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Report Highlights:

This FAIRS-Ghana | GH2026-0018 | Country Report Annual - 2026, offers a comprehensive overview of the procedural frameworks established by the Ghanaian government for the importation of food and agricultural products destined for human and animal consumption. It serves as a practical guide for U.S.-origin food manufacturers and agricultural commodity exporters by outlining the regulatory standards and legal requirements necessary to facilitate compliant trade. Updated by FAS Accra (Post), this version incorporates the latest administrative adjustments, including the 2026 Ghanaian tax reforms under Section IX (Import Procedures).

DISCLAIMER: This report was prepared by the U.S. Embassy/USDA-Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA) Accra, Ghana, for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care has been taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCTS IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY. [Note: Use Google Chrome to access the links that do not open in Microsoft Edge.]

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) – Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Accra (Post) FAIRS-Ghana | GH2026-0018 | Country Report Annual – 2026, provides U.S.-origin food manufacturers and agricultural commodity exporters with an overview of Ghanaian laws, regulations, and requirements governing the import of food and agricultural products. The report outlines regulations related to import procedures, labeling, packaging, and other relevant guidelines. This report also provides contact information for Ghanaian regulatory agencies.

Ghana is a growing market that serves as a gateway for the Coastal West Africa region for U.S.-origin food and agricultural products exporters. Ghana offers increasing opportunities for U.S. exporters of consumer-oriented food products, such as, poultry meat, soups and other preparations, spices, bakery goods, cereals and pastas, and dairy products.

Consumer-oriented food products form the bulk of U.S. exports to Ghana. However, there are also growth opportunities for intermediate products exports, for example, soybean meals, non-beverage ethanol, as well as sugar, sweeteners, and beverage bases all evidence good potential. In calendar year (CY) 2025 (January-December), Ghana’s global imports (cost-insurance-freight – CIF) of agricultural and related products were \$3.9 billion, up almost 16 percent from 2024. In 2025, Ghanaian imports of U.S.-origin agricultural and related products came in at \$174.6 million (CIF), up \$27 million from \$147 million in 2024, highlighting Ghana’s continuous economic growth.

Earlier in 2026, the Ghanaian government abolished the COVID-19 Health Recovery Levy of 1 percent, while integrating the National Health Insurance Levy (NHIL) of 2.5 percent and the Ghana Education Trust Fund (GETFund) Levy of 2.5 percent into the overall standard value-added tax (VAT) base. (See, [GAIN-GHANA | GH2026-0002 | Ghana Tax Reforms of 2026 - Impact on U.S.-origin Food and Agricultural Products Imports and Ghanaian Consumer Prices](#)).¹

The Ghana Food and Drugs Authority (Ghana FDA), as per the Public Health Act No. 851 (2012), is the national regulatory body responsible for: 1) overseeing the safety and quality of food, drugs, dietary supplements, herbal and homeopathic medicines; 2) veterinary products; 3) cosmetics; 4) medical devices; 5) household chemical substances; 6) tobacco products; and 7) clinical trials to ensure public safety and compliance.

¹ U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Accra, “GAIN-GHANA | GH2026-0002 | Ghana Tax Reforms of 2026 - Impact on U.S.-origin Food and Agricultural Products Imports and Ghanaian Consumer Prices,” located at: https://apps.fas.usda.gov/newgainapi/api/Report/DownloadReportByFileName?fileName=Ghana%20Tax%20Reforms%20of%202026%20-%20Impact%20on%20US-origin%20Food%20and%20Agricultural%20Products%20Imports%20and%20Ghanaian%20Consumer%20Prices_Accra_Ghana_GH2026-0002.

SECTION I. FOOD LAWS

Ghana's food laws are designed to ensure the safety, quality, and integrity of food products available to consumers. The primary objective of these regulations is to safeguard public health, prevent foodborne illnesses, and ensure that food products meet established safety and quality standards. Ghanaian regulatory agencies enforce compliance with food laws, regulations, and standards. Ghana's food laws and regulations impact all stages of the food supply chain, including production, processing, packaging, labeling, and distribution. Ghana's regulatory environment and guidelines for food safety consists of primarily of the [General Labeling Rules \(1992\)](#) and the [Public Health Act No. 851 \(2012\)](#).²

The General Labeling Rules (1992): Ghana's General Labeling Rules (1992) regulate the labeling of products to ensure that consumers receive accurate and sufficient information about the products they purchase. These rules are designed to protect consumers and promote fair trade practices. All products sold in Ghana must comply with these labeling rules to be legally marketed and sold in the country.

The Public Health Act No. 851 (2012): The [Ghana Food and Drugs Authority](#) (Ghana FDA), an agency within the Ministry of Health (MOH), was established by the Public Health Act No. 851 (2012).³ This Act mandates that the Ghana FDA regulate the manufacture, import, export, distribution, use, and marketing of food, drugs, food supplements, herbal and homeopathic medicines, veterinary medicines, cosmetics, medical devices, household chemicals, and tobacco products to ensure their safety, quality, and efficacy. The Ghana FDA requires registration and proper certification for all food products imported, advertised, sold, or distributed in the country. The Ghana FDA ensures that locally manufactured and imported food products meet the standards set by the [Ghana Standards Authority \(Ghana SA\)](#).⁴ The Ghana SA is the national statutory body mandated to develop and enforce conformity standards for food commodities.

The Ghana FDA enforces food integrity through facility audits, import destination inspections, export verifications, and post-market surveillance. Non-compliance with statutory food laws is punishable by law, and failure to secure FDA registration serves as an absolute barrier to product importation.

Pursuant to the Public Health Act No. 851 (2012), the Ghana FDA enforces strict food integrity through mandatory facility audits, import destination inspections, export verifications, and robust post-market surveillance. Non-compliance with these statutory provisions constitutes a legal offense. Specifically, failure to secure proper registration before importation serves as a complete regulatory barrier, subjecting unauthorized shipments to immediate rejection, administrative or fiscal penalties, or severe statutory sanctions.

To regularize non-compliant consignments, the Ghana FDA Center for Import and Export Control may impose targeted enforcement actions under the Public Health Act No. 851 (2012), including: 1) re-

² See, Public Health Act No. 851 (2012), located at: <https://www.fao.org/faolex/results/details/en/c/LEX-FAOC136559>. Ghana's General Labeling Rules (1992), are located at: [https://www.fao.org/faolex/results/details/en/c/LEX-FAOC017279/#:~:text=Ghana-.Ghana%20Standards%20Board%20\(Food%2C%20Drugs%20and%20other%20Goods\)%20General.with%20provisions%20of%20regulation%201](https://www.fao.org/faolex/results/details/en/c/LEX-FAOC017279/#:~:text=Ghana-.Ghana%20Standards%20Board%20(Food%2C%20Drugs%20and%20other%20Goods)%20General.with%20provisions%20of%20regulation%201).

³ See, Ghana Food and Drugs Authority (Ghana FDA), located at: <https://fdaghana.gov.gh/>.

