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Turkey

Post: Ankara

Turkey Delays Implementation of New Labeling System

Report Categories:

Policy and Program Announcements

Trade Policy Monitoring

Dairy and Products

Retail Foods

Beverages

Honey

Approved By:

Elizabeth Leonardi, Agricultural Attaché

Prepared By:

Nergiz Ozbag, Senior Agricultural Specialist

Report Highlights:

Turkey has delayed the implementation of a Product Verification Monitoring System (PVMS) for another one year. The system which targets six food categories was scheduled to go into effect on December 31st, 2017, but has been now postponed until December 31, 2018. The categories include food supplements; honey; energy drinks; black tea; vegetable oil; infant formulas, follow-on formulas, and supplementary baby foods.

Delay in Product Verification Monitoring System Implementation

According to the Amending Regulation on Labeling which was published in September 2013, the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, and Livestock (MINFAL) was authorized to establish a Product Verification Monitoring System (PVMS) for certain food categories to eliminate or reduce adulterated foods, imitations, and fraud. PVMS is a system which enables consumers to verify the information related to the product in question through unique digital numbers. Each unit of products, including imported products, will require the new labels. When the system is established, containers and boxes will have to be opened in warehouses to apply the stickers, raising concerns about costs and food safety. The food industry is also concerned about the placement of stickers on imported products that have not incorporated a space for the sticker in their existing labels. PVMS will be applied to products in six food categories: food supplements; honey; energy drinks; black tea; vegetable oil; infant formulas, follow-on formulas and supplementary baby foods.

The system was originally scheduled to go into effect on December 31, 2013. However, MINFAL issued notices delaying its implementation multiple times, with the latest being this one on December 29, 2017. MINFAL announced a delay of its implementation again until December 31, 2018. More information is on the Turkish Government's website: http://www.tarim.gov.tr/GKGM/Duyuru/315/Urun-Dogrulama-Ve-Takip-Sistemi-udts_-%E2%80%93-Yeni

Exporting to Turkey

Additional information on exporting to Turkey and Regulations in Turkey can be found in the reports available on the USDA FAS website, and in our [Exporter Guide to Turkey](#).