

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Egypt Notifies WTO of Changes to Shelf Life for Various Food Products

Country: Egypt

Post: Cairo

Report Category: Dairy and Products, Fishery Products, WTO Notifications, Livestock and Products

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Report Highlights:

On August 1, 2024, the Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality notified the World Trade Organization's (WTO) Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) of a draft amendment to Egypt's shelf life for certain food products (see G/TBT/N/EGY/212/Add.8). Separately, on August 5, 2024, the Central Administration for Foreign Relations of the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation filed a similar notification to the WTO's Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures (see G/SPS/N/EGY/92/Add.8). These notifications extend the permissible Egyptian shelf life for beef and buffalo liver (to 12 months instead of 7 months), frozen fish (to 10 months instead of six months), and for plain and flavored yogurt (to 30 days instead of 15 days).

General Information

On August 1, 2024, the Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality notified the World Trade Organization's (WTO) Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) of a draft amendment to Egypt's shelf life for certain food products (see [G/TBT/N/EGY/212/Add.8](#)). Separately, on August 5, 2024, the Central Administration for Foreign Relations of the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation filed a similar notification to the WTO's Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures (see [G/SPS/N/EGY/92/Add.8](#)). These notifications extend the shelf life for beef and buffalo liver (to 12 months instead of 7 months), frozen fish (to 10 months instead of six months) and for plain and flavored yogurt (to 30 days instead of 15 days).

[G/TBT/N/EGY/212/Add.8](#) states:

This addendum concerns the notification of draft of Egyptian Standard ES 2613-2 " shelf life for food products part: 2 shelf life " (18 pages, in Arabic) (partial amendment in 1 page, in Arabic).

It should be noted that the Ministerial Decree No. 100/2019 (2 pages, in Arabic) which was formerly notified in G/TBT/N/EGY/212 dated 10 May 2019, Ministerial Decree No. 653/2020 (2 pages, in Arabic) which was formerly notified in G/TBT/N/EGY/212/Add.2 dated 15 March 2021, Ministerial Decree No. 222/2021 (1 page, in Arabic) which was formerly notified in G/TBT/N/EGY/212/Add.3 dated 31 August 2021, Ministerial Decree No. 522/2021 (2 pages, in Arabic) which was formerly notified in G/TBT/N/EGY/212/Add.4 dated 16 February 2022, Ministerial Decree No. 393/2022 (2 pages, in Arabic) which was formerly notified in G/TBT/N/EGY/212/Add.5 dated 22 August 2022, Ministerial Decree No. 233/2023 (2 pages, in Arabic) which was formerly notified in G/TBT/N/EGY/212/Add.6 dated 20 July 2023 and the Ministerial Decree No.361/2024 (2 pages, in Arabic) which was formerly notified in G/TBT/N/EGY/212/Add.7 dated 10 July 2024 mandated among others the earlier versions and amendments of this Standard.

Worth mentioning is that this standard has been partially modified in table (1), table (2), table (3) as the following items:

The shelf life of plain and flavored yogurt is 30 days instead of 15 days.

The shelf life of beef and buffalo liver is 12 months instead of 7 months.

The shelf life of frozen fish is 10 months instead of 6 months.

Worth mentioning is that this standard has been formulated according to National Studies and its updates.

Producers and importers are kept informed of any amendments in the Egyptian standards through the publication of administrative orders in the official gazette.

[G/SPS/N/EGY/92/Add.8](#) states:

This addendum concerns the notification of the draft Egyptian Standard ES 2613-2 "Shelf life for food products Part: 2 Shelf Life " (18 pages in Arabic (partial amendment in 1 page, in Arabic)).

It should be noted that the Ministerial Decree No. 100/2019 which was formerly notified in [G/SPS/N/EGY/92/Add.1](#) dated 3 June 2020, the Ministerial Decree No. 653/2020 which was formerly notified in [G/SPS/N/EGY/92/Add.2](#) dated 15 March 2021 and the Ministerial Decree No. 222/2021 which was formerly notified in [G/SPS/N/EGY/92/Add.3](#) dated 20 September 2021, the Ministerial Decree No. 522/2021 which was formerly notified in [G/SPS/N/EGY/92/Add.4](#) dated 18 March 2022, the Ministerial Decree No. 393/2022 which was formerly notified in [G/SPS/N/EGY/92/Add.5](#) dated 25 August 2022, the Ministerial Decree No. 233/2023 which was formerly notified in [G/SPS/N/EGY/92/Add.6](#) dated 21 July 2023, the Ministerial Decree No.361/2024 which was formerly notified in [G/SPS/N/EGY/92/Add.7](#) dated 12 July 2024, mandated among others the earlier versions and amendments of this Standard.

Worth mentioning is that this standard has been partially modified in tables (1), (2) and (3) as follows:

- The shelf life of plain and flavoured yogurt is 30 days instead of 15 days.
- The shelf life of beef and buffalo liver is 12 months instead of 7 months.
- The shelf life of frozen fish is 10 months instead of 6 months.

Worth mentioning is that this standard has been formulated according to National Studies and its updates.

Producers and importers are kept informed of any amendments in the Egyptian standards through the publication of administrative orders in the official gazette.

Attachments:

No Attachments.