



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

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## United Arab Emirates

### FAIRS Subject Report

### GCC Notifies WTO of New Food Standards

### 2009

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**Report Highlights:**

Gulf Cooperation Council countries (Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia) have notified the World Trade Organization of a number of new food standards in recent weeks. Exporters may wish to review the notifications in this report to determine if their products could be affected and consider whether it would worthwhile to submit comments on these notifications.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Trade Report  
Dubai [TC1]  
[TC]

**Disclaimer:** This summary is based on a  *cursory* review of the subject announcement and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests. In the event of a discrepancy or discrepancies between this summary and the complete regulation or announcement as published in Arabic, the latter shall prevail.

**ATO Dubai Summary:** Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries have notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) of a number of new standards in recent weeks. Trade associations, technical experts and exporters who monitor and track policy developments in the GCC should be aware that a WTO notification from a single country is likely to eventually apply to all GCC members. For example, if Bahrain notifies the WTO of a new standard or regulation, it is very likely that the standard or policy will eventually apply to all GCC members. Consequently, an exporter whose focus is primarily on Saudi Arabia or the UAE will, in all likelihood, be affected by proposed changes outlined in a notification from another GCC member once that standard or regulation is adopted by all GCC members. Analysts and technical experts who monitor technical issues on behalf of their industry should take this into consideration when monitoring WTO notifications from GCC members.

The summaries and information provided below were taken directly from the WTO notifications. In some cases, links to the draft standard are included. Saudi Arabia has also notified the WTO of a large number of standards that will, in all likelihood, apply to all GCC members after approval by the Gulf Standards Organization and eventual adoption by individual countries. The Saudi notifications are not included in this report.

Affected parties may wish to consider whether it would be appropriate to review an comment on individual standards. For additional questions or copies of the notifications, please contact FAS Washington at [IRSD@fas.usda.gov](mailto:IRSD@fas.usda.gov) or ATO Dubai at [atodubai@usda.gov](mailto:atodubai@usda.gov).

## 1. Apricots

**G/SPS/N/BHR/21**  
**G/TBT/N/QAT/86**

**Date:** 10 February 2009  
**Date:** 11 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain  
**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Apricots (10 pages in Arabic and 8 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft applies to apricots of varieties (cultivars) grown from *prunus armeniaca L.* to be supplied fresh to the consumer, apricots for industrial processing being excluded. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0381\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0381_00_e.pdf)

## 2. Butter

**G/SPS/N/BHR/22**  
**G/TBT/N/BHR/87**  
**G/TBT/N/QAT/88**

**Date:** 10 February 2009  
**Date:** 24 February 2009  
**Date:** 11 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain  
**Notifying Country:** Bahrain  
**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Butter (8 pages in Arabic and 5 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft is concerned with salted and unsalted butter. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling. It specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf standard (GSO) "Butter" under clauses 7 and 8 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies as follows:

- Containers shall be made of hygienic, clean, non-toxic or harmful materials which are impermeable to light. Containers shall not cause any change to the properties of the product.
- The product shall be packed in such a way as to prevent any contamination.

It also describes label requirements such as : type of butter (salted or non-salted), name of food additives, the conditions of product storage (chilled or frozen), percentage of fat, milk solid non-fats and moisture, etc.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0382\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0382_00_e.pdf)

### 3. Dried Figs

**G/SPS/N/BHR/23**

**Date:** 10 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

**G/TBT/N/BHR/101**

**Date:** 25 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

**G/TBT/N/QAT/92**

**Date:** 11 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Dried Figs (11 pages in Arabic, 7 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft applies to the figs dried from ripe fruits of cultivars grown from *Ficus Carica L.* and intended for direct consumption. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf Standard (GSO) "Dried Figs" under clauses 7 and 10 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies that the product shall be packed in suitable, clean hermetically sealed containers that will maintain the hygienic and the quality of the product. It also describes label requirements such as: name of product "Dried figs", no. of dried figs per pack and the grade, moisture content, preservatives (if added), expiration period, etc.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

