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Report Highlights:

Saudi Arabian Standards Organization (SASO) is responsible for setting national standards for commodities and products. The Ministry of Commerce does testing of prepackaged foodstuffs. The following report contains key regulations and standards applied to imported food products in the Kingdom. Saudi Arabia is more than \$5 billion market for food and agricultural products with the U.S. share estimated at about 10 percent.

Includes PSD Changes: No

Includes Trade Matrix: No

Annual Report

Riyadh [SA2]

[SA]

DISCLAIMER: This report has been prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in (Riyadh, Saudi Arabia) for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care has been taken in the preparation of this report, information provided maybe no longer complete nor precise as some import requirements are subject to frequent change. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters ensure that all necessary customs clearance requirements have been verified with local authorities through your foreign importer before the sale conditions are finalized. FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS ALWAYS SUBJECT TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY THE COUNTRY OF IMPORT AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

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I. FOOD LAWS

Saudi Arabia is the most influential member of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), which includes five other countries in the Arabian Peninsula: United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, and Qatar. As a group, the GCC is striving to create a common set of food standards, with the Saudi Arabian Standards Organization (SASO) as the lead agency. SASO is the only Saudi organization responsible for setting national standards for commodities and products, measurements, testing methods, meteorological symbols and terminology, commodity definitions, safety measures, and environmental testing, as well as other subjects approved by the organization's Board of Directors. While standards are set by SASO, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Industry Laboratories does testing of most processed and packaged food items at various ports of entry. The Saudi Ministry of Municipality and Rural Affairs' Environmental Control Department tests foodstuffs at the point of sale for product safety standards.

Although SASO has an advisory, rather than executive role, it coordinates its activities among different executing agencies in the Kingdom to control product quality and standards. SASO has issued about 600 production and testing standards on food since its establishment in 1972 and is presently working on new standards. Saudi standards are based mainly on CODEX Alimentarius regulations and to some extent on European and U.S. standards but modified to reflect local conditions.

The Kingdom is the largest and fastest growing market for high value foodstuffs in the gulf region. With the exception of very limited non-tariff barriers, foodstuffs are imported freely. The main regulatory barriers that U.S. foodstuff exporters encounter are: BIOTECH labeling, shorter shelf life requirements compared to U.S. standards, strict production and expiration dates regulations, Arabic labeling and Halal Slaughtering (animal slaughtering requirements according to Islamic Law). See Appendix 3 for major trade barriers.

II. LABELING REQUIREMENTS

A. General Requirements

Regulations for labeling of prepackaged foodstuffs are found in Gulf Standard 9/1995. This is a GCC-wide standard, which was prepared by the State of Kuwait. In sum, prepackaged food product labels should be in Arabic or include an Arabic language translation of the label. Labels must contain at a minimum: the product name, packer's name, country of origin or manufacture, listing of ingredients, instructions, where applicable, for the end use of the product, the shelf-life of the product.

GCC 9/1995 is a document of 10 pages. The labeling requirements are as follows:

- ? Labels of prepackaged foodstuffs and the attached labeling shall be in Arabic language. When one language or more is used in addition to Arabic language, all information in the other languages shall be the same as the information written in the Arabic language.
- ? In case of food products containing animal fats, meat and meat derivatives, excretions and their products such as gelatin and rennet, the kind of animal from which they are taken shall be declared taking into consideration to declare on the label that they are legally permitted.

- ? In case of prepackaged foodstuffs prepared for feeding animals, the statement "Unfit for human consumption" or "Special for animal Feeding only" shall be clearly and prominently declared on the label.
- ? Name of foodstuff: Specific, not generic, name of the prepackaged food. Names and phrases provocative to Islamic religious feelings such as "made of pork flesh or its derivatives," "Alcoholic beverages," or any doctrinally forbidden symbols and marks in Islamic countries such as the sign of the Cross, etc. should not be used.
- ? List of Ingredients: Complete list of ingredients in descending order of proportion, including additives permitted for use according to Saudi or International Standards and Legislation such as preservative, coloring matters, etc.
- ? Net contents in metric units (volume in case of liquids).
- ? Name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor, importer, exporter or vendor.
- ? Special Storage, transportation and preparation instructions, if any.
- ? Additives
- ? Country of Origin
- ? Shelf life: Shelf life can only be shown by clear and unambiguous production and expiration dates. The use of any of the following statements for expressing expiration date is permissible.

The Expiration Date (DD/MM/YY)
 Use by.....(Date)
 fit for.....from the date of production,
 Use before.....(Date),
 Sell by.....(Date).

It is understood that the date of production is the first day of the month shown and the expiration date the last day of the month shown, e.g., a one-year shelf would be shown as Jan. 99 - Dec. 99.

- ? Over-prints, erasable printing or stamping of any of the foregoing shelf life information are not permitted. However, **only one** "sticker" providing all information in Arabic as provided in the original label is allowed on a packaged product provided that the sticker does not cover and/or conceal the details on the original label. Packaging materials and methods should be suitable to the packaged material to avoid reaction with the contents.
- ? Products with No Specific Expiration Date: Products with no specified shelf life such as salt, spices, milled rice, etc. only the date of production or processing would be shown as: dd/mm/yy.

We recommend that when putting together an order for a Saudi importer, a U.S. exporter should cross check information contained on his/her food label, including Production/Expiration dates, with the Saudi buyer.

