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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

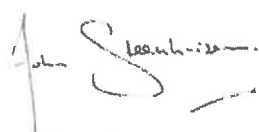
NO. R. 7218

13 March 2026

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT STANDARDS ACT, 1990 (ACT No. 119 OF 1990)

**REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE CLASSIFICATION, PACKING AND MARKING OF VINEGAR AND
IMITATION VINEGAR INTENDED FOR SALE IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA: AMENDMENT**

The Minister for Agriculture has, acting under section 15 of the Agricultural Product Standards Act, 1990 (Act No. 119 of 1990), made the regulations in the Schedule.



**MR J H STEENHUISEN, MP
MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE**

SCHEDULE**Definitions**

1. In this Schedule, "**the Regulations**" means the regulations published by Government Notice No. R. 1340 of 7 December 2018.

Amendment of regulation 2 of the Regulations

2. Regulation 2 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-regulation 1(b) of the following sub-regulation:

- "(b) delivery by an importer/manufacture to a packer or for use as an ingredient in the manufacture of another foodstuff or non-food product, unless the packer or manufacturer provides on request of the inspector information regarding the intended use, the address of the packer or manufacturer and an example of the label/s concerned when the vinegar and imitation vinegar are intended for re-packing."

Amendment of regulation 4 of the Regulations

3. Regulation 4 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-regulation (4) of the following sub-regulation:

- "(4) Spirit vinegar shall consist of vinegar which is solely made from distilled alcohol made from cane sugar, molasses, grapes, grain or any other appropriate natural plant source."

Amendment of regulation 6 of the Regulations

4. Regulation 6 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-regulation (1)(b) of the following sub-regulation:

- "(b) The additional particulars, where applicable, as specified in regulation 8."

Amendment of regulation 7 of the Regulations

5. Regulation 7 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the insertion of the following sub-regulation after sub-regulation (3):

- "(4) Vinegar and imitation vinegar containing added foodstuffs shall, subject to provisions of regulation 6(1)(i), indicate the applicable class designation specified in regulation 3 followed by the wording 'with (name of added foodstuff)' or similar description prominently in the immediate vicinity and/or as part of the class designation: Provided that the difference in letter size between the smallest letter in the class designation and smallest letter in the additions to the class designation shall not exceed 3mm."

Amendment of regulation 8 of the Regulations

6. Regulation 8 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-regulation (2) of the following sub-regulation:

- "(2) The acidity of the vinegar or imitation vinegar in the container shall be indicated as 'X% Acidity' or 'Acidity X%' where 'X' represents the acidity as described in the definition for acidity: Provided that:

- (a) in the case where the acidity content of the vinegar varies, such as in the case of 'naturally fermented' vinegar referred to in sub-regulation (5), the acidity content may be indicated with an

indication that it is a minimum: Provided further that the minimum acidity content may not be lower than that required by regulation 4(1)(a); and

- (b) in the case of imitation vinegar 'X% Acetic Acid' or 'Acetic Acid X%' may be used instead.”.

Amendment of regulation 13 of the Regulations

7. Regulation 13 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-regulation (2) of the following sub-regulation:

“(2) The words ‘natural’, ‘super’, ‘ultra’, ‘extra’, ‘special’, ‘premium’, ‘finest’, ‘real’, ‘genuine’ or ‘pure’ or any other word or expression that directly or by implication creates or may create the impression that the vinegar or imitation vinegar is of a special or particular quality, class or grade, shall not be marked on the front of a container unless the use of the word or expression concerned is part of the trade mark/brand name identifying the vinegar or imitation vinegar: Provided that --

- (a) the mentioned trade mark/brand name is not indicated in close proximity to the class designation and the compositional indications, such as the % acidity indication or the indication of the classes of vinegar used in “Blended Vinegar”;
- (b) the mentioned trade mark/brand name does not create or may not create an obvious misleading impression as contemplated in subregulation (1);
- (c) factual claims and words such as ‘original’, ‘traditional’, ‘hand/home made’, ‘authentic’ may be marked on a container provided that the claims can be verified and the use of the words adequately substantiated; and
- (d) the indication ‘Naturally Fermented’ as referred to in regulation 8(5) is excluded from this restriction.”.

Commencement

8. This amendment shall come into operation on the date of publication thereof.