

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Number: IN2021-0083

Report Name: India's FSSAI Changes Nomenclature of Blended Edible Vegetable Oil to Multi Source Edible Oil

Country: India

Post: New Delhi

Report Category: Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, Exporter Guide, FAIRS Subject Report, Food Processing Ingredients, Policy and Program Announcements, Agriculture in the Economy, Agriculture in the News, SP1 - Expand International Marketing Opportunities, SP2 - Prevent or Resolve Barriers to Trade that Hinder U.S. Food and Agricultural Exports, Oilseeds and Products

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Report Highlights:

On June 29, 2021, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) published a new directive changing the nomenclature “Blended Edible Vegetable Oil” or “Multi Source Edible Vegetable Oil” now to simply “Multi Source Edible Oil.” At the Food Authority 33rd Meeting, the FSSAI (authority) determined to remove the term ‘vegetable’ and change the terminology as “Multi Source Edible Oil” wherever specified in the food safety and standards regulations. The authority is extending the compliance timeline now until November 17, 2021, when conformity with the new mandatory labeling and display regulations come into effect. Earlier, the effective compliance date had been set for June 8, 2021. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, in response to stakeholders’ requests, is extending the compliance date to allow food business operators (industry) additional time to exhaust existing inventory of product labels.

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this report was retrieved from the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India’s (FSSAI) website <http://www.fssai.gov.in>. The U.S. Embassy in New Delhi – Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA), USDA and/or the U.S. government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity. The Government of India has not officially endorsed this report. Import approval for any product is subject to local rules and regulations as interpreted by Indian officials at the time of product entry. [Note: Use Google Chrome to access the links if they do not open in Internet Explorer].

GENERAL INFORMATION

On June 29, 2021, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) published a new directive changing the nomenclature “Blended Edible Vegetable Oil” or “Multi Source Edible Vegetable Oil” now to simply “Multi Source Edible Oil.” At the Food Authority 33rd Meeting, the FSSAI (authority) determined to remove the term ‘vegetable’ and change the terminology as “Multi Source Edible Oil” wherever specified in the food safety and standards regulations. The authority is extending the compliance timeline now until November 17, 2021, when conformity with the new mandatory labeling and display regulations come into effect. Earlier, the effective compliance date had been set for June 8, 2021.

In response to stakeholders’ requests, the FSSAI is extending the compliance date to allow food business operators (industry) additional time to exhaust existing inventory of product labels. Similarly, the extension affords industry the possibility to better comply with the new labeling requirements pertaining to font size and nomenclature of multi-source edible oil, among others.

The directive also notes that effective November 17, 2021, the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Third Amendment Regulations (March 8, 2021), Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additive) Amendment Regulations (December 29, 2020), and Food Safety and Standards (Labeling and Display) Regulations (November 17, 2020) will be operationalized.

Table 1: India, FSSAI Regulation Chronology

Date	Details	Remarks
March 8, 2021	Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Third Amendment Regulations.	The compliance date for change in nomenclature of ‘Blended Edible Vegetable Oil’ as ‘Multi Source Edible Vegetable Oil.’ was June 8, 2021.
December 29, 2020	Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations (2020).	Change in nomenclature of blended edible vegetable oil as multi sourced edible vegetable oil.
November 17, 2020	Final Food Safety and Standards (Labeling and Display) Regulations (2020), published on the FSSAI website on December 14, 2020.	New labeling and essential information requirements for pre-packaged foods.
December 24, 2018	Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labeling) First Amendment Regulations (2018).	Specific requirements and manner of labeling for blended edible vegetable oil.

The subject topic lines from the new FSSAI directive are included in this GAIN-FAIRS report as Appendix – I. They are also accessible on the FSSAI’ website located at: <https://fssai.gov.in/>.

F.No. REG/Representation-MSEO/FSSAI-2021
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A Statutory Authority established under the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006)
(Regulation division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110 002

Dated, the 29th June, 2021

Subject: Direction under Section 18(2)(d) read with Section 16 (5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

Reference is drawn to notifications:

- i) Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Third Amendment Regulations, 2021 dated 8th March, 2021 vide no. Stds/SP-15/T[T(IMST)] regarding change in nomenclature of Blended Edible Vegetable oil as Multi Source Edible Vegetable oil which is effective for compliance from 08.06.2021.
- ii) Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additive) Amendment Regulations, 2020 dated 29th December, 2020 vide no. F. No. 1-116/ Scientific Committee/Notif./2010-FSSAI regarding change in nomenclature of Blended edible Vegetable oil as Multi Sourced Edible Vegetable oil.
- iii) Food Safety and Standards (labelling and display) regulations, 2020 dated 17th November 2020 vide no. F. No. 1-94/FSSAI/SP(Labelling)/2014(Pt-2) which is effective for compliance from 17.11.2021.