B. Additional Labeling Requirements

In addition to requirements per GCC 9/1995, the following labeling information must be declared for food additives and antioxidants used in foodstuffs:

- ? For coloring matters, their mixtures, preparations and diluents used in foodstuffs, the following additional information must be declared:
 - 1. Common name
 - 2. Color index number
 - 3. Name of solvent or diluent
 - 4. Production and expiration dates in a non-coded manner (day-month-year)
 - 5. Dye purity
 - 6. The statement "Free from alcohol"
 - 6. The statement "Color matter for use in foodstuffs."
- ? For Flavors permitted for use in Foodstuffs common name and code number (if found) must be declared on food products containers contained flavors.
- ? For preservatives permitted for use in food products, common name or EEC number and a statement "Preservative for Use in Food Products" in case of preservatives containers.
- ? For emulsifiers, stabilizers and thickeners permitted for use in foodstuffs, the following additional information must be declared:
 - 1. Common name or EEC no.
 - 2. In case of gelatin, lecithin and mono and diglycerides the source shall be mentioned.
- ? For Sweeteners Permitted for Use in Food Products:
 - 1. The name of sweeteners or INS numbers
 - 2. Food products formulated specifically for use by diabetics or for other special nutritional uses shall contain the statement "Food for special dietary use or food for diabetic."
 - 3. The amount of sweeteners matter, mg/liter or kg in case of using combination of sweeteners, the amount of each in combination shall be declared.

The following warning must be declared:

 - 4. In case of aspartame, "Not to be used by persons who have phenyl ketonuria."
 - 5. In case of saccharine, "Use of this product may be hazardous to your health because it contains saccharin which has been determine to cause cancer in laboratory animals."
 - 6. In the case of sugar alcohol "Excess of consumed quantity may cause diarrhea."
- ? The following additional labeling information must be declared for antioxidants permitted for use in foodstuffs:

1. Common name or EEC number
2. A statement "Antioxidants permitted for use in foodstuffs" in case of antioxidant containers.

C. Requirements Specific to Nutritional Labeling

In addition to the general labeling requirements as stated in GS 9/1995, further information must be declared for prepackaged foods for special dietary use per Gulf Standard No. 654/1996 (General Requirements for Prepackaged Foods for Special Dietary Use). Following is some of the labeling information to be stated.

1. Name of the product followed by the characterizing essential features indicating that it is a food for special dietary use.
2. The amount of energy expressed in kilojoules and kilocalories per 100 grams or 100 ml of the food product and where appropriate per the specified quantity of food as suggested for consumption.
3. Its content of protein, carbohydrates, fat, dietary, fiber and each vitamin and mineral per 100 grams or 100 ml of the food (as sold) product and where appropriate per specified quantity of food as suggested for consumption.
4. The total quantity of the specific nutrients, which provide the characterizing essential features per 100 grams or 100 ml of the food product and where appropriate per specified quantity of food as suggested for consumption.
5. The special cases in which the food is used and the suitable amount permissible for daily consumption.
6. Storage conditions before and after opening of the package.
7. The procedures of preparation and use, and in the case of baby and infant foods the procedures shall be indicated according to the age of child.
8. The following cautionary statement shall be declared: "To be Used Under Medical Supervision," wherever applicable to certain food.
9. The amount of added sweeteners accompanied by the following cautionary statements:
 - a) In the case of aspartame: "Not to be used by persons who have phenylketonuria," "The maximum intake shall not exceed 40mg/kg of body weight."
 - b) In the case of saccharin: "Use of this product may be hazardous to your health, because it contains saccharin which has been determined to cause cancer to laboratory animals."
 - c) In the case of manitol: "Excess of consumed quantity of manitol over 20g per day may cause diarrhea."
 - d) In the case of sorbitol or xylitol: Excess of consumed quantity of sorbitol or xylitol over 40g per day may cause diarrhea.
10. Not to be described or marked in such a manner that misleads the consumer.

D. Biotech Labeling

In December 2001, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Industry (MOCI) implemented its biotech labeling decree for processed foodstuffs. The decree requires a positive biotech labeling if a product contains genetically modified vegetable (plant) ingredients. In a similar move, the Saudi Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) implemented in January 2004 a comparable biotech-labeling requirement on animal feed, fruit and vegetables while banning imports of biotech seeds.

Following is a summary of the biotech labeling requirements implemented by the MOCI:

A. Positive labeling: If a product contains one or more genetically modified plant ingredient, the information should be clearly communicated to the consumer by labeling. A triangle should be drawn on the label with text that should read "Contains Genetically Modified Product (s). The Ministry will not accept a statement that says "This Product May Contain biotech Ingredients." Saudi Arabia does not permit imports of foodstuffs that contain genetically engineered animal products. According to the MOCI, local food producers must also abide by the biotech labeling requirements.

B. Bilingual labeling: The biotech statement must be clearly written in Arabic and English languages with ink color different from that of the main product tag.

C. Health certificate: Biotech products exported to Saudi Arabia must have been approved in the country of origin for human or animal consumption. Each shipment must be accompanied by a health certificate issued by a government agency stating that the biotech ingredient used in the foodstuff is approved in the country of origin for human or animal consumption.

D. PCR Real Time Method: MOC approved the PCR Real Time Method for biotech testing and set a one percent threshold for cross contamination. King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center (KFSH) based in Riyadh conducts biotech testing on imported and locally produced foodstuffs. Saudi importers are charged a testing fee of \$480 per product sample tested. It takes approximately four weeks for the importer to receive the test results. If the test results reveal more than one percent of biotech ingredient, the product is either destroyed locally or re-exported to the country of origin.

E. Biotech health certificate: The Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Industry has agreed to accept health certificates issued by state departments of agriculture for high value products instead of the previous requirement that the certificates be issued by a federal government agency such as USDA or FDA for U.S. products. The Ministry has reiterated its refusal to consider any health certificate issued by exporting companies or other private organizations including notary public statements.

F. For U.S. grains: The MOA has accepted a one-time biotech grains certification statement from the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) submitted to the Ministry in 2003. The statement certified that the exported transgenic grains are the same as those consumed in the United States. The approved statement eliminates the need for a shipment-by-shipment positive biotech certification for corn and soybean meal exported to the Kingdom. The MOA still requires each shipment of biotech fruits and vegetables to be labeled and accompanied by a biotech health certificate. In 2004, the MOA banned imports of all types of biotech seeds.

G. It is required that genetically engineered products, which are exported to Saudi Arabia, must have been approved in the country of origin for human consumption. Each shipment must be accompanied by health certificate issued by a biotech licensing government agency (such as the FDA) stating that the biotech ingredient (s) used in the foodstuff is approved in the country of origin (United States) for human consumption. One certificate could be issued that certifies a list of biotech items used in a foodstuff.