### 4. Dried Prunes

**G/SPS/N/BHR/25**

**Date:** 10 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

**G/TBT/N/BHR/102**

**Date:** 25 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

**G/TBT/N/QAT/93**

**Date:** 11 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Dried Prunes (12 pages in Arabic and 8 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft is concerned with dried prunes from certain varieties of plum conforming to the characteristics of plant *Prunus domestica L.*, intended for direct consumption. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf Standard (GSO) "Dried Prunes" under clauses 7 and 10 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies that the product shall be packed in suitable, clean, and hermetically sealed containers that will maintain the hygienic and the quality of the product. It also describes label requirements such as: type and style of product, no. of prunes per pack and the grade, moisture content, preservatives (if added), expiration period, etc.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0385\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0385_00_e.pdf)

## 5. Fish Meal

G/SPS/N/BHR/26

**Date:** 10 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

G/TBT/N/BHR/89

**Date:** 24 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

G/TBT/N/QAT/94

**Date:** 11 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Feeds - Fish Meal (14 pages in Arabic, 9 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft is concerned with fish meal used in animal and poultry feeding. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling. It specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf standard (GSO) "Feeds - Fish Meal" under clauses 7 and 8 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies that bags shall be well sealed, waterproof, clean, have not been previously used and do not affect the quality characteristics of the product. It also describes label requirements such as: quality grade of the product (first or second), production and expiration date in non-coded manner, chemical characteristics including crude protein, crude fat, crude ash, calcium and phosphorous content, etc.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0386\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0386_00_e.pdf)

## 6. Fresh Tomatoes

G/SPS/N/BHR/27

**Date:** 10 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

G/TBT/N/QAT/95

**Date:** 12 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Fresh Tomatoes (8 pages in Arabic and 5 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft is concerned with requirements for fresh tomatoes. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0387\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0387_00_e.pdf)

## 7. Frozen Moulukhia

**G/SPS/N/BHR/28**  
**G/TBT/N/QAT/96**

**Date:** 10 February 2009  
**Date:** 12 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain  
**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Frozen Moulukhia (9 pages in Arabic and 6 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft is concerned with frozen Moulukhia (Jew's mallow) conforming to the characteristics of plant *Corchorus olitoris* for direct consumption without further processing. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0388\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0388_00_e.pdf)

## 8. Frozen Okra

**G/SPS/N/BHR/29**  
**G/TBT/N/BHR/103**  
**G/TBT/N/QAT/97**

**Date:** 10 February 2009  
**Date:** 25 February 2009  
**Date:** 12 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain  
**Notifying Country:** Bahrain  
**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Frozen Okra (9 pages in Arabic and 6 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft is concerned with frozen and fresh okra conforming to the characteristics of plant *Hibiscus esculentus* and prepared for human consumption. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf Standard (GSO) "Frozen okra" under clauses 6 and 9 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies that the packaging used for frozen okra shall:

- Protect the organoleptic and other quality characteristics of the products.
- Protect the product against microbiological and other contamination as well as from dehydration, leakage, and damage.
- Not pass on to product any odor, flavor, color or other foreign characteristics throughout storage, handling and distribution of the product up to the time of final sale.

It also describes label requirements such as type and style of product, a written statement "should be kept at a temperature not exceeding -18°C until consumed", expiration periods for product, etc.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0389\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0389_00_e.pdf)

## 9. Frozen Raw Squid

**G/SPS/N/BHR/30**

**Date:** 10 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

**G/TBT/N/BHR/90**

**Date:** 24 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

**G/TBT/N/QAT/98**

**Date:** 12 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Frozen Raw Squid (11 pages in Arabic, 8 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft is concerned with frozen raw squid and parts of squid to be sold fresh for human consumption. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling. It specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf standard (GSO) "Frozen Raw Squid" under clauses 8 and 10 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It describes label requirements such as: name of the species and style of the product, date of freezing and expiration in a legible non coded manner (month-year), net weight of the product without thin ice-layer coating (glazing), etc.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0390\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0390_00_e.pdf)

## 10. Goat Milk

**G/SPS/N/BHR/31**

**Date:** 10 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

**G/TBT/N/QAT/99**

**Date:** 12 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Goat Milk (10 pages in Arabic and 7 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft is concerned with raw, pasteurized, long life (treated with ultra high temperature) and sterilized goat milk. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0391\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0391_00_e.pdf)