⁴ Ghana Standards Authority, located at: <https://www.gsa.gov.gh/>.

exportation, mandating the compulsory return of the unregistered consignment to its point of origin at the importer's expense; 2) confiscation and destruction through the seizure and disposal of unauthorized products to isolate the public market from unverified commodities; 3) administrative fines, levying immediate financial penalties for statutory breaches; 4) legal prosecution, including initiating criminal proceedings against the non-compliant entity in accordance with the judiciary provisions of the Public Health Act No. 851 (2012); and 5) conditional authorization, including the issuing a "cleared under detention" order, which permits the consignment to exit the port premises under strict regulatory quarantine until registration protocols are fully finalized.

In January 2022, the Ghana FDA launched the [National Food Safety Policy](#).⁵ This measure provides directions and guidance on food safety. It promotes and guides research, training, monitoring, and food-borne disease surveillance activities. The World Health Organization (WHO) and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) supported this policy.

SECTION II: LABELING REQUIREMENTS

A. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The Ghana SA, an agency of the Ministry of Trade, Agribusiness and Industry (MOTAI), develops and publishes standards. The Ghana FDA is responsible for enforcing standards set by the Ghana SA. FAS Accra (Post) encourages U.S. exporters to read the [Ghana Standards Authority General Labeling Rules \(1992\)](#), as well as visit the Ghana FDA webpage on the [Guidelines for Imported Food Products](#) before designing labels for products for export to Ghana.⁶

Minimum labeling requirements include the following:

- Labeling should be in English. An English language translation must be shown on the label or package insert (where applicable) if it is in another language.
- Labeling shall be legible and shall be of indelible ink.
- The name of the product (brand, common name, and generic name) should be in bold letters.
- Provide net mass/weight, net volume, or drained weight of content (i.e., for solids in liquid medium, such as mackerel in tomato sauce). Essential ingredients should be specified in metric weight for solids, semi-solids and aerosols, and metric volume for liquids.
- The manufacturer/exporter/agent's name and complete address, including location.
- The country of origin must be provided on the product label.
- List ingredients (specific names of ingredients and/or E-numbers) by their common names in descending order of predominance by weight. If the food is "standardized," (i.e., there is a

⁵ Ghana National Food Safety Policy, located at: <https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/gha211470.pdf>.

⁶ Ghana Standards Authority (Food, Drugs and other Goods) General Labeling Rules (1992) (L.I. No. 1541), located at: <https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/gha17279a.pdf>. See, Ghana Guidelines for Imported Food Products, located at: <https://fdaghana.gov.gh/imported-products/food-products-guidelines-import/>. Ghana uses the *Codex Alimentarius* (Codex) standards to formulate its labeling requirements. Codex is the collection of internationally recognized standards, codes of practice, guidelines, and other recommendations published by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Codex standards are located at: https://www.fao.org/input/download/report/487/al91_3e.pdf.

corresponding Ghana SA-issued standard for the food) the label must include only those ingredients, which are optional for that standard and include directions for use, if any:

- a. Provide the production “batch” or lot number.
- b. Provide date of manufacture of products.
- c. Provide an “expiry,” “best before,” or a “use by” date.
- d. Food additives and colors must be stated on the label. Spices, flavors, and colors may be listed as such, without naming the specific material, but any artificial color or flavor should be identified as such.
- e. There is no additional labeling for U.S. food imports if the standard U.S. label addresses the above-mentioned items. Stick-on labels are not permitted.
- f. Ghana does not require that the Ghana FDA registration number be on the product label.

The Ghana FDA enforces mandatory, exception-free labeling regulations through port-of-entry, manufacturing site, and retail market surveillance inspections. Non-compliance results in immediate administrative or statutory sanctions, including the temporary or permanent prohibition of product import, distribution, sale, or use. These enforcement actions may be applied to specific non-compliant consignments or extended across the offending entity’s entire product portfolio (see, Ghana FDA General Labeling Requirement guidelines for pre-packaged foods).⁷

The Ghana FDA legally classifies any special dietary food as a drug if its therapeutic indications include the treatment, prevention, cure, mitigation, or diagnosis of human or animal diseases. Consequently, manufacturers must register these commodities as medicinal products in strict compliance with the Ghana FDA Guidelines for the Registration of Drugs.

B. OTHER SPECIFIC LABELING REQUIREMENTS

Wheat Flour and Vegetable Oil Products:

Pursuant to the Ministry of Health’s, [Directive for the Fortification of all Wheat Flour and Vegetable Oil\(s\) Locally Produced and/or Imported](#), all imported and locally manufactured vegetable oils must explicitly declare their specific botanical source (e.g., corn, groundnut (also known as peanut), sunflower, or rapeseed). The Ghana FDA strictly prohibits “No/Low Cholesterol” or “Cholesterol-Free” labels on edible vegetable oils as misleading claims, unless accompanied by a mandatory clarifying statement that all vegetable oils are inherently cholesterol-free. Non-compliant consignments are subject to immediate regulatory enforcement, including retail product withdrawal or compulsory re-labeling.

Infant Formula: There are specific labeling requirements for infant formula and follow-up formula that must conform to the Labeling Requirements for Infant Formula and Follow-up Formula.⁸ In addition to the general labeling requirements for pre-packaged foods, labels must clearly state that breast milk is the

⁷ Ghana Food and Drugs Authority (Ghana FDA), “General Labelling Requirements for Pre-Packaged Food,” Doc. No. FDA/FER/RQT – 04. See, this FAIRS GH2026-0018 report’s attachments link: ATTACH_I-GHA FDA- General Labelling Requirements-Pre-Packaged Food.

⁸ Ghana Food and Drugs Authority (Ghana FDA), “Labelling Requirements for Infant Formula & Follow-up Formula (L.I. 1667),” Doc No. FDA/FER/RQT – 05. See this FAIRS GH2026-0018 report’s attachment link: ATTACH_II-GHA FDA- Labeling Req_Infant Formula_&_Follow-up Formula.

best food for infants and prevents illnesses; provide proper preparation and usage instructions; and include a warning about health hazards associated with improper use. Labels must also indicate the health risks of introducing the product before the recommended age and specify the quantity needed to feed an infant for the first six months of life. Labels should not use terms like “maternalized” or display photographs or graphics, except for preparation instructions. Infant formula is defined as a product for infants up to six months, while follow-up formula is for infants older than six months and young children. Both require formulation to Ghanaian standards or Codex *Alimentarius* (Codex) standards.

Halal Food Labeling: In Ghana, there are no specific labeling requirements for the import of halal food products. For all U.S.-origin meat and non-plant-based food products shipped to Ghana, halal certification is strictly voluntary. Additional nutritional and religious labeling information such as halal or kosher is voluntary. (See, [GAIN-GHANA | GH2025-0002 | Ghana - Halal Overview-2025](#)).⁹

Food/Feed Containing “Genetically Modified” (Genetically Engineered) Ingredients: The Ghana FDA developed [Guidelines for Labeling Food and Feed Derived from Genetically Modified Organisms \(“GMOs”\)](#) and those containing genetically modified (“GM”) (i.e., genetically engineered – GE) ingredients.¹⁰ The guidelines ensure compliance with the Public Health Act No. 851 (2012), and provide clear labeling requirements to inform consumers. The guidelines define key terms such as “GMOs” (i.e., products derived from biotechnology), “GM” food, and highly processed food, and outline mandatory labeling requirements for various categories of “GM” food and ingredients. Exemptions are provided for low-level “GM” presence and highly processed foods. “Non-GMO” claims must be substantiated and not misleading. Non-compliance with guidelines will result in regulatory sanctions.