H. All genetically modified food products should be in compliance with legal and ethical controls observed in the Kingdom and must meet pertinent Saudi Arabian standard specifications. The biotech labeling requirements will also apply to locally produced agricultural products. The biotech-labeling requirement went into effect December 1, 2001.

In February 2005, the Saudi Government announced the establishment of a national high-level committee consisting of four ministries, the Saudi Arabian Standard Organization (SASO), universities and the private sector to conduct a comprehensive policy review of current biotech labeling requirements. The committee distributed its draft standard for public comment in early May 2005 and will receive feedback from interested parties until August 6, 2005. After taking into consideration comments received from interested parties, including USDA, SASO will review the draft standard and forward a final version to its Board of Directors for final approval in November 2005.

I. Following is a sample certificate issued by a state department of agriculture and accepted by Saudi port authorities:

Certificate of Health and Free Sale, Sanitary and Purity

"I, (name of state official), do hereby certify that (name of U.S. company and address) operates a food manufacturing plant which is inspected at regular intervals by full-time inspectors employed by the (name of state) Department of Agriculture. The facility's equipment and raw materials, as well as the processing and packaging procedure, meets all sanitary requirements and the operation is in good standing in every respect. We certify the following listing of products as freely, and without qualification, sold and used in the United States of America (USA).

This product may contain genetically modified organisms.

This certificate shall be good for one year from the date of issue.

This certificate is not to be construed as either an expression of implied warranty of any products of said company, nor shall it be used for propaganda, advertising, or other simple purposes.

This certificate shall not be altered after the issue date, or it will be deemed void by the (name of state) Department of Agriculture and the undersigned.

(The certificate should be issued with the seal of the State Department of Agriculture, notarized, and signed by the appropriate State Department of Agriculture official)."

II. Below is GIPSA's one-time grains certification statement accepted by the Saudi Ministry of Agriculture in lieu of a shipment-by-shipment biotech certification requirement.

Crop	Statement
Soybeans	<p>We hereby certify that the soybeans may come from genetically modified soybeans of the type Monsanto Roundup Ready Soybeans that have been approved for import into the EEC under directive 96/281/ EC.</p> <p>The soybeans may come from genetically modified soybeans of the type Monsanto Roundup Ready Soybeans.</p> <p>Transgenic soybeans commercially produced in the United States have completed the necessary review under the U.S. regulatory process for determining the safety of new agricultural biotechnology products. This well coordinated regulatory process sets U.S. standards for human, animal, and plant health, and environmental safety. The transgenic soybeans used for domestic purposes are the same as those used for export.</p>
Corn	<p>Transgenic corn commercially produced in the United States has completed the necessary review under the U.S. regulatory process for determining the safety of new agricultural biotechnology products. This well coordinated regulatory process sets U.S. standards for human, animal, and plant health, and environmental safety. The transgenic corn used for domestic purposes is the same as corn used for export.</p>
Testing Parameters	<p>The sample was tested using a method equal to or exceeding the performance of the A's GIPSA testing recommendations, as set out in Directive 9181.1.</p>

III. PACKAGING AND CONTAINER REQUIREMENTS

In 1997, Saudi Arabia issued standard No. SSA 1149/1997 entitled Food Packages-part 1-General Requirements. Some of the main requirements are listed below:

- ? All packaging materials used in fabricating, forming, or treating packages shall be of food grade for contact with foods and in compliance with relevant Saudi standards.
- ? They shall be clean and in a condition that does not allow any contamination probabilities of the contained material.
- ? They shall maintain the properties of the packaged material and protect it from gaining undesirable odors, flavors and tastes.
- ? They shall offer protection to the product against contamination with microorganisms, insect, rodents, and dirt in the cases of products that requires it.
- ? They shall be impermeable to moisture in the cases of food products that require it.
- ? They shall offer necessary protection against environmental conditions and mechanical hazards such as impacts, vibration, static stresses, and they shall be in an intact appearance during handling.
- ? They shall not affect the container as a result of migration of some of their constituents that may react or be mixed with the food materials.

? It shall not be in a pharmaceutical shape.

Saudi standard No. SASO 1301/1997 deals with specifications for the general requirements of plastic packages used for packaging food materials. The three page regulations require limits among other things that the concentration of a vinyl chloride monomer not to exceed 1 mg per kg of the plastic material, or 0.01 mg per kg of the packaged food material if the packages are made of polyvinyl chloride (PVC).

Per the standard, the following labeling information should be written on labels of plastic packages used to package foodstuffs:

1. Type of plastic material
2. Weight, capacity, number, or dimensions based on the type of packages
3. Statement of food grade
4. Purpose and type of application
5. Directions for usage
6. Warnings if applicable

IV. FOOD ADDITIVE REGULATIONS

1. The Kingdom and the other five Gulf Cooperation countries have established the following major gulf-wide standards that regulate additives used in foodstuffs. Each standard contains a positive additive list.

- An eight-page Gulf Standard No. 285/1999 entitled "Coloring Matter Used in Food Stuff." See appendix II for coloring matter permitted.
- Gulf Standard No. 707/1997 deals with flavors permitted for use in foodstuffs. The standard lists all natural and artificial flavors as well as flavor enhancers permitted for use in food products intended for human consumption.
- Gulf Standard No. 356/1994 lists preservatives permitted for use in food products. See appendix II for preservatives permitted in foodstuffs.
- Gulf Standard No. 381/1994 lists emulsifiers, stabilizers and thickeners permitted for use in foodstuffs (see appendix II for permitted list).
- Gulf Standard No. 995/1998 deals with sweeteners permitted for use in food products. Refer to appendix II for the list.
- SSA 73/1978 is concerned with Benzoic Acid, Sodium Benzoate and Potassium Benzoate Used in Preservation of Foodstuffs.

