L.N. 133 of 2007

FOOD SAFETY ACT
(CAP. 449)

Coffee and Chicory Extracts Regulations, 2007

IN exercise of the powers conferred by article 10 of the Food Safety Act, the Minister of Health, the Elderly and Community Care, on advise of the Malta Standards Authority, has made the following regulations:-

Citation and commencement.

1. The title of these regulations is Coffee and Chicory Extracts Regulations, 2007.

Applicability.

2. (1) These regulations shall apply to coffee and chicory extracts as defined in these regulations.

(2) These regulations do not apply to 'cafè torrefacto soluble'.

Interpretation.

3. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the following definitions shall apply:

(a) *Coffee extract, soluble coffee extract, soluble coffee or instant coffee:*

the concentrated product obtained by extraction from roasted coffee beans using only water as the medium of extraction and excluding any process of hydrolysis involving the addition of an acid or a base. Apart from those insoluble substances which it is technically impossible to remove, and insoluble oils derived from coffee, coffee extract must contain only the soluble and aromatic constituents of coffee:

(i) the coffee-based dry matter content must be:

(1) not less than 95% by weight in the case of dried coffee extract;

(2) from 70% to 85% by weight in the case of coffee extract paste;

(3) from 15% to 55% by weight in the case of liquid coffee extract;

(ii) coffee extract in solid or paste form must contain no substances other than those derived from the extraction of coffee;

(iii) liquid coffee extract may contain edible sugars, whether or not roasted, in a proportion not exceeding 12% by weight.

(b) *Chicory extract, soluble chicory or instant chicory:*

the concentrated product obtained from roasted chicory using only water as the medium of extraction and excluding any process of hydrolysis involving the addition of an acid or a base:

(i) the chicory-based dry matter content must be:

(1) not less than 95% by weight in the case of dried chicory extract;

(2) from 70% to 85% by weight in the case of chicory extract paste;

(3) from 25% to 55% by weight in the case of liquid chicory extract;

(ii) chicory extract in solid or paste form may contain not more than 1% by weight of substances not derived from chicory;

(iii) liquid chicory extract may contain edible sugars, whether roasted or not, to a proportion not exceeding 35% by weight.

(c) *Chicory:*

the roots of *Cichorium Intybus L.* not used for the production of witloof chicory, usually used for the preparation of beverages, suitably cleaned to be dried and roasted.

4. (1) The Labelling, Presentation and Advertising of Foodstuffs shall apply to the products covered by these regulations subject to the following conditions: Labelling.

The product names listed in regulations 3(a) and 3(b) shall apply only to the products referred to therein and must be used in trade to designate them. Those names shall be supplemented by the words:

(a) 'paste' or 'in paste form' or

(b) 'liquid' or 'in liquid form' as appropriate.

Provided that, products names may be supplemented by the term 'Concentrated'-

(i) in the case of the product defined in regulation 3(a)(iii), provided that the coffee-based dry matter content is more than 25% by weight,

(ii) in the case of the product defined in regulation 3(b)(iii), provided that the chicory-based dry matter content is more than 45% by weight.

(2) The labelling must include the term 'decaffeinated' in the case of products defined in regulation 3(a), provided that the anhydrous caffeine content does not exceed 0.3% by weight of the coffee-based dry matter. This information must be within the same field of vision as the sales description.

(3) In the case of products defined in regulations 3(a)(iii) and 3(b)(iii), the label must include the terms 'with .....', 'preserved with .....', 'with added .....' or 'roasted with .....' followed by the name(s) of the types of sugar(s) used. This information must be within the same field of vision as the sales description.

(4) The labelling must indicate, in the case of the products defined in regulations 3(a)(ii) and 3(a)(iii), the minimum coffee-based

dry matter content and, in the case of the products defined in regulations 3(b)(ii) and (iii), the minimum chicory-based dry matter content. These contents shall be expressed as a percentage by weight of the finished product.

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