SECTION III: PACKAGING AND CONTAINER REGULATIONS

Ghana does not require special packaging or container dimensions. Importers and consumers prefer processed and high-value products to be packaged in small- to medium-size packs that are affordable and for single use. Bulk product shipments that can be repackaged locally are also preferred. Ghana FDA officials carry out routine inspection and analysis of imported foods at the port-of-entry and at the retail level; they are mandated to seize and destroy contaminated products.

A. PACKAGING SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES

In 2020, Ghana revised its National Plastics Management Policy which sets the framework for the proper and sustainable management of plastics across their life cycle, across the economy. Even though Ghana does not ban or restrict single use plastics, it has taken steps to manage plastic waste through the Revised National Plastics Management Policy (an integrated response to sustainably manage plastics).¹¹

⁹ U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Accra, “GAIN-GHANA | GH2025-0002 | Ghana - Halal Overview-2025,” located at: https://apps.fas.usda.gov/newgainapi/api/Report/DownloadReportByFileName?fileName=Ghana%20-%20Halal%20Overview%20-%202025_Accra_Ghana_GH2025-0002.

¹⁰ Ghana Food and Drugs Authority (Ghana FDA), “Guidelines for Labeling Food and Food Ingredients Derived from GMOS,” located at: <https://fdaghana.gov.gh/guidelines-for-labeling-of-foods-and-food-ingredients-derived-from-gmos-3/>.

¹¹ Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation, “Revised National Plastics Management Policy,” (March 2020). See this FAIRS GH2026-0018 report’s attachment link: ATTACH_III-GHAMoESTI-Revised-National-Plastics-Management-Policy.

SECTION IV: FOOD ADDITIVES REGULATIONS

Ghana's food additive regulations are based on [Codex standards](#). Ghanaian food additive regulations are specified in the [Public Health Act No. 851 \(2012\)](#).¹² Details are as follows:

- No person may manufacture, import, advertise, sell, or present any food item or beverage containing a non-nutritive sweetener for human consumption unless the product is “specified for special dietary usage.”
- It is not permissible to add non-nutritive sweeteners to any food or beverage to be consumed by infants or children.
- Non-nutritive sweeteners, including saccharin and cyclamates, may be used in low-calorie, dietary foods/beverages.
- Ghanaian legislation prohibits the use of potassium bromate as a flour improver for bread. Food manufacturers are required to use ascorbic acid as a food additive.
- Effective February 1, 2010, it is mandatory for all wheat flour and vegetable oils imported and or locally produced in Ghana to be fortified with micronutrients (Gazette No. 92).
- Ghana bans all dairy products containing melamine, including baby formula.
- Effective July 1, 2005, all salts manufactured in Ghana and or imported must be iodized.¹³

All food additives that are Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS listed) by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are permitted for their intended use by the Ghana FDA.

SECTION V: PESTICIDES AND CONTAMINANTS

The Ghana Environmental Protection Agency (Ghana EPA) is the national authority for pesticide management. It performs this function in coordination with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA)/Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate (PPRSD), which regulates and approves agricultural pesticides. In January 2025, the [Environmental Protection Act No. 1124 \(2025\)](#), replaced the Environmental Protection Act 490 (1994). The Environmental Act No. 1124 (2025) consolidates various pieces of legislations that regulate environmental protection in Ghana, including the Hazardous and Electronic Waste Control and Management Act No. 917 (2016) and the Pesticides Control and Management Act No. 528 (1996).¹⁴ The Act provides comprehensive regulations for the control and management of pesticides, including the establishment of maximum residue levels (MRLs) for pesticides in food and animal feed.

The Environmental Protection Act No. 1124 (2025) assigns the Ghana EPA responsibility for enforcing MRL limits, as well as for conducting periodic reviews and updates of MRL limits. The Ghana EPA is authorized to establish pesticide residue monitoring programs to ensure compliance with set MRLs, generating data for periodic reviews. The Ghana EPA fixes national pesticide MRLs; however, in the absence of an established national limit, it may adopt the limits specified in Codex as an Interim

¹² See, Public Health Act No. 851 (2012), located at: <https://fdaghana.gov.gh/laws/>.

¹³ Although the regulation has yet to be fully implemented, iodized salts are already sold on the Ghanaian market.

¹⁴ See, Ghana Environmental Protection Act No. 1124 (2025), located at: <https://epa.gov.gh/new/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Environmental-Protection-Act-2025-Act-1124-2.pdf>.

National Maximum Residue Limit.¹⁵ Ghana, currently defers to Codex; it does not maintain a national MRL list. The Ghana EPA’s Chemicals Control and Management Center provides updated information on approved pesticides and MRLs. (See, [Revised Register of Pesticides - December 2023](#)).¹⁶

The Environmental Protection Act No. 1124 (2025) covers the regulation of contaminants. It sets maximum levels (MLs) for various contaminants in food and other products to protect public health and the environment. Exporters must provide documentation and may be subject to testing requirements to ensure that imported goods comply with the established MLs for contaminants. The Ghana FDA conducts port inspections enforcing compliance with MLs for contaminants; sanctions for violations include administrative penalties and criminal charges.

SECTION VI: OTHER REQUIREMENTS, REGULATIONS, AND REGISTRATION MEASURES

A. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

While utilizing a local agent, importer, or distributor is not a statutory requirement, engaging vetted local representatives or market-knowledgeable trade associations is highly recommended to navigate complex regulatory frameworks. Foreign exporters must ensure their designated local agents possess valid legal documentation, as formal registration is a mandatory prerequisite to operate within Ghana. Furthermore, regulatory frameworks permit a single local agent to maintain multi-line product representation.

- The importer or agent must maintain a validly registered corporate entity or business enterprise possessing the operational and logistical capacity to execute an immediate product recall.
- The Ghanaian importer/agent must provide proof of a manufacturer’s Power of Attorney, authorizing representation on issues relating to the product(s).
- The original Power of Attorney must be notarized in the country of origin. It must be signed by the chairman or president of the company, stating the name of the product(s) being registered.
- The importer/agent coordinates imported food product(s) registration, registering the product(s) with the Ghana FDA, for a period of up to three years.

B. FACILITY REGISTRATION

The Ghana FDA product and facility registration for food product imports requires compliance with the [Guidelines for Licensing of Facility](#) requirements for issuance of a Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) Certificate.¹⁷ Documentation required includes:

- Business Registration Certificate.
- Sanitary or Phytosanitary (SPS) Certificate, where applicable.