## 11. Halloumi Cheese

G/SPS/N/BHR/32  
G/TBT/N/QAT/100

Date: 10 February 2009  
Date: 12 February 2009

Notifying Country: Bahrain  
Notifying Country: Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Halloumi Cheese (9 pages in Arabic and 6 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft is concerned with Halloumi cheese. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0392\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0392_00_e.pdf)

## 12. Kashkaval Cheese

G/SPS/N/BHR/33  
G/TBT/N/QAT/101

Date: 10 February 2009  
Date: 12 February 2009

Notifying Country: Bahrain  
Notifying Country: Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Kashkaval Cheese (9 pages in Arabic and 6 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft is concerned with kashkaval (kaschkaval or kaskaval) cheese. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0393\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0393_00_e.pdf)

## 12. Kiwi Fruit

G/SPS/N/BHR/34  
G/TBT/N/QAT/102

Date: 10 February 2009  
Date: 12 February 2009

Notifying Country: Bahrain  
Notifying Country: Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Kiwi Fruit (10 pages in Arabic and 8 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft applies to kiwifruit (also known as *Actinidia* or kiwis) of varieties (cultivars) grown from *Actinidia chinensis* (Planch) or *Actinidia deliciosa* (A. Chev., C.F. Liang and A.R. Ferguson) to be supplied fresh to the consumer, kiwifruit for industrial processing being excluded. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0394\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0394_00_e.pdf)

## 13. Limes

G/SPS/N/BHR/35  
G/TBT/N/QAT/103

Date: 10 February 2009  
Date: 12 February 2009

Notifying Country: Bahrain  
Notifying Country: Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Limes (10 pages in Arabic and 10 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft applies to commercial varieties of limes grown from *citrus latifolia* Tanaka of the *Rutaceae* family, to be supplied fresh to the consumer, after preparation and packaging. Limes for industrial processing are excluded. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0395\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0395_00_e.pdf)

## 14. Mango

G/SPS/N/BHR/36  
G/TBT/N/QAT/104

Date: 10 February 2009  
Date: 12 February 2009

Notifying Country: Bahrain  
Notifying Country: Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Mango (11 pages in Arabic and 8 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft applies to commercial varieties of mangoes grown from *Mangifera indica* L. of the *Anacardiaceae* family, to be supplied fresh to the consumer, after preparation and packaging. Mangoes for industrial processing are excluded. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0396\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0396_00_e.pdf)

## 15. Sorghum Flour

G/SPS/N/BHR/37  
G/TBT/N/QAT/107

Date: 11 February 2009  
Date: 12 February 2009

Notifying Country: Bahrain  
Notifying Country: Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Sorghum Flour (10 pages in Arabic and 9 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft is concerned with sorghum flour prepared for human consumption. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0398\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0398_00_e.pdf)

## 16. Strawberries

**G/SPS/N/BHR/38**  
**G/TBT/N/QAT/108**

**Date:** 11 February 2009  
**Date:** 12 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain  
**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Strawberries (11 pages in Arabic and 8 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft applies to strawberries of varieties (cultivars) grown from the genus *Fragaria* to be supplied fresh to consumer, strawberries for industrial processing being excluded. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0399\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0399_00_e.pdf)

## 17. Unbottled Drinking Water

**G/SPS/N/BHR/39**  
**G/TBT/N/QAT/109**

**Date:** 11 February 2009  
**Date:** 12 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain  
**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Unbottled drinking water (17 pages in Arabic)

**Description of content:** This Draft applies to unbottled drinking water. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For an Arabic copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0400\\_00\\_x.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0400_00_x.pdf)

## 18. Bananas

**G/SPS/N/BHR/40**  
**G/TBT/N/QAT/87**

**Date:** 11 February 2009  
**Date:** 11 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain  
**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Bananas (12 pages in Arabic and 9 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft applies to commercial varieties of Bananas grown from *Musa* spp. (AAA) of the Musaceae family, in the green state, to be supplied fresh to consumer, after preparation and packaging. Bananas intended for cooking only (plantains) or industrial processing are excluded. Varieties covered by this standard are included in the Annex. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0401\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0401_00_e.pdf)

