

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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**Report Name:** Dairy Labeling Update

**Country:** Chile

**Post:** Santiago

**Report Category:** Dairy and Products

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**Report Highlights:**

On November 6, 2025, the Ministry of Health published Decree No. 45 in the Official Gazette of Chile. This decree amends Decree No. 977/1996 by updating the definitions and labeling rules for dairy products. It also adds technical specifications that require the primary product label to show the name of the country and the flag of the place where the milk was collected. Decree 45 will enter into force on November 6, 2027.

**Disclaimer:** The original language of Decree 45 is Spanish and contains additional requirements for domestic manufacturing not described here. English translations provided herein are for convenience only and are not official. Readers are advised to consult the official Spanish-language document for authoritative reference.

### **Executive Summary**

Pursuant to Law 21,179 of 2019, which requires indicating the country and flag of the milk's origin, the Chilean Ministry of Health published [Decree No. 45](#) in the Official Gazette on November 6, 2025. The Decree establishes technical standards for applying the new labeling requirements to dairy product labels. To clarify which products fall under these new requirements, Decree 45 also updates the definitions of dairy products and specifies which manufacturing processes they may be subject to.

### **Labeling Specifications:**

To standardize the adoption of the new labeling requirements, Decree 45 established the following changes to decree No. 977/1996.

Article 1, of Decree 45 establishes the following modifications:

**Article 107 letter a.** Name of the product. The name must appear on the main part of the label and clearly indicate the specific nature of the food. In addition to the name, the brand may also be displayed. For substitute products, this condition must be clearly indicated.

Next to the name, or very close to it, manufacturers must include any additional words or phrases necessary to prevent misleading or deceiving consumers about the true nature and physical condition of the food. This includes, but is not limited to, the type or method of coating, the form of presentation, or the type of treatment the product has undergone.

**Article 107 letter d.** Of the country of origin: "Country of origin must be clearly indicated on both domestic and imported products, in accordance with the labeling standards established in Supreme Decree No. 297 of 1992 of the Ministry of Economy, Development, and Tourism, which approves the labeling regulation for packaged food products, or any regulation that may replace it.

Packaged dairy products referenced in Articles 204 (letters b), c), and d)), 213, 214, 216, 219, 220, and 221; the "milks with..." referred to in Article 224; the butters covered in Articles 225 and 226; and the cheeses referred to in Article 234 of this regulation must display, on the main panel of the label, the name of the country where the milk was collected, together with the image of its corresponding flag. Please review [Decree No. 977/1996](#) for the description of the products.

When products are made from a mixture of milk from different countries, the names of each country where the milk was collected must be indicated alongside the images of their respective flags. In the case of finished imported products, importers must obtain the information provided by the food manufacturer and/or certification companies and/or the competent authorities of the product's country of origin.

The flags mentioned above must appear in color and may not exceed a maximum size of 1.5 cm x 1.0 cm, with the name(s) of the country(ies) where the milk was collected written below them. These names must be written in uppercase, boldface, using Arial, Dax, Futura, Helvetica, Myriad, Swiss, Univers, or other equivalent typefaces with the same weight and visual consistency, straight lines, and sans serif, at a size of 1.2 millimeters. Immediately above or below the flags, in the same typographic specifications, the phrase "COUNTRIES OF MILK COLLECTION" must be displayed.

If the main panel of the label is smaller than 100 square centimeters (cm<sup>2</sup>), and the milk originates from more than three countries without regularity in the milk's origin during production, the flags may be reduced to a size of up to 0.75 cm x 0.5 cm, provided that the remaining requirements described in the previous paragraph are met. These situations must be documented in the records of origin of the raw materials and labels.

The flags must have straight edges and solid colors, without graphic effects such as flagpoles, holographic elements, or any other enhancements. No statements highlighting a particular country of origin may be added. The flags may be displayed with a border to distinguish them from the background color of the label.

If the food product must display the octagonal warning logos in accordance with Article 120 bis of this regulation, the flags must not be placed next to them.

Cheeses that are portioned and packaged at the point of sale are exempt from this labeling requirement."

**Article 207, new fourth paragraph.** On bottles or containers of liquid and powdered milk, manufacturers must clearly, expressly, and legibly indicate the technology or primary thermal treatment used to eliminate pathogenic agents, such as pasteurization, ultra-high temperature (UHT) treatment, or sterilization. For labeling purposes, manufacturers must use the typefaces, minimum letter height, and color combinations between background and text established in Article 115(c) of this regulation. When manufacturers apply other thermal procedures, they must disclose them through a quick response (QR) code or another equivalent electronic information-reading method printed on the bottle or container.

**Article 208,** which regulates the sanitary and control requirements for milk processing plants, applies exclusively to domestic production and does not apply to imported products.

**Article 234, new second and third paragraphs** (current second paragraph becomes the fourth):

**Second paragraph:** If liquid milk from a species other than cow is used in cheese production, the container must clearly and prominently indicate the species from which the milk originates, including in cases where milk from multiple species is used.

**Third paragraph:** In any cheese production that uses milk powder or recombined milk, the container must display, in legible lettering and beneath the product name, the phrase “Made with reconstituted milk” or “Made with recombined milk,” as applicable.

#### **Updating Definitions:**

To prevent food fraud and provide clear guidance on the scope of this decree, the Ministry of Health has revised the definitions of dairy products and their corresponding production processes:

**Article 198.** Milk is the normal mammary secretion, free of colostrum, of dairy animals, obtained through one or more milkings, without any addition or extraction of any kind. It is prohibited to classify or label as milk any product that is not of animal origin.

The term “milk,” without any further designation, refers to the product obtained from the milking of a cow. Milk from other animals shall be designated according to the species from which it originates, as shall the products derived therefrom.

A dairy product is one obtained through any processing of milk and may contain food additives and other ingredients that are functionally necessary for its manufacture.

**Article 204.** Milk shall be classified as follows:

- a) **Raw milk:** Milk that has not undergone pasteurization, ultra-high temperature (UHT) treatment, or sterilization.
- b) **Natural milk:** Milk that has only undergone cooling and standardization of its fat content prior to the processes described in Article 207 of this regulation. It is prohibited to classify or label raw, reconstituted, or recombined milk as natural milk.
- c) **Reconstituted milk:** Milk obtained by adding potable water to concentrated milk or milk powder in a proportion that meets the requirements established in Article 203 and whose fat content corresponds to one of the milk types specified in Article 205. It must comply with the provisions of Article 207 of this regulation. Reconstituted milk must be labeled on the container as “Made with milk powder or concentrated milk,” or vice versa [ie. “Made with concentrated milk or milk powder.”], depending on the predominant component.
- d) **Recombined milk:** Milk obtained by mixing skimmed milk, milk fat, and potable water in a proportion that meets the requirements of Article 203 of this regulation and whose fat content corresponds to one of the milk types specified in Article 205. It must comply with the provisions of Article 207 of this regulation.

Decree 45 will enter into force twenty-four months after its publication in the Official Gazette, November 6, 2027. The health authority may, by substantiated resolution, authorize the commercialization of food products that do not comply with the labeling provisions of this decree for a maximum of six additional months after its entry into force, provided that the extension request is submitted to the corresponding Regional Ministerial Secretariat of Health before the effective date of this decree. This period may not be extended.

For further questions please contact [AgSantiago@usda.gov](mailto:AgSantiago@usda.gov) or Nelson Ramirez, Agricultural Specialist at [Nelson.Ramirez@usda.gov](mailto:Nelson.Ramirez@usda.gov).

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.