SSA 106/1978 lists permitted food additives in edible oils and fats

English copies of the above and other standards are available at the SASO. Interested U.S exporters can purchase them from SASO's information center. Please refer to appendix 1 for coordinates of the center.

SASO depends heavily on CODEX Alimentarius regulations and to some extent on European and U.S. standards when drafting most of Saudi or Gulf Standards including food additives, pesticide and other contaminants. The Kingdom sometimes bans CODEX's approved food additives if they are banned on health grounds by developed countries (mainly the United States and/or Europe) or if they contain substances banned for religious reasons.

V. PESTICIDE AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS

The Kingdom and other members of the Gulf Cooperation countries have developed positive pesticide and other contaminants lists. Per SASO the lists have international context as they were mainly adapted from CODEX Alimentarius standards. The following are the major Gulf/Saudi standards enforced in the Kingdom:

Gulf Standard No. 382/1994 "Maximum Limits for Pesticide Residues in Agricultural Food Products-Part 1" established the maximum limits for ten pesticide residues in foods and agricultural commodities or animal feed: Malathion, Bromophos, Diquat, Fenchlorfos, Pyrethrins, Quintozenze, Parathion, Orthophenyl Phenol, Methidathion and Fentin. Gulf Standard No. 422/1994 "Maximum Limits for Pesticide Residues in Agricultural Food Products-Part 2" establishes the maximum limits for nine pesticide residues in agricultural and food products intended for human consumption. The residues are: dimethoate, chlorfenvinphos, crufomate, diazinon, dioxathion, diphenyl, diphenylamine, ethoxyquin and folpet.

Gulf Standard No. 357/1994 "Antioxidants Permitted for use in Foodstuffs" lists antioxidants and antioxidants synergists permitted for use in food products. Refer to appendix II for permitted antioxidants.

Gulf Standard No. 841/1997 regulates the maximum limits aflatoxins permitted in foods and animal feeds.

Gulf Standard No. 988/1998 is concerned with limits of radioactivity levels (gemma rays, cesium 134, 137) permitted in foodstuffs, drinking water and animal feeding stuffs. The limits of radioactivity levels permitted in food products shall not exceed the following limits:

- 10 becquerel/kg or liter in water
- 30 becquerel/kg or liter in milk and its products
- 30 becquerel/kg liter in liter in baby foods
- 75 becquerel/kg or liter in other food products
- 300 becquerel/kg in animal feeds

For dried products requiring reconstitution, the limits are determined after it is reconstituted with water.

English copies of the above and other standards are available at the Saudi Arabian Standard Organization. Interested U.S. exporter can purchase them from SASO's information center. Please refer to appendix 1 for coordinates of the center.

The Ministry of Agriculture's (MAW) registers and enforces Saudi Arabian or Gulf standards on feed additives as well as pesticides used in agricultural products. Coordinates of the Ministry are found in Appendix I.

VI. OTHER REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

A. Product Registration

Herbal preparations, health and supplementary foods must be registered with the General Directorate of Medical and Pharmaceutical Licenses of the Saudi Ministry of Health in order to be marketed in the Kingdom. The registration is done through a local agent by submitting sample products and product brochures, which are studied and tested by the ministry's central laboratory. It takes about six months for the ministry to approve and license a product. The ministry charges about \$300 as a registration fee.

A U.S. exporter needs to submit the following documents through its local agent to the Ministry in order to initiate the product registration and licensing process:

1. Table of contents
2. An Authenticated copy of the agency registration certificate at the Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
3. When registering for herbal products, a copy of pharmaceutical wholesale license should be submitted by the local agent.
4. Certificate (s) issued by the health authorities in the country of origin clearly stating that the following should be provided:
 - ◆ The company is licensed to manufacture the products in the country of origin (state license number and date).
 - ◆ The company is permitted to sell the product in the country of origin (certificate of free sale)
 - ◆ The company follows good manufacturing practice.
 - ◆ Coloring agents, diluents and other incorporate substances in the product formula are permitted in the country of origin (if the free sale certificate states such information it will be sufficient).
 - ◆ Package insert and applicable information stated on the pack are the same as that approved and currently marketed in the country of origin. Package insert shall be in Arabic and English languages. The company is obliged to add and/or delete any information required for handling the product in the Kingdom as determined by the registration committee.
5. A certificate issued by the company and authenticated by the relevant authorities in the country of origin clearly stating the following information about the product:
 - ◆ Registration number and date and date of marketing in the country of origin.
 - ◆ Trade and/or generic name.
 - ◆ Full composition (the scientific name of active and inactive ingredients and their quantities)
 - ◆ Therapeutic category (if any).

- ◆ The composition of product to be exported to the kingdom is the same as that market in the country of origin.
 - ◆ Names of countries where the product is currently marketed.
 - ◆ A certificate of analysis indicating the results of completed analyses for the submitted samples.
 - ◆ If the product contains ingredients of animal source the kind of animal must be specified.
 - ◆ Percentage of alcohol in the finished product, if present, should be indicated with justification of that percentage.
6. Full specifications and methods of analyses of the finished product, as well as stability study and data including storage conditions.
7. Six samples of the product as well as samples of the outer package and product's label.
8. Abstracts of scientific references brochures and international scientific periodicals testifying to the efficacy and safety of the product.

B. Products Inspection

With the exception of herbal preparations, health and supplementary foods (inspected by the Ministry of Health) and live animals, plants, seeds and animal feed (inspected by the Ministry of Agriculture), all imported foodstuffs are inspected by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry inspectors at the port of entry. If a consignment is rejected for not adhering to pertinent Saudi Standards or gulf standards, the importer is requested to re-export or destroy the product.

C. Imports of Samples

Samples destined to potential Saudi buyers or for display in Food Shows are exempt from Saudi labeling and shelf life regulations, but are subject to inspection at ports of entry. Samples, which are usually sent to Saudi Arabia by D.H.L. and similar carriers, must be accompanied by a commercial invoice specifying that the product is not for sale and has no commercial value.