¹⁵ Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), located at: https://www.fao.org/input/download/report/487/a191_3e.pdf.

¹⁶ See, Ghana EPA Chemicals Control and Management Center, “Revised Register of Pesticides (December 2023),” located at: <https://epa.gov.gh/new/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Revised-Register-Of-Pesticides-December-2023-1.pdf>. U.S. exporters can obtain more information on approved pesticides and MRLs from the Ghana EPA through info@epa.gov.gh.

¹⁷ See, Ghana Food and Drugs Authority (Ghana FDA), “Guidelines for Licensing of Facility,” located at: <https://fdaghana.gov.gh/guidelines-for-licensing-of-food-manufacturing-facility/>.

- Certificate of Manufacture, Free Sale, and/or a U.S. [Food and Drug Administration's Certificate](#).
- Certificate of Analysis by product and variant and endorsed by an authorized officer.
- Radiation Certificate for food product (if food was subjected to or exposed to radiation).
- Documentation substantiating health, nutrition, superlative, and comparative, affixed on the label where applicable.
- A copy of the product label (model label).
- Two (2) product sample units of each product must be sent to the Ghana FDA for physical/laboratory analysis and vetting (four-to-eight weeks).
- Total Registration fee (non-refundable) as stated in the current Ghana-FDA fee schedule.¹⁸

To ensure compliance with import protocols, the designated Ghanaian importer must submit a valid Certificate of Registration of Brand Name/Trademark to the Ghana FDA on behalf of the trademark proprietor. Concurrently, the importer must present a formal Letter of Invitation authorizing the inspection of the processing facility or warehouse. This invitation must explicitly state the manufacturer's complete physical location address, designated contact personnel, telephone numbers, and email address. Application forms must be completed exclusively by company owners or authorized competent representatives possessing comprehensive institutional knowledge. Clearing agents are strictly prohibited from executing these regulatory applications.

The Ghana FDA product registration protocol evaluates manufacturing processes, assesses food safety and quality, and verifies absolute compliance with statutory labeling regulations. The standard administrative timeline spans four to eight weeks from the date of laboratory sample submission. Foreign exporters and manufacturers must concurrently comply with all Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA) Customs Division entry requirements. Pre-packaged food registrations are valid for a three-year term and require mandatory renewal prior to expiration. Formal FDA approval must be secured prior to commercial importation; importation is strictly prohibited during the evaluation phase, with the sole exception of official laboratory evaluation samples.¹⁹

C. PRODUCT REGISTRATION

To fulfill Ghana FDA registration requirements for imported food products, applicants must submit a finalized [Imported Food Product Registration Form](#).²⁰ This form accompanies the physical product samples and the dedicated Certificate of Analysis (CoA) for each distinct commodity.²¹ While a Certificate of Free Sale (CoFS) is not a mandatory accompaniment for individual subsequent commercial shipments, its submission remains a mandatory, non-negotiable prerequisite to secure the initial product registration.

The guidelines that regulate the sale of pre-packaged food products in Ghana are as follows:

- Pre-packaged food can be sold only if a label has been affixed to it.

¹⁸ Ghana Food and Drugs Authority (Ghana FDA), "Approved Fee Schedule," Doc. No. L.I. 2481. See this FAIRS GH2026-0018 report's attachment link: [ATTACH_IV-GHA FDA-Approved Fee-Schedule_L.I.2481](#).

¹⁹ See, Ghana Food and Drugs Authority (Ghana FDA) for guidelines, located at: <https://fdaghana.gov.gh/guidelines-2/>.

²⁰ See, Ghana Food and Drugs Authority (Ghana FDA), "Imported Food Product Registration Form," located at: <https://fdaghana.gov.gh/imported-food-product-application-form/>.

²¹ For sampling and registration procedures, see Ghana Food and Drugs Authority (Ghana FDA), "[Registration Requirements for Imported Pre-Packaged Foods](#)," located at: <https://fdaghana.gov.gh/registration-requirements-imported-food-products/>.

- Any person who labels a pre-packaged food product in a manner which is false, misleading, or deceptive as regards its character, nature, value, substance, composition, merit, safety, quality, quantity, or origin commits an offense.
- Manufacturers must provide a complete list of ingredients used in preparing the food item on the label in a descending order of their predominance.
- Recommend storage and handling conditions along with a shelf life.
- Indicate on the label if a pre-packaged food item has been treated with ionizing radiation and the nature of the ionizing radiation.
- Submission of a Certificate of Free Sale from the competent health authority from the country of origin, indicating that sale of the product does not contravene the country’s food laws.

D. ADVERTISEMENT REQUIREMENTS

The Ghana FDA approves all advertisement and promotional materials (including the contents to be used) before they are utilized. This approval is in addition to the Ghana FDA issued Certificate of Registration of Food Product that authorizes import and sale in Ghana. Exporters may advertise in the print and electronic media (i.e., radio, television), billboards, posters and point of sale displays. The Ghana FDA is responsible for the approval of alcoholic advertisements. Once approved, the advertisement must include the phrase “This advert has been vetted and approved by the FDA.”

On February 5, 2025, the Ghana FDA issued a public notice on the Draft Guidelines for the Advertisement of Regulated Products.²² The draft guidelines aim to update and consolidate prior Ghana guidelines on advertisements. In particular, the Guidelines for the Advertisement of Foods – FDA/FID/GL-AD/2016/01 (February 1, 2016).²³ The measure effectively bans celebrities from advertising and sponsoring alcoholic beverages and the targeting of minors. Ghana sets the legal age for the purchase and consumption of alcohol at 18-years of age. These guidelines also provide more detailed specifications for the placement and format of health warnings in alcoholic beverage advertisements and explicitly states that advertisements for alcoholic beverages must not highlight the nutritive benefits of the product. The guidelines also require health warnings such as alcohol is not recommended for pregnant women or lactating mothers. (See, [GAIN-GHANA | GH2025-0010 | Ghana FDA Rolls Out Draft Guidelines for the Advertisement of Regulated Products - When Will It Notify the WTO](#)).²⁴

²² Ghana Food and Drugs Authority (Ghana FDA), Public Notices, “Draft Guidelines for the Advertisement of Regulated Products,” (February 5, 2025), Doc No. FDA/DRI/DMS/GL-ADV/2023/01. Prior Ghana FDA hyperlinks to this report are no longer functional. See this FAIRS GH2026-0018 report’s attachment link: ATTACH_V-GHA FDA-GUIDELINES-ADVERTISEMENT-REG-PROD (20250205). Ghana FDA to date reference the “Guidelines for Advertisement of Regulated Products,” Doc No. FDA/DRI/DMS/GL-ADV/2023/01. See this FAIRS GH2026-0018 report’s attachment link: ATTACH_VI-GHA FDA-GHARegAds-FDA-DRI-DMS-GL-ADV-2023-01, as well as at, <https://fdaghana.gov.gh/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/GUIDELINES-FOR-ADVERTISEMENT-OF-REGULATED-PRODUCTS-.pdf>.

