



Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: August 27, 2021

Report Number: IN2021-0097

Report Name: India's FSSAI Issues Final Standards for Walnut Kernels and Other Various Food Products

Country: India

Post: New Delhi

Report Category: Agriculture in the Economy, Oilseeds and Products, Biotechnology and Other New Production Technologies, Dairy and Products, Livestock and Products, Poultry and Products, Exporter Guide, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, Tree Nuts, Grain and Feed, FAIRS Subject Report, Oilseeds and Products, Dairy and Products, Beverages, Coffee, Food Processing Ingredients, Agriculture in the News, Agricultural Situation, SP1 - Expand International Marketing Opportunities, SP2 - Prevent or Resolve Barriers to Trade that Hinder U.S. Food and Agricultural Exports

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Report Highlights:

On July 30, 2021, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) published on its website the Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Third Amendment Regulations (2021). The Third Amendment Regulations (2021) relates to the final standards for walnut kernels, as well as to dairy and dairy products, oilseeds and products, margarine and fat spreads, cereal and cereal products among others. The implementation date for this amended regulation is February 1, 2022.

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

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GENERAL INFORMATION:

On July 30, 2021, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) published on its website the <u>Food</u> <u>Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Third Amendment Regulations (2021)</u>.

The Third Amendment Regulations (2021) relates to the final standards for walnut kernels, as well as to other food products. The implementation date for this amended regulation is February 1, 2022. The affected products include walnut kernels, buffalo milk, vegetable oils (including peanut, flaxseed, rapeseed, poppy seed, safflower seed, taramira, sesame, Niger seed (also often called Nyger Seed or Nyjer Seed), soybean, maize, watermelon seed, sunflower seed, avocado, grapeseed, interesterified and hydrogenated vegetables, margarine and fat spreads, soybean sauce, besan (ground de-husked Bengal gram flour), maize starch, oat products, soy dahi/yogurt, yellow pea powder, black, white and green peppers, dried sage, instant tea in solid form, caffeinated and non-alcoholic beverages, packaged drinking water, sweeteners, and chewing gum.

Observations on the standards for walnut kernels from the current notification are further clarified immediately below. FAS New Delhi recommends a careful review of the full notification for a more precise understanding of the final standards for all other products covered.

- The walnut kernel standards are for fresh product.
- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India in the final standards notification has added a permissible variation of 15 percent with respect to the uniformity of color in walnuts.
- On the damaged units, percent-by-mass (maximum) parameter, the limit has been increased from 2.0 to 4.0.

The full text of the Gazette of India (official gazette) notification is attached as PDF to this report, as well as is available on the FSSAI website located at: https://fssai.gov.in/upload/notifications/2021/07/6103dc2e5287aGazette_Notification_Oil_30_07_2021.pdf.

For earlier draft notification background information, see <u>GAIN-INDIA-IN2020-0121 – FSSAI Proposes Draft</u> <u>Standards for Walnut Kernels and other Various Food Product</u>.

Attachments:

210730-Final Notification Walnut Kernels Other Products.pdf