## 19. Canned Mackerel

**G/SPS/N/BHR/41**

**Date:** 10 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

**G/TBT/N/QAT/89**

**Date:** 11 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Canned Mackerel (17 pages in Arabic and 13 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft is concerned with canned mackerel and canned jack mackerel packed in water, oil or any other suitable packing medium. It does not apply to products where mackerel or jack mackerel constitutes less than 50% (m/m) of the net weight of the can. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0402\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0402_00_e.pdf)

## 20. Chocolate Types

**G/SPS/N/BHR/42**

**Date:** 10 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

**G/TBT/N/QAT/90**

**Date:** 11 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Chocolate Types (22 pages in Arabic)

**Description of content:** This Draft is concerned with chocolate types. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0403\\_00\\_x.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0403_00_x.pdf)

## 21. Peaches and Nectarines

<b>G/SPS/N/BHR/43</b>	<b>Date:</b> 11 February 2009	<b>Notifying Country:</b> Bahrain
<b>G/TBT/N/BHR/104</b>	<b>Date:</b> 25 February 2009	<b>Notifying Country:</b> Bahrain
<b>G/TBT/N/QAT/105</b>	<b>Date:</b> 12 February 2009	<b>Notifying Country:</b> Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Peaches and Nectarines (10 pages in Arabic and 9 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This Draft applies to peaches and nectarines of varieties (cultivars) grown from *Prunus persica* Sieb. and *Zucc.* to be supplied fresh to the consumer, peaches and nectarines for industrial processing being excluded. Definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of testing and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf Standard (GSO) "Peaches and nectarines" under clauses 6 and 9 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It describes label requirements such as: name of the product "Peaches" or "Nectarines", class, size, net weight, country of origin, name and address of packer or dispatcher, etc.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0404\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0404_00_e.pdf)

## 22. Vinegar

<b>G/SPS/N/BHR/44</b>	<b>Date:</b> 13 February 2009	<b>Notifying Country:</b> Bahrain
<b>G/TBT/N/BHR/92</b>	<b>Date:</b> 25 February 2009	<b>Notifying Country:</b> Bahrain
<b>G/TBT/N/QAT/110</b>	<b>Date:</b> 12 February 2009	<b>Notifying Country:</b> Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Vinegar (13 pages in Arabic and 10 pages in English)

**Description of content:** This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf Standard (GSO) "Vinegar" under clauses 7 and 8 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies that the product shall be packed in suitable, clean, dry and sealed containers that were not previously used. The containers shall not cause any undesirable change in the taste, odor or color of the product. It also describes label requirements such as: name of product, net percentage of acetic acid (m/v), etc.

This Draft Technical Regulation applies to products as:

**Acetic acid food grade:** Product made from materials of non-agricultural origin.

**Vinegar:** Liquid fit for human consumption, produced-exclusively from suitable products of agricultural origin containing starch or sugars or starch and sugars by the process of double fermentation, alcoholic fermentation followed by acetous fermentation and containing a specified amount of acetic acid, its kinds such as:

**Grape, fruit, berry, and apple (cider) vinegar:** Liquids prepared from grape, fruit berry and apple (cider) by alcoholic fermentation followed by acetous fermentation or as defined in (3.2) except that the maximum level for volatile acids in the raw materials may be exceeded.

**Grain vinegar:** Liquid obtained without intermediate distillation by the process defined in (3.2) from any cereal grain, the starch of which has been converted to sugars by a process other than solely by the diastase of malted barley.

**Malt vinegar:** Liquid obtained without intermediate distillation by the process defined in (3.2) from malted barley with or without the addition of cereal grains, the starch of which has been converted to sugars solely by the diastase of the malted barley.

**Distilled malt vinegar:** Liquid produced by the distillation of malt vinegar as defined in (3.2.3) above, under reduced pressure it contains only the volatile constituent of the malt vinegar from which it is derived.