²² See, Ghana Food and Drugs Authority (Ghana FDA), Draft Guidelines for the Advertisement of Regulated Products,” (February 1, 2016), located at: <https://fdaghana.gov.gh/guidelines-for-the-advertisement-of-foods/>.

²³ See, Ghana Food and Drugs Authority (Ghana FDA), Draft Guidelines for the Advertisement of Regulated Products,” (February 1, 2016), located at: <https://fdaghana.gov.gh/guidelines-for-the-advertisement-of-foods/>.

²⁴ U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Accra, “GAIN-GHANA | GH2025-0010 | Ghana FDA Rolls Out Draft Guidelines for the Advertisement of Regulated Products - When Will It Notify the WTO,” located at:

https://apps.fas.usda.gov/newgainapi/api/Report/DownloadReportByFileName?fileName=Ghana%20FDA%20Rolls%20Out%20Draft%20Guidelines%20for%20the%20Advertisement%20of%20Regulated%20Products%20-%20When%20Will%20It%20Notify%20the%20WTO_Accra_Ghana_GH2025-0010

SECTION VII: OTHER SPECIFIC STANDARDS/LAWS

A. BIOTECHNOLOGY

Pursuant to the Biosafety (Management of Biotechnology) Regulations (L.I. 2383) (2019), which operationalizes the statutory provisions of the Biosafety Act No. 831 (2011), all importers of genetically engineered (GE) commodities must secure prior regulatory authorization from both the National Biosafety Authority (NBA) and the Ghana FDA as a mandatory prerequisite for product importation. The [National Biosafety Authority](#) is the designated national authority on all issues related to modern agricultural biotechnology in Ghana. The Act states that a person or organization intending to introduce a GE product into the environment, import, or place on the market must obtain NBA written approval.

The Act provides guidance to institutions and offers procedures for the uptake of the technology from research to commercial release. A food safety assessment is required for bioengineered products that contain actively detectable GE traits.

Based on the scope of the [Biosafety Act No. 831 \(2011\)](#) and the [Biosafety \(Management of Biotechnology\) Regulations \(L.I. 2383\) \(2019\)](#), agricultural products, that contain GE elements, such as microbial biotech products, soybean, soybean meal, soybean oil, and other processed foods, are permissible.²⁵ Such agricultural products can be freely imported from the United States. There are currently no restrictions in place on the import of GE products or products containing bioengineered material. (See, [GAIN-GHANA | GH2025-0042 | Ghana, Biotechnology and Other New Production Technologies Annual-2025](#)).²⁶

B. VITAMIN-ENRICHMENT REQUIREMENTS

The Public Health Act No. 851 (2012) mandates all wheat flour and vegetable oils, imported or produced locally, to be fortified with micronutrients to address nutrient deficiencies in the population. Manufacturers and importers of wheat flour and vegetable oils need to adhere to the following Ghana Standards (GS):

- GS 811:2006 Cereals and Pulses - Specification for Fortified Strong Wheat Flour.
- GS 812:2006 Cereals and Pulses - Specification for Fortified Soft Wheat Flour.
- GS 813:2006 Animal and Vegetable Fats and Oils - Specification for Fortified Vegetable Oils.

²⁵ The Ghanaian Biosafety Act No. 831 (2011), provides rules relative to the transfer, handling and use of “genetically modified organisms” resulting from biotechnology for purposes of protection public health and the environment. It establishes the Ghanaian National Biosafety Authority (NBA) and defines its functions and powers. This Act also establishes an Appeals Tribunal and provides with respect to inspections. See, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations – FAOLEX, “Ghana, Biosafety Act No. 831 (2011),” located at: <https://www.fao.org/faolex/results/details/en/c/LEX-FAOC136733/#:~:text=This%20Act%20provides%20rules%20relative,defines%20its%20functions%20and%20powers>. See, the Ghana Biosafety Authority, located at: <https://nba.gov.gh/act-and-regulations/> for the “Biosafety Act, 2011 (Act No. 831),” at <https://nba.gov.gh/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Act-831.pdf> and for the “Biosafety (Management of Biotechnology Regulations, 2019 (L.I. 2383)” at <https://nba.gov.gh/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/L-I-2383.pdf>.

²⁶ U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Accra, “GAIN-GHANA | GH2025-0043 | Ghana, Biotechnology and Other New Production Technologies Annual-2025,” located at: https://apps.fas.usda.gov/newgainapi/api/Report/DownloadReportByFileName?fileName=Biotechnology%20and%20Other%20New%20Production%20Technologies%20Annual_Accra_Ghana_GH2025-0042.



Note: Ghana FDA Fortification Logo.

All fortification premixes for the fortification of the foregoing foodstuffs should conform to the Ghana Standards listed below:

- GS 809:2006 Standard - Specification for Fortification Premix for Wheat Flour.
- GS 810:2006 Standard - Specification for Fortification Premix for Vegetable Oil.

These standards mandate that animal and vegetable oils be fortified with Vitamin A (i.e., a blend of Vitamin A and D3) at a quantity of 10 mg/kg. They also mandate that strong and soft wheat flour be fortified with Vitamin A, Folic Acid, Vitamin B12, Thiamine, Riboflavin, Niacin, Iron and Zinc and other ingredients, including Pyridoxine, L-Ascorbic acid, Azodicarbonamide and Sulphur Dioxide.

C. FAT CONTENT REQUIREMENTS

Ghana prohibits the import of meat with high fat content in accordance with the following Ghana Standards:

- GS 89:2018 - Specification for Fresh, Chilled, and Frozen Pork (not to exceed 25% fat by mass).
- GS 90:2015 - Specification for Fresh, Chilled, and Frozen Beef (not to exceed 25% fat by mass).
- GS 91:2015 - Specification for Fresh, Chilled, and Frozen Poultry (not to exceed 15% fat by mass).
- GS 92:2015 - Specification for Fresh, Chilled, and Frozen Mutton (not to exceed 25% fat by mass).
- GS 334:2019 - Specification for Milk Fat Products (should be declared per percentage of mass and volume).

U.S. food manufacturers and exporters are advised to review the [Ghana Standards Catalogue - 2019](#) for addition details and information.²⁷

²⁷ See, Ghana Standards Authority (Ghana SA), "Ghana Standards Catalogue - 2019," located at: https://www.gsa.gov.gh/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/CATALOGUE-2019_04_03.pdf.