D. Foodstuff Monitoring

The Environmental Protection Department at the Ministry of Municipality and Rural Affairs is responsible for establishing nationwide food sanitation laws and guidelines. Monitoring of products already in the market is done by inspectors at the municipality levels. The authorities inspect retailers, wholesalers, restaurants, bakeries, fast food chains, vegetable and meat markets for expiration dates, sanitary and storage conditions as well as product handling. Outlets found selling unhygienic or expired products are exposed to stiff financial fines, temporary closure or both.

F. Certification and Documents Requirements

All food products, whether imported for commercial purpose, or for display, or for sampling, must be fit for human consumption and should be within the shelf life set. The products

must have label or sticker showing the statutory information such as product name, country of origin, producer's name and address, production and expiry dates, etc., at least in English language.

For commercial importation, the following documents are required:

1. Commercial invoice showing FOB price, freight and CFR value
2. Health certificate from the country of origin
3. Halal slaughter certificate for meat and meat products. Halal certificate is also required for cheese and cheese products if they contain rennet of animal origin.
4. Certificate of origin
5. Phytosanitary certificate for grain, grain products, edible nuts, fruits, vegetables, etc.,
6. Bill of lading or airway bill.
7. Packing list (highly recommended to expedite product inspection and clearing process)
8. Weight list (for grain)

Any U.S./Arab Chamber of Commerce, U.S. Saudi Arabian Business Council, or U.S. Chamber of Commerce located in the city or area where the exporting firm is based must attest the first five documents listed above. Afterwards, the documents should be forwarded to a Saudi Consulate or the Saudi Embassy in the U.S. for a final attestation.

For small samples, simple documentation as follows is required:

- * Invoice, showing consignee's name and address, details of product/s and also origin of goods.
- * Packing list, if there are many items.

The above documents do not require legalization by the Saudi mission. An exporting company stamp and signature are sufficient. It is advisable to show on the invoice a nominal value of \$5 - \$10 for Customs purpose, with a statement that the goods are "Not For Sale – No Commercial Value"

For clearance of sea or airfreight cargo, a full set of documentation is required while for cargo sent by courier which do not require special certifications such as Halal, an invoice and country of origin certificate will be sufficient, provided the value is not more than \$3,000.

VII. OTHER SPECIFIC STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS

A. Certificate of Islamic Slaughter

Per Saudi Arabia Standard No. SSA 630/1990 (Animal Slaughtering Requirements According to Islamic Law), a Certificate of Islamic Slaughter must be issued for all meat and poultry products entering the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This certificate issued by Islamic institutions recognized by the Saudi Embassy or Consulates in the United States. Information related to the approved Islamic institutions may be obtained from the Saudi Embassy in Washington or the nearest Saudi Consulate (New York, Houston, or Los Angeles). Such certificates contain language certifying Islamic slaughter. The following language was taken from a recently issued Islamic Slaughtering certificate issued in the United States:

" This is to certify that an Islamic representative inspected the above slaughter facility. The healthy animals/and or/poultry were inspected within 12 hours previous to slaughter by the United States Department of Agriculture official veterinarian. After processing, inspection

was made and approved by the USDA Government Health inspector. Further, the animals and /or poultry were slaughtered under the following statement, "slaughtered and processed in the name of God, the Almighty, Most Gracious, Most Merciful, God is Greatest." Bismillahi Rahmani Rahim-Allahu Akbar. The animals and /or poultry covered by this certificate were slaughtered by means of a sharp knife, cutting through the skin, jugular vein, and trachea, to result in thorough bleeding of the carcass in preparation for dressing and evisceration.

B. Baby Foods

There are two Saudi Arabian standards that establish quality specification for baby foods.

Canned Baby Foods and infant foods based on milk are regulated by SSA 676/1992 and SSA 675/1994 respectively. Copies of the standards can be purchased from the SASO's Information Center.

C. Frozen Chickens

SSA 117/1979 deals with frozen chickens standard. Per the regulation, imported frozen chickens must meet the Islamic slaughtering requirements mentioned above. The standard also calls for salmonella testing for imported frozen chickens. If the result of the test is positive in more than one sample out of five samples tested, the whole shipment is rejected.

D. Animal Feed and Hormone Free Requirements:

Livestock and poultry meat products imported to the Kingdom still face the 2001 Ministry of Commerce and Industry's meat import regulations which among other things call for government attested certificate attesting that the animal slaughtered is not feed on animal protein or treated with growth hormones. These requirements have sharply reduced imports of U.S. livestock and poultry meat and products to the Kingdom. Below are the rules & conditions governing the imports of meat & meat products to **the** Kingdom as spelled out in the Ministerial decree number **123** issued on April 10, 2001.

- 1- Hereby bans are placed on importing of all kinds of chilled, frozen and canned beef, veal, mutton and poultry meats along with all by-products thereof from any country infested with epidemic included in the Veterinary Quarantine Regulation applicable in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- 2- All consignments of all kinds of chilled, frozen and canned beef, veal, mutton and poultry meats along with all by-products thereof shall be in compliance with the standard specifications applicable in Saudi Arabia, namely, SSA No. 44/1998 "Fresh Beef and Mutton," SSA No. 116/1999 "Chilled and Frozen Beef and Mutton," SSA No. 626 "General Conditions for Transportation & Storage of Chilled and Frozen Foodstuff," SSA No. 630 "Conditions of Slaughtering According to Islamic Sharia," SSA No. 890 "Directory of the Materials added to Poultry Forage according to the safety of their usage" and SSA No. 959 "Health Conditions of Poultry Slaughtering Houses and workers."
- 3- The card shall satisfy all the data stated in Saudi standard specifications No. 1/95 (Label of packaged foodstuffs).
- 4- All imported consignments of meats and poultry shall be attached with an official Islamic slaughtering certificate issued from the competent authority in the country of origin, containing the date of slaughtering and the average age of the slaughtered animal and confirming that the slaughtering is made in an abattoir licensed to practice works in accordance with Islamic Sharia, that the animal was subject to