**Honey vinegar:** A liquid obtained without intermediate distillation by the process defined in (3.2).

**Dates vinegar:** A liquid prepared from natural dates juice by the process defined in (3.2).

**Whey vinegar:** A liquid obtained from milk whey without intermediate distillation by the process defined in (3.2).

Definitions, classification, requirements, grading, sampling, methods of test, packaging, transportation, storage and labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0405\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0405_00_e.pdf)

## 23. Plums

**G/TBT/N/BHR/91**

**Date:** 25 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

**G/SPS/N/BHR/24**

**Date:** 12 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

**G/TBT/N/QAT/106**

**Date:** 12 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Plums (11 pages in Arabic and 9 pages in English)

### Description of content:

This draft technical regulation is concerned with plums of varieties (cultivars) grown from:

1. *Prunus domestica* L.ssp. *domestica*.
2. *Prunus domestica* L.ssp. *insititia*(L)Schneid.
3. *Prunus domestica* L.ssp. *italica* (borkh) Gams.
4. *Prunus domestica* L.ssp. *syriaca* (borkh) Janchen.
5. *Prunus salicina* Lindl.
6. *Prunus Armeniaca*.

To be supplied fresh to the consumer, plums for industrial processing being excluded, definitions, classification, requirements, grading, sampling, methods of test, packaging, transportation, storage and labeling.

This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf Standard (GSO) "Plums" under clauses 6 and 9 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It also

describes label requirements such as: name of the product, class, net weight, name and address of packer or dispatcher, etc.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

For a copy of the standard, please follow the link below:

[http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09\\_0397\\_00\\_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/sps/BHR/09_0397_00_e.pdf)

## 24. Sugar Cane Syrup

G/TBT/N/BHR/93

**Date:** 25 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

G/TBT/N/QAT/118

**Date:** 2 March 2009

**Notifying Country:** Qatar

G/TBT/N/ARE/21

**Date:** 18 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** UAE

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Sugar Cane Syrup (6 pages, in Arabic)

### **Description of content:**

This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf Standard (GSO) "Sugar Cane Syrup" under clause 6 (labeling) as mandatory requirements. It describes label requirements such as: class name, net weight, producer name, address and trade mark, production and expiration date, country of origin, etc.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

## 25. Blend of Skimmed Milk and Vegetable Fat in Powdered Form

G/TBT/N/BHR/94

**Date:** 25 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

G/TBT/N/QAT/112

**Date:** 2 March 2009

**Notifying Country:** Qatar

G/TBT/N/OMN/58

**Date:** 19 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Oman

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Blend of skimmed milk and vegetable fat in powdered form (8 pages, in Arabic; 7 pages, in English)

### **Description of content:**

This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf Standard (GSO) "Blend of skimmed milk and vegetable fat in powdered form" under clauses 7 and 9 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies that the product shall be packed in suitable hygienic, air tight packages in such a way as to prevent its contamination. It also describes label requirements such as: name of the product, total fat content, list of ingredients, milk protein content, etc.

This draft technical regulation is concerned with blend of skimmed milk and vegetable fat in powdered form, intended for direct consumption, or further processing. Items related to requirements, packaging, storage & condition and labeling (items 4, 7, 8 & 9) are compulsory. The remaining items are voluntary.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

## 26. Blend of Evaporated Skimmed Milk and Vegetable Fat

<b>G/TBT/N/BHR/95</b>	<b>Date:</b> 25 February 2009	<b>Notifying Country:</b> Bahrain
<b>G/TBT/N/QAT/111</b>	<b>Date:</b> 2 March 2009	<b>Notifying Country:</b> Qatar
<b>G/TBT/N/OMN/57</b>	<b>Date:</b> 19 February 2009	<b>Notifying Country:</b> Oman

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Blend of evaporated skimmed milk and vegetable fat (8 pages, in Arabic; 7 pages, in English) also known as a blend of unsweetened condensed skimmed milk and vegetable fat.

**Description of content:**

This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf Standard (GSO) "Blend of evaporated skimmed milk and vegetable fat" under clauses 7 and 9 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies that the product shall be packed in suitable, hygienic, air tight packages in such a way as to prevent its contamination. It also describes label requirements such as: name of the product, total fat content, list of ingredients, milk protein content, etc.