D. DIETETIC OR SPECIAL USE FOODS, HALAL/KOSHER, PLANT-BASED MEAT, DAIRY ALTERNATIVES

Ghana operates as a secular state without a standardized, national statutory framework for halal or kosher certification. Consequently, halal certification remains a voluntary commercial practice rather than a mandatory legal requirement for importing, exporting, or distributing food products, including U.S.-origin commodities. The Government of Ghana does not mandate internationally recognized religious certifications, nor does it maintain specific, standalone labeling regulations for halal or kosher imports. However, under statutory consumer protection and labeling frameworks, any product bearing an explicit packaging claim of halal or kosher compliance must be accompanied by an official certificate issued by a recognized, accredited religious authority. Product samples submitted under these claims are subject to the identical registration, certification, laboratory testing, and inspection protocols mandated for standard commercial shipments.²⁸

The Ghana FDA provides general labeling requirement guidelines for the labeling of pre-packaged foods. Local manufacturers are not required to label halal products or register for halal certification. Ghana does not have specific labeling requirements for halal food products imported into the country. (See, [GAIN-GHANA | GH2025-0002 | Ghana, Halal Overview-2025](#)).²⁹

E. WINE, BEER AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

The Ghana FDA exercises comprehensive authority over all manner of alcoholic beverages (including wines and spirits) and non-alcoholic beverages. Specifically, for wines and alcoholic spirits (i.e., for imports and or for locally manufactured products), the Authority requires product registration; maintains labeling requirements; exerts import/export controls; places and enforces advertising restrictions; as well as conducts post-market surveillance. (See, [GAIN-GHANA | GH2025-0045 | Ghana, FDA's Import Labeling and Registration Requirements for Wine and Alcoholic Sprits - Products Containing Alcohol - 2025](#)).³⁰

²⁸ See, Ghana Food and Drugs Authority (Ghana FDA), “General Labeling Requirements Guidelines for Pre-packaged Food,” located at: <https://fdaghana.gov.gh/general-labeling-requirements/>.

²⁹ See, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Accra, “GAIN-GHANA | GH2025-0002 | Ghana, Halal Overview-2025,” located at: https://apps.fas.usda.gov/newgainapi/api/Report/DownloadReportByFileName?fileName=Ghana%20-%20Halal%20Overview%20-%202025_Accra_Ghana_GH2025-0002.

³⁰ U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Accra, “GAIN-GHANA | GH2025-0002 | Ghana, FDA’s Import Labeling and Registration Requirements for Wine and Alcoholic Sprits - Products Containing Alcohol - 2025,” located at: https://apps.fas.usda.gov/newgainapi/api/Report/DownloadReportByFileName?fileName=Ghana%20FDA%27s%20Import%20Labeling%20and%20Registration%20Requirements%20for%20Wine%20and%20Alcoholic%20Sprits%20-%20Products%20Containing%20Alcohol_Accra_Ghana_GH2025-0045.

SECTION VIII: GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATORS, TRADEMARKS, BRAND NAMES AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Ghana is a member of the [World Intellectual Property Organization \(WIPO\)](#), the [Universal Copyright Convention](#) and the [African Regional Industrial Property Organization \(ARIPO\)](#).³¹ Ghana is a party to the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, which the [Ghana Copyright Act](#) (amended in 1985 and 2005) is based on.³² The WIPO lists Ghana's Copyright Act No. 690 (2005) as the main intellectual property law, further demonstrating its commitment to international copyright standards. The Act makes it a criminal offense to counterfeit, reproduce, export, import, exhibit, perform, or sell any work without the permission of the copyright owner.

Trademarks: The [Trademark Act \(1965\) \(as amended in 2004\)](#) protects trademarks and brand names.³³ Manufacturers and traders are strongly advised to patent their inventions and register their trademarks in Ghana. This is to be done through a patent or trademark agent. Fees for registration vary according to the nature of the patent, however, both local and foreign applications pay the same rate.

The Ghanaian system for patent and trademark protection is based on British law. Local courts offer redress when infringements occur, though few cases have been filed in recent years. The Ghana Copyright Office is responsible for patents, copyright, and trademarks and registration of a trademark. This permits the holder to have the exclusive right to use the registered mark for a specific product or group of products. Upon approval of a patent, the applicant is given the exclusive right to make, export, import, sell, use a product, or apply a patented process.

Geographical Indicators: Ghana is the first ARIPO member state to accede to the [Geneva Act](#); promoting economic development through the use of geographical indicators.³⁴ The [Geographical Indications Act No. 659 \(2003\)](#) is the principal law in Ghana governing geographical indications (i.e., indicators) (GI).³⁵ The GI Act protects the reputation, standing, and distinctive characteristics of Ghanaian products, including agricultural products. It ensures that consumers can trust the quality and authenticity of Ghana's products.

³¹ The United Nations' World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is global source for intellectual property (i.e., patents, industrial designs, copyright, and trademarks) information. Located at: <https://www.wipo.int/portal/en/index.html>. The Universal Copyright Convention (UCC) is an international treaty designed to protect the rights of authors and other copyright holders across different countries. It was established in 1952 by UNESCO and came into force in 1955; located at: <https://www.unesco.org/en/legal-affairs/universal-copyright-convention-appendix-declaration-relating-article-xvii-and-resolution-concerning#item-3>. The African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO) is an inter-governmental organization (IGO) that facilitates cooperation among Member States on intellectual property matters, with the objective of pooling financial and human resources and seeking technological advancement for economic, social, technological, scientific and industrial development; located at: <https://www.aripo.org/>.

³² See, Ghana Copyright Act No. 690 (2005), located at: <https://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/legislation/details/1789>.

³³ See, Ghana Trademark Act No. 664 (2004), located at: <https://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/legislation/details/9180>.

³⁴ The Geneva Act updates and enhances the existing international registration system protecting names that identify the geographic origin of products: the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration of 1958 located at: <https://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/treaties/textdetails/15625>.

³⁵ See, Ghana Geographical Indications Act No. 569 (2003), located at: <https://www.fao.org/faolex/results/details/en/c/LEX-FAOC168849/#:~:text=This%20Act%20makes%20provision%20for,characteristic%20specified%20in%20the%20Register.>

SECTION IX: IMPORT PROCEDURES

A. DOCUMENTATION

Importers must provide an import declaration in the prescribed bill-of-entry format, disclosing the value of the imported goods. This declaration must be accompanied by the import license and sanitary phytosanitary certificate, along with supporting documents including commercial sale invoices and freight and insurance certificates. All documentation, including the bill-of-entry are submitted by the clearing agent to Ghana Customs electronically through the [UNIPASS/Integrated Customs Management System \(ICUMS\)](#), a single window customs interface for facilitating trade.³⁶

B. CUSTOMS CLEARANCE PROCEDURE

The [Customs Act No. 891 \(2015\)](#) instructs all importers, except for self-declarants, to engage the services of a licensed customs declarant (or clearing agent), for cargo clearance at any freight station in Ghana.³⁷ Customs clearance of cargo through the seaports/airports involves a number of different ministries, departments, and agencies overseeing import consignments' contractual and tax obligations. These bodies control different aspects of the import and clearance process (including the issuance of permits, exemptions or import declaration forms). Food and agricultural products import clearance involves: the Ghana Revenue Authority/Customs Division; the Ghana Ports and Harbors Authority (GPHA); the Ghana FDA; the Ghana Standards Authority; the Ministry of Trade, Agribusiness and Industry (MOTAI); the Ministry of Food and Agriculture's Veterinary Services Directorate and the Animal Production Directorate and the Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate; the Ghana EPA; the National Drug and Narcotics Board; Shipping Lines; and other agencies and port service providers.

