MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

FEDERAL SERVICE FOR SUPERVISION OVER CONSUMER RIGHTS PROTECTION AND HUMAN WELFARE

LETTER January 28, 2009 N 01/1077-9-32

ON IMPLEMETATION OF THE FEDERAL LAW OF JUNE 12, 2008 N 88-FZ

The Federal Service for Supervision over Consumer Rights Protection and Human Welfare (Rospotrebnadzor) further to the letter of January 26, 2009 No. 01/881-9-32 "On Implementation of the Federal Law of June 12, 2008 No. 88-FZ" issued by Rospotrebnadzor, advises that the information submission deadlines are being postponed to February 10 and February 23, 2009, and informs of the following:

Implementation of the Federal Law of June 12, 2008 No. 88-FZ "Technical Regulation for Milk and Dairy Products" shall facilitate prevention of consumer misleading actions, improvement of dairy quality, and development of fair competition in the Russian food market.

Special attention shall be given to observance of the Federal Law requirements by the producers in respect of product names, correct product classification and ingredients.

For the purposes of dairy market monitoring, I propose that in the framework of control and supervision procedures, dairy labeling be evaluated for conformity of names and ingredients to the requirements of this Federal Law.

Evaluation of dairy labeling conformity shall be performed in pursuance of the Guidelines for Application of Basic Terms, as maintained in article 4 of the Federal Law No. 88-FZ "Technical Regulation for Milk and Dairy Products", for naming of milk and dairy products by the producers.

The information with explanatory note shall be submitted in table format via electronic reporting system on website report.gsen.ru using login and password (E-mail: Chikina_LV@gsen.ru, depart@gsen.ru) before 16:00 February 10, and February 23, 2009.

Along with the data, please, submit the materials issued by executive authorities of the Russian Federation constituent entities on the progress in implementation of the Federal Law N 88-FZ "Technical Regulation for Milk and Dairy Products".

Head of the Federal Service G.G. Onishenko

Attachment

GUIDELINES ON APPLICATION OF BASIC TERMS, AS MAINTAINED IN ARTICLE 4 OF THE FEDERAL LAW NO. 88-FZ "TECHNICAL REGULATION FOR MILK AND DAIRY PRODUCTS", FOR NAMING OF MILK AND DAIRY PRODUCTS BY THE PRODUCERS

1. For product naming it is admissible to apply both the direct and the reverse word order, i.e. it is allowed use both "slivochnoye maslo" (butter) and "maslo slivochnoye"; "fruktoviy kefir" (fruit kefir) and "kefir fruktoviy" etc. Examples of product names are given in these Guidelines both with the direct and the reverse word order.

2. Classifying terms, such as "processed milk product", "dairy product", "composite dairy product", "milk containing products", "sour milk product", "cow milk butter", "fermented product", "dehydrated processed milk product (concentrated, condensed)", "processed milk by-product", shall not be indicated on a label if the particular product has a specific term for it, as maintained in article 4 of the Federal Law. Correct names to be indicated on the package in this case would be as follows: "Kefir", "Sour cream with dill", "Curdled milk product", "Kefir product with fruit", "Condensed milk with sugar", "Pasteurized whig" etc.

In case if there is no term for the specific product, the product name shall be formed using the above-mentioned terms, to make sure that the consumer is fully informed of the product. For example, "Sour milk drink "Snezhok", "Sour milk drink "Tahn", "Milk containing condensed product with sugar" etc.

3. The Federal Law provides basic terms applied in the dairy industry. Absence of some specific terms and process descriptions with associated criteria set forth in the Federal Law shall not be an obstacle to development of innovative products and processes, and their manufacturing application or free circulation.

In this case the developers shall set the requirements to product name and specific process, for example, the boiling process of processed milk products with sugar, in their documentation (Technical Requirements, Company Standards) within the limits ensuring observance of end product safety and quality requirements, as maintained by the Federal Law for condensed processed milk products with sugar.

