

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: July 05, 2024

Report Number: KS2024-0017

Report Name: Storage State Labeling Requirements for Livestock Products

Country: Korea - Republic of

Post: Seoul

Report Category: Dairy and Products, Livestock and Products, Poultry and Products

Prepared By: Ban Yong Keun

Approved By: Shoshana Griffith

Report Highlights:

On July 1, 2024, the United States and Republic of Korea agreed to the labeling requirements outlined in this report regarding storage state for U.S. red meat and poultry products and U.S. processed red meat, poultry, egg, and dairy products. Implementation dates vary by the category of product, whether it is processed, and whether it is retail-facing or not. Implementation will be based on the production date of the product. This report outlines examples of how to ensure compliance with Korea's labeling requirements.

Labeling Guidance for U.S. Exporters of Red Meat, Poultry, Egg, and Dairy Products to the Republic of Korea

On July 1, 2024, the United States and Republic of Korea agreed to the following labeling requirements regarding storage state for U.S. red meat and poultry products and U.S. processed red meat, poultry, egg, and dairy products. Implementation dates vary by the category of product, whether it is processed, and whether it is retail-facing or not. Implementation will be based on the production date of the product, as listed on the product's health certificate. Examples of how to ensure compliance with Korea's labeling requirements are outlined below. If you have additional questions regarding labeling of processed or boxed meat, poultry, or dairy products, please contact USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (Office of Agricultural Affairs) at the U.S. Embassy in Seoul at agseoul@usda.gov.

Processed Red Meat, Poultry, Egg, and Dairy Products

As of October 1, 2024, product produced with *retail facing* handling statements shall utilize a single label matching the product condition when exported (example: frozen product must be labeled as "frozen"). As of January 1, 2025, product produced with dual labels (example: "keep refrigerated or frozen") should not be utilized on U.S. processed red meat, poultry, egg, and dairy products, including those that are not retail facing.

Boxed Red Meat and Poultry

As of July 1, 2025, product produced (boxed beef, pork, and/or poultry) must have the specific storage state indicated on at least one label utilizing either a single or dual label handling statement. The following outlines clarifying actions to be made on products based on the label utilized:

For boxed products utilizing a dual label handling statement:

- The specific storage state may be indicated through the indication methods including, but not limited to the following (see examples in Annex 1):
 - Marker-ing at least one of the dual labels;
 - Covering at least one or one part of the dual labels;
 - Adding a single storage statement to either the certificate stamp/sticker or product label [for example, adding "keep frozen" to the certificate stamp/sticker or placing the word "frozen" in front of the product name on the product label];
- While multiple dual label handling statements may appear on the product packaging, the specific storage state needs to be identified at least once;

- In lieu of these indications, establishments may elect to remove the handling statement altogether; however, the handling statement must still be identified on the Korean label;

For boxed products utilizing a single label handling statement:

- If the product state and handling statement do not match, establishments must ensure the handling statement is updated by applying a sticker featuring the USDA Export stamp and the updated handling statement (see image directly below) over the original, or by removing the handling statement completely.



ANNEX 1


Methods to Indicate the Specific Storage State on Packaging Utilizing the Dual Label Handling Statement

Such clarifications could include, but are not limited to (see below examples):

- Marker-ing at least one of the dual labels:
 - Keep Refrigerated **or Frozen**
 - Keep ~~Refrigerated~~ or Frozen
 - Keep ~~Refrigerated~~ or Frozen

- Covering the irrelevant information on at least one of the dual label handling statements with:

- a blank sticker: Keep Refrigerated 

- the certificate stamp/sticker: Keep Refrigerated  or Frozen

(The sticker should cover the incorrect storage condition)

- Covering at least one handling statement completely with:

- the product label: 

- Adding a single storage statement to the packaging, including to the certificate stamp/sticker or product label:

- Certificate stamp:



- Product label:



- Remove the handling statement completely.

Attachments:

No Attachments.