- examination not more than 12 hours a head of the slaughtering and immediately after slaughtering by a certified vet and that the meats of such slaughtered animals are healthy, free of diseases and good for human use. Such certificate must be legalized by Saudi Consulate in the country of origin.
- 5- The abattoir shall satisfy all the requirements of Saudi Standard Specifications No. S.S.S.220/84 (Health Requirements in Foodstuff Factories and Workers).
 - 6- The abattoir shall not be used for slaughtering pigs.
 - 7- A certificate authenticated by the official authorities, stating the meats types and the samples names and confirming that the animals and poultry are not fed with animal-protein, animal-fats or animal-manure-manufactured forages and that the animals and poultry are not treated with any materials containing hormone activity such as growth stimulants shall be attached with each consignment.
 - 8- Each consignment shall be without offal, dangerous organs, spinal cord, head, limbs and kidneys fat. A part of the tail may be left so as to identify the animal's species.
 - 9- The meats shall maintain their qualities and shall be free of signs of decay and all harmful materials.
 - 10- In case the frozen meats consignment, the period between butchering and date of arrival into Saudi Arabia shall not exceed four months. Until delivery to the customers, the meats shall be kept under not more than -18°C .
 - 11- The packing materials shall not leave any poisonous or harmful the meat or make it contaminated by any undesirable materials. The carcass and parts shall be packed with a soft, porous and clean cloth in addition to kraft paper of polyethylene in case of frozen meats.
 - 12- Slices meats shall be packed in waxed cartons or polyethylene, and all the data shall be stated

E. Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP)

On February 9, 2003, the Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Industry issued the Ministerial decree number 2436 to all Chambers of Commerce in the country requiring the **insertion of a new clause in health certificates accompanying imported meat and meat products** to make sure that the abattoirs used to produce meat & meat products exported to the Kingdom implement the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) as a system of production process control.

Following is the summary of unofficial translation of a copy of the new decree number 2436:

Reference is made to the Ministerial decree #123 of April 10, 2001 which spelled out the rules and regulations to be followed when importing all types of meat: chilled, frozen or canned beef, veal, mutton, goat meat and poultry meat and their by products from safe origins to the Saudi Arabian.

Based on the need to protect consumer safety and health, it is required to implement the HACCP regime in all abattoirs producing meat and meat products. To facilitate this, a further Ministerial decree number 2436 was issued on February 8, 2003. The decision requires the insertion of a new clause, referred to as number 13, to the general regulations and condition

to be followed when meat and meat products are imported to Saudi Arabia. The text of the clause # 13 should read as follows:

"The abattoir (s) implements HACCP procedures in all stages of meat and meat"

F. Animal Quarantine Regulations

Over the years, Saudi Arabia has banned cattle, meat and meat products imports for health reasons. Cattle imports from countries affected by Mad Cow" disease, or Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), Foot and Mouth, and Cattle Plaque diseases have been banned for several years. Cattle imports from countries not affected by the diseases are subjected to strict quarantine regulations on arrival at Saudi ports. The country also bans meat and meat derivatives from countries affected by BSE (the Kingdom banned live cattle and cattle meat imports from Washington State due to the BSE case in that State). Saudi Arabia also banned transshipped livestock meat through countries banned from exporting meat and meat products because of infestation by BSE, FMD and other animal diseases. In addition it requested additional statements on the health certificate accompanying livestock and poultry meat shipment to indicate that the animals slaughtered for export to the Kingdom were not fed animal ruminants and were not treated with growth hormones.

Imports of live poultry, poultry meat and products are banned from countries affected by bird flu. Imports of live poultry are also banned from countries with the West Nile Virus epidemic.

VIII. COPYRIGHT AND/OR TRADEMARK LAWS

Royal Decree No. M/5 and Resolution of Council of Ministers No. 75 dated 1984 regulate trademark registration laws in the Kingdom. According to the decree, trademarks are registered with the Trademark Registration Department of the Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Industry through a local agent or lawyer.

Once registration application is received, the Trademark Registration Department will require one month time to study the presented documents to decided on the request. If an application is approved, the department will publish the trademark in the official government Arabic language newspaper (Hum Al-Qura) with the cost of publication paid by the agent or owner of the trademark. The total registration cost is estimated at about \$2,000. Registered trademarks are protected for 10 years and can be renewed for another similar period or periods without any new inspection after republishing it in the official paper.

IX. IMPORT PROCEDURES

The majority of Saudi food imports enter the country via Jeddah port on the Red Sea or Dammam port on the Arabian Gulf. About 60-70 percent of all foodstuffs enter Jeddah port. Imports from Jordan, Syria, and nearby countries enter the Kingdom by truck.

King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh and King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah also receive significant quantities of food items, particularly fresh fruits, vegetables and chilled meat. Fresh and chilled products are usually cleared within 24 hours of arrival.

Customs Clearance

As stated earlier, foodstuff shipments must be accompanied by commercial invoice, health certificates and other documents listed in page 9. An importer translates the commercial invoice into Arabic language (per Saudi customs requirements) and hands it to his customs clearing agent

along with the other required documents in order to start customs clearing process. Containers can be cleared in less than ten days provided all required documents are in order and imported products meet Saudi Arabian/Gulf specifications. If products are rejected by one of the Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Industry laboratories at a port of entry, an importer can appeal for re-test to the Director General of the Quality Control and Inspections Department of the Ministry. If an appeal is accepted, the Director General orders a sample (s) sent and re-tested by another Ministry's laboratory located in a different port (city). If the second test authenticates the initial results, the exporter is ordered to re-export or destroy the product.

APPENDIX I. GOVERNMENT REGULATORY AGENCY CONTACTS

In Saudi Arabia, standards are set by the Saudi Arabian Standards Organization (SASO). The testing of imported goods is implemented by Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Industry Laboratories at various ports of entry. The following are coordinates for SASO and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry:

Dr. Khalid Al-Khalaf
Director General of SASO and Secretary General for Standardization & Metrology Org.
of the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries.
Tel. 966-1-452-0000
Fax: 966-1-452-0086

Saeed Al-Zahrani
Director Information Center
SASO
Tel: 966-1-452-0000, Extension 1335
Fax: 966-1-452-0193

Dr. Hamad Al-Awfy
Director General, Quality Control and Inspection Department
Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Tel: 966-1-401-3265
Fax: 966-1-402-8985.