This draft technical regulation is concerned with the blend of evaporated skimmed milk and vegetable fat or oil, also known as a blend of unsweetened condensed skimmed milk and vegetable fat, which is intended for direct consumption, or further processing. Only items related to requirements, packaging, transportation, storage conditions and labelling (items 4, 7, 8 & 9) are compulsory. The remaining items are voluntary.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

## 27. Pasteurized Camel Milk

<b>G/TBT/N/BHR/96</b>	<b>Date:</b> 25 February 2009	<b>Notifying Country:</b> Bahrain
<b>G/TBT/N/QAT/116</b>	<b>Date:</b> 2 March 2009	<b>Notifying Country:</b> Qatar
<b>G/TBT/N/ARE/23</b>	<b>Date:</b> 18 February 2009	<b>Notifying Country:</b> UAE

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Dairy and dairy products - Pasteurized camel milk (8 pages, in Arabic)

**Description of content:**

This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf Standard (GSO) "Dairy and dairy products - Pasteurized camel milk" under clauses 7 and 8 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies that packages should be clean and sealed. It shall not affect the product characteristics and shall prevent contamination during transportation, storage and distribution. It also describes label requirements such as: product name and type (pasteurized camel milk), nutritional information, fat content, production and expiration date "Day, Month", etc.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

## 28. Liquorice Root

<b>G/TBT/N/BHR/97</b>	<b>Date:</b> 25 February 2009	<b>Notifying Country:</b> Bahrain
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G/TBT/N/QAT/115  
G/TBT/N/ARE/22

Date: 2 March 2009  
Date: 18 February 2009

Notifying Country: Qatar  
Notifying Country: UAE

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Liquorice root (9 pages, in Arabic)

**Description of content:**

This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf Standard (GSO) "Liquorice root" under clauses 6 and 7 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies that product shall be packed in suitable, clean, dry packages and the packaging material shall not affect the product quality and characteristics or its fitness for human consumption. It also describes label requirements such as: product name or stacker name, address, or its trademark, type name and whether it is peeled or not peeled, net weight, expiration and production date, country of origin, etc.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

## 29. Hard Candy

G/TBT/N/BHR/98  
G/TBT/N/QAT/114  
G/TBT/N/OMN/55

Date: 25 February 2009  
Date: 2 March 2009  
Date: 19 February 2009

Notifying Country: Bahrain  
Notifying Country: Qatar  
Notifying Country: Oman

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Hard candy (8 pages, in Arabic; 6 pages, in English)

**Description of content:**

This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf Standard (GSO) No. 263 "Hard candy" under clauses 8 and 9 (packaging and labelling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies that product shall be packed in clean, hygienic, suitable, moisture-proof, and well-sealed containers that have no effect on product properties. It also describes label requirements such as: name of the food (hard candy), class of the candy, nutritional information (amount of energy, sugar, fat, protein, vitamins and minerals if added), any drawing, picture or statement which contradicts with religious and ethics aspects and values shall not be declared on the pack or the wrapper, etc.

This draft technical regulation is concerned with the general requirements for hard candy (plain / clear candy/ pulled candy / grained candy / filled candy / butter scotch candy / brittle candy / glace candy / toffee candy and chick-peas, sesame seeds and peanuts candy). Items related to requirements, packaging, transportation, storage conditions and labelling (Items 5, 9 & 10) are compulsory. The remaining items are voluntary.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

## 30. Soft Candy

G/TBT/N/BHR/99  
G/TBT/N/QAT/117  
G/TBT/N/OMN/56

Date: 25 February 2009  
Date: 2 March 2009  
Date: 19 February 2009

Notifying Country: Bahrain  
Notifying Country: Qatar  
Notifying Country: Oman

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Soft candy (10 pages, in Arabic; 11 pages, in English)

**Description of content:**

This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf Standard (GSO) No. 1320 "Soft candy" under clauses 7 & 8 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies that the product shall be packed in clean, suitable, moisture proof, and well sealed containers that have no effect on product properties. It also describes label requirements such as: expiration date shall not be more than one year from production date for all kinds of soft candy, food additives (if used), etc.