4. When making up names for milk containing products, it is not required to specify the raw product composition, in particular, terms like "vegetable-dairy", "cream-vegetable" etc. (with the exception of cream-vegetable spread and baked milk mix). In case of condensed products with any proportion of dairy and vegetable fats, the product name is formed in the following fashion: "condensed milk containing product with sugar", including fanciful name, set forth in the Technical Requirements and Company Standards. In case of fermented products, the name is formed in the following fashion: "Sour cream product" with or without addition of the fanciful name.

5. Word combination "processed milk product" shall be replaced with the particular kind of the product, when making up a product name.

Examples

1 Pasteurized processed cheese

2 Sterilized butter

3 Dried whey

4 Concentrated milk containing product with sugar.

When generating names for processed milk products – depending on physico-chemical and organoleptic indicators of the end product – it is admissible to replace the word "product" with one of the general technical terms used in food industry ("drink", "sauce", "jelly", "cream", "paste", "pudding", "cocktail", "roll" etc.).

Examples

1 Yogurt pudding

2 Pasteurized milk-juice cocktail

3 Curd cream

4 Sour cream sauce

5 Cheese roll

6 Pasteurized whey drink

7 Albumin paste enriched with bifidus bacteria.

6. When generating compound names for milk and processed milk products, it admissible to include the fanciful name set forth in the Standard or the Technical Document.

Examples

1 Baked milk "Derevenskoye"

2 Cottage cheese with fruit bits "Yagodniy"

3 Pasteurized koumiss drink "Zdorovye"

4 Processed cheese "Osenniy"

5 Butter "Krestyansloye"

6 Condensed milk containing products with sugar

7 Pasteurized whig "Zdorovye".

7. The term "boiproduct" may be used either as whole, or as prefix "bio-" to the term describing the processed milk product.

Examples

1 Bioryazhenka (boiled fermented milk)

2 Bioyogurt enriched lactulose

3 Bio-curdled milk with grains.

8. Naming rules for milk and cream

When generating names for milk, the type of animal that produced the milk, save for cow, shall be indicated before or after the word "milk".

Examples

1 Goat milk.

2 Milk of mare.

When generating names for milk and cream, one must use the terms characterizing the ways of thermal and special processing of the product, as well as characteristic features of its raw material content.

Examples

1 Pasteurized whole milk

2 Pasteurized goat milk

3 Pasteurized milk enriched with vitamin C

4 Sterilized cream

5 Ultra-pasteurized lactose-free milk

6 Sterilized milk drink

9. Naming rules for dairy products

When composing names for a milk product, one must use the terms, which specify the ways of thermal and special treatment of the product (if any), as well as characteristic features of its raw material content.

Examples

1 Dried cream

2 Sterilized concentrated milk

3 Whipped cream

4 Cheese sauce.

When composing names for cheeses, it is not allowed to use terms, which describe their phisicochemical characteristics, such as "soft cheese", "semi-hard cheese", "hard cheese". When indicating the name of a specific kind of cheese one shall use the term "cheese" and the name set forth in the product documentations.

Examples

1 Cheese "Kostromskoy"

2 Cheese "Sulunguni".

10. Naming rules for composite dairy products

When composing names for a composite dairy product, one must use terms describing the specific characteristics of the product's ingredients with indication of the used non-dairy component or foodstuff, as well as terms characterizing the ways of thermal and special treatment of the product (if such treatment took place).

Examples

1 Pasteurized milk enriched with lactulose with vanillin

2 Yogurt with raspberries

3 Milk ice-cream with jam

4 Ice-cream with nuts in chocolate coating

5 Whey butter with greens

6 Processed cheese with mushrooms

7 Cheese with allspice and greens

8 Coffee with condensed milk and sugar.

It is admissible to indicate the type of the non-dairy ingredient used, for example, vegetable or berry filling, not only as a noun added to the main term, but also as an adjective with the term describing the milk product.

Example - Fruit kefir.

For sweet ingredients of dairy products, produced with cocoa additive, it is admissible to use the adjective "chocolate" in the naming.