Dr. Mohammed Al-Jasir
Director General
General Directorate of Nutrition Department
Ministry of Health
Tel: 966-1-464-0811
Fax: 966-1-464-5536

Mr. Mohammed Al-Issa
Director General
Environmental Protection
Ministry of Municipality and Rural Affairs
Tel: 966-1-442-1593
Fax: 966-1-441-6748

Live animals & plants and animal feed are inspected by the Saudi Ministry of Agriculture (MOA). Following are coordinates of some the important departments.

Dr. Abdul Ghaniy Al-Fadhl
Director General
Plant and Animal Quarantine Department
MOA
Tel: 966-1-404-4292
Fax: 966-1-401-1323

Mr. Khalid Al-Ahmed
Director General
Livestock Department (registers and tests feed additives)
MOA

Tel: 966-1-404-4555
Fax: 966-1-404-4265

Mr. Mohammed Al-Mazroa
Director General (registers and testes seeds as well as pesticides used in foodstuff)
Agricultural Research Department
MOA
Tel: 966-1-405-5848
Fax: 966-1-405-5848

APPENDIX II. LIST OF MAJOR FOOD ADDITIVES

Coloring Matters Used in Foodstuffs per Gulf Standard No. 23/1984

Table- 1: Natural colors permitted for use in coloring of foodstuffs

Color	Color Index Number 1971	Notes
<u>Red to Yellow Shades</u> Annatto Extract Beta-Carotene Beta-Apo-8-Carotenal Beta-Apo-8-Carotenoic Acid Canthaxanthin Carrot Oil	 75120 75130 40820 40825 40850	 Bixin, Norbixin
<u>Red to Purple Shade</u> Enocianina Beet Powder Paprika	 - - -	 Grape skin extract (anthocyanine)
<u>Orange and Yellow Dyes</u> Saffron Turmeric Powder Curcumine Turmeric Oleoresin Riboflavin	 75100 75300 75300 - -	
<u>Green Dyes</u> Chlorophyll Chlorophyll copper complex	 75810 75810	
<u>Brown Dyes</u> Caramel Caramel	 - -	 Plain Made by the ammonium sulphite process
<u>Black Dyes</u> Toasted partially defatted cooked cotton seed flour	 -	
<u>Inorganic Dyes</u> Titanium dioxide Iron oxides	 77891 77489	 White dye 6

Color	Color Index Number 1971	Notes
Gold Aluminum Silver	77480 77000 77820	Metallic Metallic
<u>Different Dyes</u>		
Fruit juices Vegetable juices	- -	

TABLE – 2: Permitted synthetic colors for use in foodstuff

Color	Color Index Number 1971	Chemical Formula	Notes
<u>Red Colors</u> Azorubine	14720	C20 H12 N2 Na2 O7 S2	Food Red 3 (carmoisine)
Erythrosine	45430	C20 H6 I4 Na2 O5	Food Red 14
Ponceau 4 R	16255	C20 H11 N2 Na3 O10 S3	Food Red 7
Red 2G	18050	C18 H13 N3 Na2 O8 S2	Food Red 10
FD & C Red 40	16035	C18 H14 N2 Na2 O8 S2	Food Red17 (Allura Red)
<u>Yellow Colors</u> Sunset Yellow FCF	15985	C16 H10 N2 Na2 O7 S2	Food Yellow 3
Tartrazine	19140	C16 H9 N4 Na3 O9 S2	Food Yellow 4
Quinoline Yellow	47005	C18 H9 N Na2 O8 S2	Food brown 13
<u>Brown Colors</u> Chocolate brown HT	20285	C27 H18 N4 Na2 O9 S2	Food brown 3
<u>Green Colors</u> Fast green FCF	42053	C37 H34 N2 Na2 O10 S3	Food green 3
<u>Blue Colors</u> Indigotine	73015	C16 H8 N2 Na2 O8 S2	Food blue 1(Indigo carmine)
Brilliant Blue FCF	42090	C37 H34 N2 Na2 O9 S2	Food blue 2
<u>Black Colors</u> Brilliant Black PN	28440	C28 H17 N5 Na4 O14 S4	Food black 1

TABLE – 3: Requirements for synthetic colors

Property	Purity (dye) % Min.	Volatile* Matter at 135C % Max.	Water Insoluble % Max.	Ether Extract % Max.	Subsidiary % Max.
Azorubine	85	15	0.2	0.2	2
Erythrosine	85	15	0.2	0.2	-
Ponceau 4R	82	18	0.2	0.2	2
Red 2G	82	18	0.2	0.2	2
Sunset Yellow FCF	85	15	0.2	0.2	4
Tartrazine	85	15	0.2	0.2	1
Quinoline Yellow	-	-	0.2	0.2	-
Chocolate Brown HT	80	20	-	0.2	15
Fast green FCF	85	15	0.2	0.2	1
Indigotine	85	15	0.2	0.2	1
Brilliant Blue FCF	85	15	0.2	0.2	3
Brilliant Black PN	84	15	0.2	0.2	4
FD & C Red 40	85	14	0.2	-	-

TABLE – 4: Number of containers selected as sample from coloring matter

Lot size	Number of containers to be selected
2 - 15	2
16 - 40	3
41 - 65	4
66 - 110	7
More than 110	10