2. Whereas, considering the concern regarding labelling and the need to align the nomenclatures at point i) and ii) above, the Food Authority in its 33rd Meeting held on 23 March, 2021 has decided to remove the term "vegetable" and change the nomenclature as "Multi Source Edible Oil" wherever it is specified in the FSS Regulations.

3. Representation were also received from the stakeholders requesting to extend the date of compliance of the Food Safety and Standards (labelling and display) regulations, 2020 from 17.11.2021 in light of several amendments w.r.t. Font size, nomenclature of multi-source edible oil, Warning/statements on sweeteners and others which have been agreed by the scientific panel.

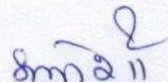
3. Accordingly, the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Amendment Regulations, 2021, Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additive) Amendment Regulations, 2021 and Food Safety and

Standards (labelling and display) Amendment regulations, 2021, as enclosed, are operationalized with effect from 17.11.2021 to address the concern.

4. Further, the FBOs may continue to use the nomenclature either the old stock/inventory of tables containing the name 'Blended Edible Vegetable Oil' or 'Multi Source Edible Vegetable Oil' or 'Multi Source Edible Oil' on the label till 17.11.2021.

5. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority in exercise of the power vested with Food Authority under Section 18(2)(d) read with Section 16 (5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

Encls: As above


(Inoshi Sharma)

Executive Director (Regulatory Compliance)

Notice for operationalization of Draft Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Amendment Regulations, 2021-

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, hereby makes the following regulations operational with effect from 17.11.2021

1. These regulations may be called the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Amendment Regulations, 2021.
2. In the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011, in regulation 2.3 relating to –Prohibition and Restriction on sale of certain products, in sub-regulation 2.3.14, for clause (11), for the words “Multi Source Edible Vegetable Oil” wherever they occur shall be substituted as “Multi Source Edible Oil”.

Notice for operationalization of Draft Food Safety and Standards Food Product Standards and Food Additive) Amendment Regulations, 2021.

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, hereby makes the following regulations operational with effect from 17.11.2021

Regulations

1. These regulations may be called the Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additive) Amendment Regulations, 2021.
2. In the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011, in regulation 2.2, in sub-regulation 2.2.1, in clause 24, the words "Multi Sourced Edible Vegetable Oil" shall be substituted as "Multi Source Edible Oil".

Notice for operationalization of draft Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Amendment Regulations, 2021

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, hereby makes the following regulations operational with effect from 17.11.2021.

1. (1) These regulations may be called the Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Amendment Regulations, 2021.

"4. Every package containing an admixture of edible oils shall carry the following label declaration in bold capital letter immediately below its brand name/trade name on the front of pack, namely: -

"MULTI-SOURCE EDIBLE OIL"

(Name and nature* of edible oil)% by weight
(Name and nature* of edible oil)% by weight

(*i.e. in raw or refined form)

For pack size less than one litre, the font size of the label declaration "**MULTI-SOURCE EDIBLE OIL**", shall not be less than 3 mm with the length of declaration statement as 35

mm minimum and for label declaration "Name and Nature of edible oil....% by weight", font size shall not be less than 2 mm.

For pack size one litre to below 5 litre, the font size of the label declaration "**MULTI-SOURCE EDIBLE OIL**" shall not be less than 4 mm with the length of declaration statement as 45 mm minimum and for label declaration "Name and Nature of edible oil....% by weight" font size shall not be less than 2.5 mm.

For pack size five litre and above, the font size of the label declaration "**MULTI-SOURCE EDIBLE OIL**" shall not be less than 10 mm and for label declaration "Name and Nature of edible oil....% by weight" font size shall not be less than 3 mm.

There shall also be the following declaration in bold capital letters along with the name of product on front of pack,-

NOT TO BE SOLD LOOSE

Attachments:

No Attachments.