Examples

1 Butter "Shokoladnoye" (chocolate)

2 Chocolate processed cheese.

When composing names for heat treated composite dairy product produced by fermentation, but containing no living microflora, i.e. "fermented product", one shall use an adjective derived from the term of the respective sour milk product, by technology and analogy of which it was produced.

Examples

1 Kefir drink with blackberries

2 Sour cream product with dill and garlic flavor.

11. Naming rules for milk containing products

When composing names for milk containing products one shall use terms, set for these products, as well as the terms characterizing the product special treatment methods (if such treatment took place).

Examples

1 Chocolate glazed curd bar with biscuit

2 Ice-cream with vegetable fat in fruit glazing

3 Processed cheese product with ham.

When composing a name for a milk containing product produced by fermentation, but containing no living microflora, i.e. "fermented product", one shall use an adjective derived from the term pertaining to the respective sour milk product, by technology and analogy of which it was produced.

Examples

1 Kefir drink

2 Curd cream with dried apricot

3 Sour cream product with garlic and greens

4 Yogurt product with pineapple.

When composing names for cheese products, it is not required to include the terms, describing their physico-chemical characteristics, such as "hard cheese product", "semi-hard cheese product", "soft cheese product". When indicating the name of a particular type of cheese product, one shall use "cheese product" and the name set in the product documentation.

Example - Cheese product "Urozhayniy".

It is not allowed to use the words "plombir" (ice-cream with dairy fat), "cream", "milk" when naming ice-creams with vegetable fat.

It is not allowed to use the words "cream" and "milk" in names of milk containing preserves or products consisting solely of non-dairy components. It is not allowed to use word combination "vegetable cream", "soy-bean curd".

It is not allowed to use the word "butter" directly in word combinations, in the root of a brand name, when naming products other than butter, melted butter, butter paste.

It is not allowed to use the word "cheese" when naming cheese products and processed cheese product.

12. Naming rules for products based on processed milk by-products

When composing names for products, which are based on processed milk by-products one shall use terms set for these products, general technical terms used in food industry, as well as terms characterizing the methods of product thermal and special treatment (if such treatment took place).

Examples

1 Dried milk whey

2 Pasteurized whig enriched with bifidus bacteria

3 Pasteurized whey with apple juice

4 Condensed whey hydrolyzed lactose.

It is allowed to use adjectives derived from "whey", "casein", "albumin" in names of items based on processed milk by-products.

Examples

1 Casein whey

2 Whey drink

3 Albumin paste.

13. Documentation

When composing name for a standard or a technical document on product manufacturing, which regulate the product names that appear on labels, it is recommended to use reverse word order, starting the name with a noun.

Examples

1 Milk, pasteurized

2 Paste of curd with prunes

3 Sauce of cheese

4 Drink of milk, pasteurized.

It is not required to regulate all identification parameters of the products in Technical Requirements and Company Standards. Regulation of parameters shall be based only on relevant properties of the product. In particular, SOMO indicator (skimmed milk powder) is not relevant for dairy products that contain no non-dairy ingredients, and it is not necessary to regulate it in documents on sour milk products, butter, and cheese. SOMO indicator shall not appear on the label.

14. Production date

It is allowed to use the words "production date" or "manufactured date" on the label, as these word combinations are synonymous.

Date of packaging shall be indicated on the label in cases when the manufacturer or vendor packages or packed products, which have been produced earlier. In such cases 2 dates shall be indicated: "production date" and "packaging date". If the manufacturing process of a product involves the stage of packing into the consumer container, it shall be sufficient to indicate only the date of production.

15. Special requirements to cheese labeling

It shall be sufficient to specify on the label only one parameter – fat weight ratio in dry substance. Indication of additional parameter of absolute fat weight ratio of the product is not mandatory.

Production (manufacturing) date of cheese shall be the date of its release from the production plant for sale. It is allowed to indicate the production date by any method, including indication in accompanying documents. Cheese shelf life is an industrial parameter and does not have to appear on the label.