

COMPLIANCE WITH LABELING LEGISLATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA IN THE FIELD OF CONFECTIONERY PRODUCTS

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Abstract: this article presents the basic principles of food labeling, especially of confectionery products, such as the consumers' right to non misleading information and informed choice, and the harmonisation of national laws. The control on respecting the compliance of information written on product label is made by competent authorities for execution of official control of foodstuffs in the Republic of Moldova. The relevant national regulations are given, and references and websites given for access to full texts. The results of critical surveys on the present implementation of confectionery products labeling are summarised, together with the corresponding recommendations for improvement.

Key words: confectionery products, label information, technical regulations, national laws

INTRODUCTION

According to the Parliament Law of the Republic of Moldova nr. 78 as of 18.03.2004 "On foodstuffs", *labeling* (marking) is any words, trademarks, registered trademarks, signs, elements drawn or written, stamped, embossed or printed on, or attached to a container with foodstuffs and positioned on

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any packaging, accompanying document, notice, label, band or flange, which is accompanying or is referring to such foodstuff (Lege Parlament, 2004). Labeling of confectionery products is performed in accordance with the provisions of legislative and normative acts regarding labeling, with the application of additional terms, which must be clearly visible, legible, and comprehensible and must not mislead the consumer. Informing consumers about confectionery products is carried out compulsorily, by elements of identification and by indicating their characteristics, which are on view and explicitly on the product, label, packaging (Hotărîre de Guvern, 2003). Producer (packer) must provide information about the product name, brand and name of manufacturer, to indicate its address (telephone number, if applicable), the mass/volume, the main qualitative characteristics, composition, additives used, possible risks, how to use, handling, storage, conservation or keeping, contraindications, as well as the energy value of prepackaged foods, country of production, the term of warranty, period of duration, period of validity and date of manufacture, in accordance with national standards and technical regulations (Hotărîre de Guvern, 2009). The control on respecting the compliance of information written on product label is made by competent authorities for execution of official control of foodstuffs in the RM: National Food Security Agency, Centre for preventive medicine of the Ministry of Health and Family, Sanitary Veterinary Authorities designated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, etc. In this paper is made the analysis of compliance with product labeling legislation of confectionery products, produced by enterprises of the RM, such as: S.A. "Patisier"; S.A. "Camerton", S.A. "Franzeluța", and others.

PRODUCTION OF CONFECTIONARY PRODUCTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

In the Republic of Moldova are legalized 109 enterprises specialized in the production of confectionery products. Below in Figure 1 is represented the distribution of the number of enterprises on settlements. The rest of settlements fall by 1 or 2 enterprises, among which are: Cahul, Soroca, etc. The largest enterprises are SA „Franzeluta”, SA „Bucuria”, SRL „Dulcinella”, ICS „Nefis”, SA „Camerton”, SRL „Drancor”, SA „Parisier”.