This draft technical regulation is concerned with the following types of soft candy: toffee, Turkish delight, nougats, fondant, marshmallow, fudge, fruit pastes and jelly candies (excluding chewing gum, chocolate types and western and oriental sweets). Items related to requirements, packaging, and transportation, storage conditions and labeling (items 4, 7 & 8) are compulsory. The remaining items are voluntary.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

## 31. Dehydrated Potatoes

**G/TBT/N/BHR/100**

**Date:** 25 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

**G/TBT/N/QAT/91**

**Date:** 11 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Dehydrated potatoes (11 pages, in Arabic; 7 pages, in English)

**Description of content:**

This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf Standard (GSO) "Dehydrated potatoes" under clauses 6 and 10 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies that the product shall be packed in suitable, hygienic, new, clean, dry, not previously used, moisture proof airtight containers that do not affect the quality of the product. It also describes label requirements such as: name of product (dehydrated potatoes), type and style of product, expiration period, etc.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

## 32. Cheese

**G/TBT/N/BHR/88**

**Date:** 24 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain

**G/TBT/N/QAT/113**

**Date:** 2 March 2009

**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**G/TBT/N/QAT/79**

**Date:** 11 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**G/TBT/N/KWT/18**

**Date:** 22 January 2009

**Notifying Country:** Kuwait

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

General standard for Cheese (13 pages, in Arabic).

**Description of content:** This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf standard (GSO) " General standard for Cheese " under clause 11 (labeling) as mandatory requirements. It describes label requirements such as: name of the product, fat content in milk, etc.

This draft technical regulation is concerned with all cheese products, intended for direct consumption or further processing, under clause 11 "Labeling" as mandatory requirements. It specifies the label requirements such as: name of food and declaration of milk fat content. It also describes food additives, contaminants, hygiene, and method of sampling and analysis.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

### 33. Grapes

G/TBT/N/BHR/81  
G/TBT/N/QAT/83

**Date:** 22 January 2009  
**Date:** 11 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain  
**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Grapes (8 pages, in Arabic and 7 pages, in English).

**Description of content:** This draft technical regulation is concerned with the fresh grapes *vitis vinifera L* after preparation, packaging and grapes for industrial processing are excluded, definitions, classification, requirements, sampling, methods of the test and examination, packing, labeling.

This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf standard GSO 464 "Grapes" under clauses 6 and 9 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies the following:

- The contents of each package must be uniform and contain only bunches of the same origin, variety, quality and degree of ripeness;
- Consumer packages of a net weight not exceeding 1 kg may contain mixtures of table grapes of different varieties, provided they are uniform in quality, degree of ripeness;
- Table grapes must be packed in such a way as to protect the product properly from contamination;
- The containers shall meet the quality, hygiene, ventilation and resistance characteristics to ensure suitable handling, shipping and preserving of the table grapes. Packages must be free of all foreign matter and smell.

It also describes label requirements such as : name of the product (according to variety), name and address of exporter, packer and/or dispatcher, nature of product (Table Grape), country of origin, class, net weight, weight of the bunches below 75 gm. etc

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

### 34. Mozzarella Cheese

G/TBT/N/BHR/82  
G/TBT/N/QAT/84

**Date:** 22 January 2009  
**Date:** 11 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain  
**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Mozzarella cheese (12 pages, in Arabic and 10 pages, in English).

**Description of content:** This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf standard GSO 833 "Mozzarella cheese" under clauses 7 and 8 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies that product shall be packed in tightly closed containers to keep its properties. It also describes label requirements such as : name of the product, fat content by weight or in dry matter, moisture content, the source of rennet...etc

This draft technical regulation is concerned with mozzarella cheese intended for direct consumption or for further processing, definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of the test and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

## 35. Pickled Fruits and Vegetables

G/TBT/N/BHR/83  
G/TBT/N/QAT/85

**Date:** 22 January 2009  
**Date:** 11 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain  
**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**  
Pickled fruits and vegetables (10 pages, in Arabic and 7 pages, in English)

**Description of content:** This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf standard GSO "Pickled fruits and vegetables" under clauses 7 and 10 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies the following:

- The container should be well filled by the product (including packing medium when appropriate) which should occupy not less than 90% of the water capacity of the container.
- The drained weight of the product should not be less than 40% in whole and halves style, and not less than 50% in pieces style and other styles of the net weight ( except for pickled red cabbage should not be less than 45% of the net weight).

