



Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Action Plan on Inspection of Edible Vegetable Oils

Country: China - People's Republic of

Post: Beijing

Report Category: FAIRS Subject Report, FAIRS Subject Report, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, Oilseeds and Products

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Report Highlights:

On April 18, 2025, the People's Republic of China (China's) State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) released the Announcement for Deployment of Inspection and Rectification Actions for Edible Vegetable Oils. Partially spurred by domestic food safety incidents in 2024, the announcement outlines how local and national authorities will work together to enforce regulations across the edible oil value chain, including production, sales, and transportation. The regulations apply to domestically produced and imported products, as well as products sold through online and offline channels, and local officials will intensify inspection and enforcement actions from April to December 2025.

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On April 18, 2025, the People's Republic of China (China's) State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) released the <u>Announcement for Deployment of Inspection and Rectification</u> <u>Actions for Edible Vegetable Oils</u>. The announcement's actions include cross multi-provincial supervision activities to cover whole processes of production, sales, and transportation of edible vegetable oils in China, including domestically produced and imported products. The purpose is to further standardize production and ensure the quality and safety of edible vegetable oils.

China reported cases of contamination of edible vegetable oils during transportation in May 2024, impacting several oilseeds crushing companies in China. Several departments including the State Council, National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Transport, National Health Commission, SAMR, and National Food and Strategic Reserves Administration conducted joint investigations (link in Chinese) to the contamination issues. This is the likely nexus to conduct the national inspection actions of all edible vegetable oils in 2025.

In November 2024, China notified the WTO of a new national standard for Hygienic Requirements for the Bulk Transportation of Edible Vegetable Oils under <u>G/TBT/N/CHN/1943</u>. SAMR released the final mandatory national standard <u>GB 44917-2024</u> (link in Chinese) in November 2024. The standard entered into force on February 1, 2025, regulating the sanitary requirements for loading, unloading, records management, and transportation for bulk edible vegetable oils in China.

The local market supervision departments will conduct nationwide investigations and inspections of edible vegetable oils from April to December 2025. The action will cover edible vegetable oil products sold online or offline. The actions will focus on the following areas:

- Adulteration: any adulteration and the sale of inferior products as good quality ones, and illegal behaviors such as selling low-priced products as high-priced products and refining expired edible vegetable oil as new oil.
- Use of additives: the use of food additives beyond designated limits and illegal behaviors such as adding flavors, spices, and colorings during the production and processing of edible vegetable oils.
- **Labeling**: false labeling and illegal behaviors such as incorrect labeling of components, failure to label genetically modified products as required, and false labeling of processing techniques, etc.

• **Transportation**: illegal behaviors such as producers and operators failing to fulfill their responsibilities and obligations for delivery, loading and unloading, and transportation management for bulk edible vegetable oils.

The activities SAMR will take for the national actions include:

- **Production processes**: supervision and inspection of processes including purchase of raw materials, process controls, entry and exit factory products investigation, distribution channels, and product labels;
- Online and offline joint inspection: focusing on activities of online distribution and sales, and operators in rural areas, through actions of checking sales records, field production processes inspection, and source tracing investigations;
- **Transportation of bulk oils**: multi-sectoral cooperation and cross-provincial collaboration for the monitoring of transportation from senders to consignees;
- **Special samplings**: sampling of products if any problem or issues identified either at online platform or in offline stores.

SAMR also indicated if there is any illegal action identified during the implementation of the actions, local market supervision departments will impose penalties such as exposing business operator's information to the public or transferring severe cases to legal authorities.

Attachments:

No Attachments.