy trade names has sometimes created confusion. Some food manufacturers, fail to comply with other Tanzania Standards on food because of lack of sufficient knowledge of the food additives they use. This standard has been prepared to establish a proper way of labeling food additives.

In the preparation of this standard, assistance was derived from:

FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission ALINORM 79/12, Appendix.

1 Scope

This Tanzania Standard applies to the labelling of food additives sold as such whether by retail or other than by retail, including sales to caterers and food manufacturers for the purpose of their business. This standard also applies to food processing aids.

2 Normative Reference

The following referenced documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitute requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

TZS 11: – Permissible food additives and their levels of use – Schedule.

TZS 538 Labelling of pre-packaged foods — General requirements



3 Terms and Definitions

For the purpose of this Tanzania Standard the following terms and definitions shall apply:

3.1 Food additive

Any substance not normally consumed as food in its own right and not normally used as atypical ingredients of food, whether or not it has nutritive value, the intentional addition of which to food for technological (including organoleptic) purpose in the manufacture, processing, preparation, treatment, packing, packaging, transport or holding of such food results, or may be reasonably expected to result (directly or indirectly) in it or its by-products becoming a component of or otherwise affecting the characteristics of such foods. The term does not include contaminants, or substances added to food for maintaining or improving nutritional qualities, or sodium chloride.

3.2 Processing aid

A substance or material not including apparatus or utensils and not consumed as a food ingredient by itself, intentionally used in the processing of raw materials, food or other ingredients to fulfill a certain technological purpose during treatment or processing and which may result in the non-intentional but unavoidable presence of residues or derivatives in the final product.

3.3 Contaminant

Any substance not intentionally added to food, which is present in such food as a result of the production including operations carried out in crop husbandry, animal husbandry and veterinary medicine), packaging, transport or holding of such food or as a result of environmental contamination.

3.4 label includes any tag, brand mark, pictorial or other descriptive matter, written, painted, stenciled, marked, embossed or impressed on, or attached to a container.

3.4 Labelling

Includes the label and any written, printed or graphic matter relating to and accompanying the food additive. The term does not include bills, invoices and similar material which may accompany the food additives.

3.6 Container

Any form of packaging of food additives for sale or otherwise as a single item whether by completely or partially enclosing the food additives, and includes wrappers.

3.7 Ingredient

Any substance, excluding a food additive, used in the manufacture or preparation of a food and present in the final product.

3.8 sale by retail

means any sale to a person buying otherwise than for the purpose of resale but does not include a sale to caterers for the purposes of their catering business or a sale to manufacturers for the purposes of their manufacturing business.

3.9 Trade name a name that has the status of a trademark.



4 General principles

4.1 Food additives shall not be described or presented on any label or in any labeling in a manner that is false, misleading or deceptive or is likely to create an erroneous impression regarding their character in any respect.

4.2 Food additives shall not be described or presented on any label or in any labeling by words, pictorial or other devices which refer to or are suggestive, either directly or indirectly of any other product with which such food additives might be confused, or in such a manner as to lead the purchaser or consumer to suppose that the food additive is connected with or derived from such other product; provided that the term “x-flavour” may be used to describe a flavour which is not derived from, but reproduces the flavour of “x”.

5 Labeling of prepacked food additives

Labelling of food additives shall be as described in TZS 538. In addition labels of all food additives sold shall bear the information required by 5.1 to 5.6 of this clause as applicable to food additives being labeled.

5.1 Details of the food additives

- a) The name of each food additive present shall be given. The name shall be specified as per TZS 115 (see clause 2).
- b) If two or more food additives are present, their names shall be given in the form of a list. The list shall be given in descending order of the proportion by mass. If food ingredients are part of the preparation, they shall be declared in the list of ingredients in descending order of proportion.
- c) Food additives with a shelf-life not exceeding 18 months shall carry the date of minimum durability using words such as “will keep at least until”.
- d) The words “For Food Use” or statement substantially similar thereto shall appear in a prominent position on the label.

5.2 Instruction on keeping and use

Adequate information shall be given about the manner in which the food additives is to be kept and is to be used in food.

5.3 Net contents

The net contents shall be declared in the metric system (SI) Units. This declaration shall be made in the following manner:

- a) for liquid food additives by volume or mass;
- b) for solid food additives by mass;
- c) for semi-solid or viscous food additives either by mass or volume.



5.4 Name and address

The name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor, importer, exporter of the food additives shall be declared.

5.5 Country of origin

- (a) The country of origin of a food additive shall be declared if its omission is likely to mislead or deceive the consumer.
- (b) When a food additive undergoes processing in a second country which changes its chemical or physical nature, the country in which the processing is performed shall be considered to be the country of origin for the purposes of labeling.

5.6 Lot identification

Each container shall be marked in code or in clear to identify the producing factory and the lot.

6 Presentation of information

6.1 General

Statements required to appear on the label by virtue of this standard shall be clear, prominent and readily legible by the consumer under normal conditions of purchase and use. Such information shall not be obscured by designs or by other written, printed or graphic matter and shall be contrasting ground to that of the background. The letters in the name of the food additives shall be in a size reasonably related to the most prominent printed matter on the label. Where the container is covered by a wrapper, the wrapper shall carry the necessary information, or the label on the container shall be readily legible through the outer wrapper or not obscured by it. In general the name and net contents of the food additive shall appear on that portion of the label normally intended to be presented to the consumer at the time of sale.

6.2 Language

The language used for the declaration of the statements referred to in 6.1 shall be in English and/or Kiswahili. If the language on the original label is other than the above, a supplementary label containing the information in English and/or *Kiswahili* may be used instead of relabeling.

7 Additional or different requirements for specific food additives

Nothing in this standard shall preclude the adoption of additional or different provisions in a Tanzanian Standard, in respect of labeling, where the circumstances of a particular food additive would justify their incorporation in that standard.



8 Optional labelling

8.1 General

Any information or pictorial device may be displayed on labeling provided that it is not in conflict with the requirement nor would mislead or deceive the consumer in any way whatever in respect of the food additive.

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