Ghana's customs clearance process involves:

1. Consignment licenses and permits being obtained prior to shipment or before arrival.
2. Cargo data submitted through the GRA/Customs Division's UNIPASS/ICUMS.
3. Customs document verification; system validation; cargo classification and valuation; cargo verification at the Customs Compliance Section; risk assessments; and quality assurance.
4. Customs issues a Customs Classification and Valuation Report (CCVR) with the risk level.
5. Payment of duty and taxes.
6. Manifest matching.
7. Release by the shipping agent.
8. Delivery by the port operators, including the GPHA and other receipt delivery service providers.
9. Customs physical examination or scanning of cargo before cargo is allowed to exit the port.

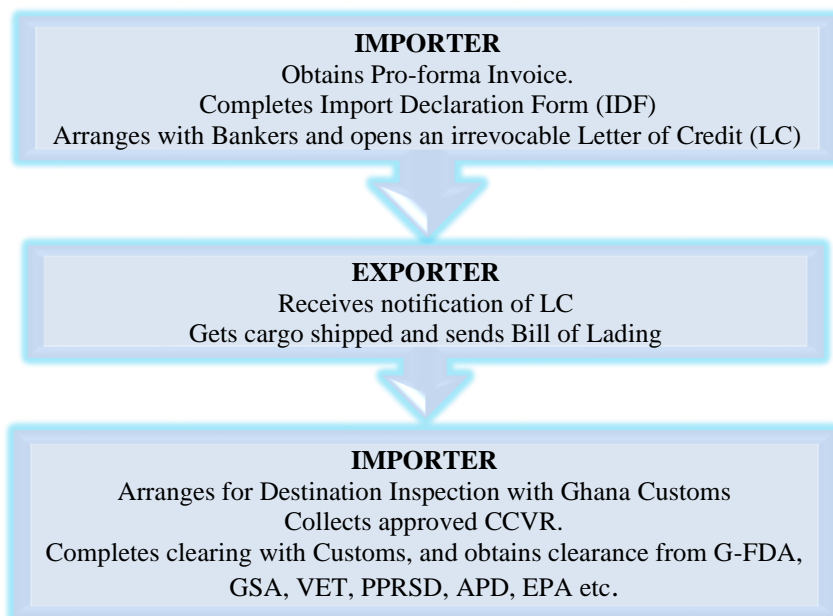
Customs clearance takes 48-to-72 hours when documents are accurate and complete. Ghana Customs prohibits the import of goods deemed illegal by all trade standards and that breach international trade laws, spread diseases, and cause destruction.³⁸

³⁶ See, UNIPASS/ICUMS single window portal, located at: <https://external.unipassghana.com/login/login.do>.

³⁷ See, Ghana Customs Act 891 (2015), located at: <https://gra.gov.gh/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Customs-Act-2015.pdf>.

³⁸ See, Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA) for additional information on prohibited import items, located at: <https://gra.gov.gh/customs/import-prohibitions-and-restrictions/>.

C. FLOW CHART: IMPORT DOCUMENTATION PROCEDURES



D. DUTIES

Ghana is a member of Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). It implemented the [ECOWAS Common External Tariff \(CET\) – ECOWAS Trade Information System \(ECOTIS\)](#) in 2016.³⁹ The CET has five (5) rate bands, along with other levies and charges. Ghana also applies a 15 percent value-added tax (VAT) to imports, as well as commodity specific excise taxes (with varying ranges).

Table 1: ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET) Rates

CET Rates	Categories
0%	Essential social commodities
5%	Basic raw materials, capital goods and specific inputs
10%	Intermediate products
20%	Final consumer goods
35%	Specific goods for economic development

Source: Ghana Revenue Authority (Customs); FAS Accra office research.

On January 1, 2026, the Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA) published the VAT Administrative Guidelines for the Value Added Tax Act No. 1151 (2025); Administrative Guideline Number: GRA/AG/002 (date of issue, 31 December 2025). The guideline provides clarity and guidance to GRA’s officers, tax preparers, consultants, taxpayers, and the general public. The reform measures eliminate the

³⁹ The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) is a regional political and economic union of fifteen countries of West Africa. Collectively, the countries comprise an area of 5,114,162 square kilometers (1,974,589 square miles) with an estimated population of over 424 million. The 15-member states include: Benin; Burkina Faso (suspended); Cape Verde; Côte d’Ivoire; The Gambia; Ghana; Guinea (suspended); Guinea-Bissau; Liberia; Mali (suspended); Niger (suspended); Nigeria; Senegal; Sierra Leone; and Togo. See, ECOWAS Trade Information System (ECOTIS), “ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET),” located at: https://ecotis.ecowas.int/?page_id=24111.

COVID-19 Health Recovery Levy of 1%, while incorporating the National Health Insurance Levy (NHIL) of 2.5% and the Ghana Education Trust Fund (GETFund) Levy of 2.5% into the overall standard VAT base. Under the new VAT framework, statutory levies are applied on a single tax base rather than being layered sequentially. The old system of adding levies (i.e., NHIL, GETFund, COVID-19 — that total up to 6%) to costs prior to applying the VAT rate of 15% is scrapped. The new reform measures reduces tax compounding, lowering costs for importers of food (including from the United States), distributors, retailers, as well as for consumers. (See, [GAIN-GHANA | GH2026-0002 | Ghana Tax Reforms of 2026 – Impact on U.S.-origin Food and Agricultural Products Imports and Ghanaian Consumer Prices](#)).⁴⁰

Table 2: GHANA, Tax Reforms - Old Tax System versus New Tax System, 2026

Component	Old System (Pre-2026)	New System (Post-Jan 1, 2026)
National Health Insurance Levy (NHIL)	2.5% (nominal)	2.5%
Ghana Education Trust Fund Levy (GETFund)	2.5% (nominal)	2.5%
COVID-19 Health Recovery Levy	1% (nominal)	Abolished
Flat-Rate Scheme	- 3% (retail goods, some) ⁴¹ - 5% (immovable properties)	Abolished
Registration Threshold (Goods)	GHS 200,000	GHS 750,000
Cascading Effect	Yes (levies included before VAT calculation)	Abolished
VAT Rate	15%	15%
Effective Total Tax	21.9%	20%

Source: Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA); FAS Accra office research.

⁴⁰ U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Accra, “GAIN-GHANA | GH2026-0002 | Ghana Tax Reforms of 2026 – Impact on U.S.-origin Food and Agricultural Products Imports and Ghanaian Consumer Prices,” located at: https://apps.fas.usda.gov/newgainapi/api/Report/DownloadReportByFileName?fileName=Ghana%20Tax%20Reforms%20of%202026%20-%20Impact%20on%20US-origin%20Food%20and%20Agricultural%20Products%20Imports%20and%20Ghanaian%20Consumer%20Prices_Accra_Ghana_GH2026-0002.

