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## Dominica

# Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards

## Country Report

### 2005

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**Report Highlights:**

This report provides information on Dominica labeling requirements.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
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This report was prepared by the Caribbean Basin Agricultural Trade Office (CBATO) of the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)/U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in Miami, Florida for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of labeling requirements with the Dominica Bureau of Standards before any goods are shipped. FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

**DOMINICA LABELING REQUIREMENTS**

**The National Standards Council of Dominica adopted the following labeling standards on November 1, 2005:**

- A. Labeling of Commodities Part 1: General Principles for Labeling of Goods  
DNS 2: Part 1: 2002
- B. Labeling of Commodities Part 2: Specification for the Labeling of Prepackaged Goods  
DNS 2: Part 2: 2002
- C. Labeling of Commodities Part 3: Specification for the Labeling of Prepackaged Foods  
DNS 2: Part 3: 2002 ICS: 67.230
- D. Labeling of Commodities - Specification for the Labeling of Brewery Products (Beer, Stout, Brandy, Malt) DNS 10: 2002 ICS: 67.167.160

**Following is a summary of the above standards:**

**A. Labeling of Prepackaged Foods**

All prepackaged food products must be labeled in English. Any information that is presented on the label in another language must be clearly separated from that in English.

**Prepackaged foods should be labeled with the following information:**

**1. Name of the Food Product**

The common name of the product and any accompanying trade name or brand name controlled by the manufacturer should appear in a prominent position on the label.

*Note: Additional words or phrases describing the true nature and physical condition of the food (i.e. dried, concentrated, reconstituted, or smoked) should appear on the label, as necessary, within close proximity to the name of the food.*

**2. List of Ingredients**

The ingredients of the product should be listed in descending order of proportion by weight or percentage, and should be headed by a title that consists of or includes the term "ingredient". All food additives (together with their class titles and specific names), carry-over food additives, and processing aids should be included in the list of ingredients.

*Please note that general class names are acceptable for ingredients falling within the following classes: Oil (Vegetable/Animal, Hydrogenated/Partially-Hydrogenated), Fats (Vegetable/Animal), Starch, Fish, Poultry Meat, Cheese, Spice/Spices, Herbs/ Mixed Herbs, Sugar, Dextrose/Glucose, Caseinates, Cocoa Butter, Crystallized Fruit.*

*Please note that pork fat, lard, and beef fat should always be declared by their specific names.*

**3. Net Contents and Drained Weight**

The net contents of the product should appear in a prominent position on the label and in the same field of vision as the name of the product. The net contents should be declared in the metric system and immediately followed by Imperial Units in brackets. The net contents should be declared in the following manner:

- (i) For liquids foods, by volume;
- (ii) For solid foods, by weight;
- (iii) For semi-solid or viscous foods, either by weight or volume.

*Note: The label of a food packed in a liquid medium (i.e. water, aqueous solutions of sugar and salt, fruit and vegetable juices, vinegar) should also declare the drained weight of the food.*

**4. Name and Address of the manufacturer, packer, and distributor**

**5. Country of origin**

**6. Permanently marked batch/lot identification number(s)**

**7. Date Mark of Minimum Durability**

The "date of minimum durability" should be declared in the following manner:

*"Best before (date in an numerical sequence)"*

- (i) The day and the month for products with a minimum durability of not more than three months;
- (ii) The month and year for products with a minimum durability of more than three months.

*Note: A date of minimum durability is not required for the following products: fresh fruits and vegetables that have not been peeled/cut or similarly treated, wines, beverages containing 10% or more by volume of alcohol, vinegar, food grade salt, solid sugars, confectionery products consisting of flavored and/or colored sugars, chewing gum.*

**8. Storage Instructions**

Any specific conditions for the storage of the food product (i.e. "Refrigerate after opening," "Keep frozen") should be declared on the label.

**9. Instructions for Use**

Any specific instructions to ensure correct utilization of the food product, including reconstitution, should be provided on the label.

**10. Irradiated Food**

Irradiated foods should be declared in the following manner:

- (i) A food product that has been treated with ionizing radiation/energy should specify on the label, in close proximity to the name of the food, the type of treatment;
- (ii) If an irradiated product is used as an ingredient in another food product, it should be declared on the label in the list of the ingredients;

- (iii) If a single ingredient is prepared from a raw material that has been irradiated, a statement indicating the treatment should be provided on the label.

### **B. Labeling of Brewery Products (Beer, Stout, Brandy, and Malt)**

Retail containers of brewery products must be labeled in English. Any information that is presented on the label in another language must be clearly separated from that in English.

#### **Retail containers of all brewery products should be labeled with the following information:**

1. The common name of the brewery product
2. Any brand name or trade name of the product
3. The name and address of the manufacturer or brewer
4. The name and address of the entity controlling the trade name or brand name, if different from the manufacturer
5. The name of the country of origin
6. The net contents of the retail container in terms of milliliters (mL)
7. The name and address of the importers or distributors
8. The alcoholic content of the bottled product as a percentage by volume
9. An expiration date (e.g. "Best Before (date)")
10. Any batch number/lot number

#### **Labels on retail containers of shandy should also include the following information:**

1. A list of ingredients in descending order of proportion by weight
2. A declaration of the fruit or vegetable flavor used in the product
3. An declaration of the alcoholic strength of the product by volume

#### **Labels on retail containers of malta should also include the following information:**

1. A list of ingredients in descending order of proportion by weight
2. The statement "non-alcoholic"

#### **Labels on retail containers of ale, beer, malta, malt liquor, porter, shandy or stout may also include the following information:**

1. Nutritional information in terms of the Recommended Daily Allowances (RDA) for vitamins and minerals set by the Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute or U.S. authorities
2. Any warning as to the effects of alcohol on health or safety
3. If the product is in a glass container, a statement indicating whether the container may be returned to the dealer or manufacturer
4. If the product is in a metal or plastic container, a statement indicating whether the container material may be recycled
5. A statement indicating whether a refund or payment is made for a returnable glass container

#### **Bulk containers (i.e. barrels, casks, or pressurized containers) should be labeled with the following information:**

1. The common name of the brewery product
2. The brand name or trade name of the product

3. The name and address of the brewer, manufacturer, or person controlling the brand name
4. The average net contents of the bulk containers
5. The name of the country of origin

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