It also describes label requirements such as: name of the product according to type and in combination with the name of major ingredient...etc

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

## 36. Boiled Dried Salted Anchovies

G/TBT/N/BHR/84  
G/TBT/N/QAT/80

**Date:** 22 January 2009  
**Date:** 11 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain  
**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**  
Boiled dried salted anchovies (8 pages, in Arabic and 5 pages, in English).

**Description of content:** This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf standard GSO "Boiled dried salted anchovies" under clauses 8 and 9 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies that product shall be packed in suitable hermetically sealed containers to save it from contamination. It also describes label requirements such as: name of the product, fish name and scientific name, size and grade of the product, storage & cooking instructions, etc.

This draft technical regulation is concerned with all commercial species of fish belong to family *Engraulida* that have been salted, boiled and dried, which intended for cooking before consumption and does not cover products which have undergone an enzymatic maturation in brine, definitions, grading, requirements, sampling, methods of the test and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

## 37. Canned Crab Meat

G/TBT/N/BHR/85  
G/TBT/N/QAT/81

**Date:** 22 January 2009  
**Date:** 11 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain  
**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Canned crab meat (8 pages in Arabic and 5 pages in English).

**Description of content:** This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf standard GSO "Canned crab meat" under clauses 7 and 8 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies that product shall be packed in suitable hermetically sealed containers to keep its characteristics. It also describes label requirements such as: name of the product, net weight and drained weight, etc.

This draft technical regulation is concerned with canned crab meat, and does not apply to products where crab meat constitutes less than 50% (m/m) of the contents, definitions, requirements, sampling, methods of the test and examination, packing, transportation, storage, labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

## 38. Dairy Fat Spread

G/TBT/N/BHR/86  
G/TBT/N/QAT/82

**Date:** 22 January 2009  
**Date:** 11 February 2009

**Notifying Country:** Bahrain  
**Notifying Country:** Qatar

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Dairy fat spread (12 pages, in Arabic and 8 pages, in English).

**Description of content:** This draft technical regulation specifies the requirements stated in the Gulf standard GSO "Dairy fat spread" under clauses 7 and 8 (packaging and labeling) as mandatory requirements. It specifies that product shall be packed in a suitable hermetically sealed containers to keep its characteristics. It also describes label requirements such as : Product name ( dairy fat spreads ) or ( reduced dairy fat spreads ), Product type ( Salted or unsalted or sweetened ), Milk fat content percentage, etc.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

## 39. Canned Foul Medames

G/TBT/N/QAT/76  
G/TBT/N/ARE/18

Date: 11 February 2009  
Date: 18 February 2009

Notifying Country: Qatar  
Notifying Country: UAE

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Canned fowl medames (6 pages in English, 7 pages in Arabic)

**Description of content:** This draft technical regulation is concerned with Canned Fowl Medames which specifies the definitions of the product, and the quality requirements, sampling, methods of testing, transportation and storage and labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

## 40. Canned Mushrooms

G/TBT/N/QAT/77  
G/TBT/N/ARE/19

Date: 11 February 2009  
Date: 18 February 2009

Notifying Country: Qatar  
Notifying Country: UAE

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Canned mushroom (8 pages in English, 7 pages in Arabic)

**Description of content:**

This draft technical regulation is concerned with Canned Mushroom which specifies the definitions of the product, and the quality requirements, sampling, methods of testing, transportation and storage and labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date

## 41. Preserved Grape Leaves

G/TBT/N/QAT/78  
G/TBT/N/ARE/20

Date: 11 February 2009  
Date: 18 February 2009

Notifying Country: Qatar  
Notifying Country: UAE

**Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:**

Preserved grape leaf (6 pages in Arabic)

**Description of content:**

This draft technical regulation is concerned with Preserved Grape Leaf intended for direct consumption, specifies the definitions of the product, and the quality requirements, sampling, methods of testing, and labeling.

**Final date for comments:** 60 days from the notification date