⁴¹ The Ghana Revenue Authority’s (GRA) 3% VAT Flat Rate Scheme (VFRS) of 2017, sought to establish a simplified VAT regime for retailers and wholesalers. It required a flat 3% VAT charge on the value of goods sold, instead of the standard VAT rate. The measure covered taxable merchandise sold in shops and markets, including auto spare parts, electronics and home appliances, cosmetics and personal care products, hardware and building materials, plastic goods, bottled drinks and soft beverages, canned and packaged foods, imported clothing, shoes and bags, and general supermarket items. The VFRS did not apply to services, or to VAT-exempt items (e.g., fresh agricultural produce). The VFRS while aiming to simplify compliance and improve revenue collection, ultimately led to distortions and embedded taxes in supply chains.

SECTION X: TRADE FACILITATION

Ghana is streamlining the food and agricultural products import clearance process. It aims to enhance transparency through paperless transactions.

The Single Window Portal, UNIPASS/ICUMS: In early 2020, Ghana instituted the Single Window Portal, [UNIPASS](#) Ghana System/Integrated Customs Management System (ICUMS).⁴² The UNIPASS Ghana System is a port clearing system that processes documents and payments through one window. FAS Accra's sources indicate that cargo clearance occurs within 24-to-48 hours, following the submission of full and accurate consignment documentation.

Use of Electronic Documents: With the implementation of the Single Window Portal, UNIPASS/ICUMS system, Ghanaian regulatory agencies are issuing electronic permits, electronic exemptions, and electronic import declaration forms. For example, the MOFA/Animal Production Directorate issues e-Permits for the import of animal feed and feed ingredients electronically.

Customs Advance Ruling: An interested party may apply in writing to the GRA Commissioner General for a ruling relating to the tariff classification, customs value, origin of goods and or any activity to which the customs law applies. The request shall include a statement of relevant facts, names, and addresses of interested parties, name of the port where the goods are expected to arrive or depart and a detailed description of the transaction. A customs advance ruling is binding until the ruling is revoked by the Commissioner General.

Required fees: Fees are reviewed periodically by the Ghanaian authorities; fee schedules are accessible through the Ghana Revenue Authority/[Customs Division portal](#).⁴³

⁴² See, Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA), UNIPAS/ICUMS, located at: <https://external.unipassghana.com/login/login.do>.

⁴³ See, Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA)/Customs Division, located at: <https://gra.gov.gh/customs/>.

APPENDIX I: GOVERNMENT REGULATORY KEY AGENCY CONTACTS

Ghana, Government Regulatory Agencies	Role
Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA) P. O. Box M37, Ministries, Accra- Ghana Tel: +233 (0) 50 916 3727 Email: info@mofa.gov.gh Website: www.mofa.gov.gh/site and https://www.facebook.com/mofagovgh/	Lead agency responsible for developing and executing policies and strategies for the agriculture sector.
Ministry of Trade, Agribusiness and Industry (MOTAI) P. O. Box M37, Ministries, Accra- Ghana Tel: +233(0) 553 619 943 Email: motichief@moti-gh.com Website: www.moti.gov.gh and https://www.facebook.com/ghanamoti/	Lead policy advisor to government on trade, industrial and private sector development.
Ghana Food and Drugs Authority (Ghana FDA) P. O. Box CT 2783, Cantonments – Accra, Ghana Tel: +233 (0) 30 223-3200/ 223-5100 Email: fda@fdaghana.gov.gh Website: http://fdaghana.gov.gh/	Registration of food and beverage products.
Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA) Off Starlets’ 91 Road, near Accra Sports Stadium P. O. Box 2202, Accra-Ghana Tel: +233 (0) 303 941 108 Email: info@gra.gov.gh Website: https://gra.gov.gh/	Ghana’s Customs Authority.
Ghana Environmental Protection Agency (Ghana EPA) P.O. Box M.326 Accra, Ghana Email: info@epa.gov.gh Tel: +233 506 694 760; +233 506 699 466 Website: https://www.epa.gov.gh/new/	Lead agency dedicated to improving, conserving and promoting the country's environment.

APPENDIX II: OTHER IMPORT SPECIALIST TECHNICAL CONTACTS

Ghana, Other Import Specialist Technical Contacts	Role
Ghana Standards Authority (Ghana SA) P.O. Box MB245, Accra – Ghana Tel: +233 (0) 302 506 991-5 Email: gsanep@gsa.gov.gh / gsadir@gsa.gov.gh Website: https://www.gsa.gov.gh/	Standards and norms development.
Ghana Ports and Harbors Authority P. O. Box 150, Tema, Ghana Tel: +233 303202631 Email: headquarters@ghanaports.net Website: ghanaports.gov.gh/	Ghana’s Ports and Harbors Authority.

APPENDIX III: POST CONTACT AND FURTHER INFORMATION

USDA/FAS Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA) – Coastal West Africa Region	
U.S. Embassy/FAS OAA Accra No. 24 Fourth Circular Road Cantonments Accra, Ghana Tel: +233 (0) 30 274-1590 Email: AgAccra@usda.gov Websites: https://fas.usda.gov/regions/ghana http://www.fas.usda.gov	U.S. Embassy/FAS OAA Abidjan Abidjan, Cocody Riviera Golf 01 B.P. 1712 Abidjan 01, Côte d'Ivoire Tel: +225 2722 494 000 Email: AgAbidjan@usda.gov Websites: https://www.fas.usda.gov/regions/cote-divoire http://www.fas.usda.gov

Links to U.S. Government Sources
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• USDA/FAS: http://www.fas.usda.gov• USDA/FAS Regions/Ghana: https://fas.usda.gov/regions/ghana• USDA/FAS Regions/Côte d'Ivoire : https://www.fas.usda.gov/regions/cote-divoire• USDA/FAS – Global Agricultural Trade System (GATS): https://www.fas.usda.gov/GATS• USDA/FAS – Global Agricultural Information Network (GAIN): https://www.fas.usda.gov/data• U.S. Department of Commerce/International Trade Administration (ITA) - Ghana Country Commercial Guide: https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/ghana-market-overview• U.S. Embassy Accra, Ghana: Website https://gh.usembassy.gov• U.S. Embassy Accra, Ghana: X https://x.com/USEmbassyGhana• U.S. Embassy Accra, Ghana: Facebook https://www.facebook.com/USEmbassyGhana/• U.S. Embassy Accra, Ghana: Instagram https://www.instagram.com/usembassyghana/

Attachments:

[ATTACH I-GHA FDA-General Labelling Requirements-Pre-Packaged Food.pdf](#)

[ATTACH II-GHA FDA-Labeling Req Infant Formula & Followup Formula.pdf](#)

[ATTACH III-GHA MoESTI-Revised-National-Plastics-Management-Policy.pdf](#)

[ATTACH IV-GHA FDA-Approved Fee-Schedule L.I.2481.pdf](#)

[ATTACH V-GHA FDA-GUIDELINES-ADVERTISEMENT-REG-PROD \(20250205\).pdf](#)

[ATTACH VI-GHA FDA-GHARegAds-FDA-DRI-DMS-GL-ADV-2023-01.pdf](#)