PERMISSIBLE DAILY INTAKE OF THE COLORING MATERIALS PER BODY WEIGHT
ANNEX - 1

Colors	*ADI	Colors	*ADI
Annatto	0-1.25	Iron oxides	0-0.5
Azorubine	0-1.25	Ponceau 4 R	0-0.125
Beta-Carotene	0-5	Quinoline Yellow	0-0.5
Beta-Apo-8-Carotenal	0-5	Red 2 G	0-0.006
Beta-Apo-8-Carotenoic acid	0-5		
Beet powder	-	Riboflavin	0-0.5
Brilliant black PN	0.2.5	Sunset yellow FCF	0-5
Brilliant blue FCF	0-12.5	Tartrazine	0-7.5
Canthaxanthine	0-25	Titanium Dioxide	-
Caramel	-	FD & C Red 40	-
Caramel made by ammonium			
Sulphite process	0-100	Aluminum	-
Chlorophyll	-	Enocianine	-
Chlorophyll copper complex	0-15		-

Colors	*ADI	Colors	*ADI
Chocolate brown HT	0-0.25	Carrot oil	
Turmeric	0-2.5		
Curcumine	0-0.1		
Erythrosine	0-2.5		
Fast green FCF	0-12.5		
Gold	-		
Indigotine	0-5		

* <<Acceptable Daily Intake>> expressed as mg/kg body weight.

Preservatives Permitted for Use in Food Products per Gulf Standard No. 356/1994

Preservatives	EEC No.	Preservatives	EEC No.
Sorbic acid	200	Diphenyl (Biphenyl)	230
Sodium sorbat	201	Orthophenyl phenol	231
Potassium sorbat	202	Sodium Orthophenyl phenate	232
Calcium sorbat	203	Thiabendazole	233
Benzoic acid	210	Formic acid	236
Sodium benzoate	211	Sodium formate	237
Potassium benzoate	212	Calcium formate	238
Calcium benzoate	213	Hexamine (heamethylene tetramine)	239
Ethyl P-Hydroxy benzoate	214	Potassium nitrite	249
Ethyl P-Hydroxy benzoate	215	Sodium nitrite	250
Sodium	216	Sodium nitrite	251
Propyl P-Hydroxy benzoate	217	Sodium nitrite	252
Propyl P-Hydroxy benzoate		Potassium nitrite	260
Sodium	218	Acetic acid	261
Methyl P-Hydroxy benzoate	219	Potassium acetate	262
Methyl P-Hydroxy benzoate		Sodium diacetate	263
Sodium	220	Calcium acetate	270
Sulphur dioxide	221	Lactic acid	280
Sodium sulphite	222	Propionic acid	281
Sodium bisulphite	223	Sodium propionate	282
Sodium metabisulphite	224	Calcium propionate	283
Potassium metabisulphite	226	Potassium propionate	290
Calcium sulphite	227	Carbon dioxide	
Calcium bisulphite	-	Calcium disodium ethylene diamine tetra-acetate	-
Natamycin (pimaricin)	-	Disodium ethylene diamine tetra acetate	-
Nisin		Heptyl Paraban	-

Antioxidants Permitted for Use in Foodstuffs per Gulf Standard No. 357/1994

EEC NO.	Antioxidant
220	Sulphur dioxide
221	Sodium sulphite
222	Sodium bisulphite
223	Sodium metabisulphite
224	Potassium metabisulphite
226	Calcium sulphite
300	L-ascorbic acid
301	Sodium ascorbate
302	Calcium ascorbate
304	Ascorbyl palmitate
306	Tocopherol (from nature sources)
307	Alpha-tocopherol (synthetic)
308	Gamma-tocopherol (synthetic)
309	Delta-tocopherol (synthetic)
310	Propyl gallate
311	Octyl gallate
312	Dodecyl gallate
320	Butylated hydroxyanisole
321	Butylated hydroxy toluene
322	Lecithin
-	Isoascorbic acid (erythorbic) and its sodium salt
-	Tertiary butyl hydroquinone
-	Trihydroxy butrophenone
-	Thiodipropionic acid
-	4-Hydroxymethyl 2-6 ditert butyl phenol
-	Guaiac resin (guaiac gum artificial)
270	Lactic acid
325	Sodium lactate
326	Potassium lactate
327	Calcium lactate
330	Citric acid
331	Sodium citrate
332	Potassium citrates
333	Calcium citrates
334	Tartaric acid
335	Sodium tartrates
336	Potassium tartrate
337	Sodium Potassium tartrate
338	Orthophosphoric acid
339	Sodium orthophosphate
340	Potassium orthophosphate
341	Calcium orthophosphate
472	Citric acid esters of mono and di-glycerides of fatty acids (citroglycerides)
-	Phosphoric acid
-	Ethylenediamine tetra-acetic calcium disodium
385	Ethylenediamine tetra-acetic disodium
-	

EEC NO.	Antioxidant

Emulsifiers , Stabilizers and Thickeners Permitted for use in Food Products *

E.E.C No.	NAME
322	Lecthins
339	Sodium orthophosphates : - mono sodium dihydrogen phosphates - di sodium mono hydrogen phosphates - tri sodium phosphates
340	Potassium orthophosphates - mono potassium dihydrogen phosphates - di potassium mono hydrogen phosphates - tri potassium phosphates.
341	Calcium orthophosphates. - mono calcium tetra hydrogen di phosphates. - mono calcium mono hydrogen phosphates. - tri calciums di phosphates.
400	Alginic acid.
401	Sodium alginate
402	Potassium alginate
403	Ammonium alginate
404	Calciums alginate
405	Propane-1,2-diol alginate (Glycol propalin alginate)
406	Agar
407	Carrageenan
410	Locust bean gum
-	Ghatti gum
412	Guar gum
413	Tragacanth
414	Acacia
415	Xanthan gum
416	Karaya gum
420	Sorbitol, sorbitol syrup.
421	Mannitol
422	Glycerol
430	Polyoxyethylene (8) stearate
432	Polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan monolaurate.
433	Polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan mono-oleate.
434	Polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan mono-palmitate.
435	Polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan mono-stearate.
-	Polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan tri stearate.
436	Polyoxyethylene (8) sorbitan tri-stearate.
-	Polyoxyethylene (40) stearate.
440A	Pectin
440B	Amidated pectin
442	Ammonium salts of phosphatidic acid
450	Sodium and potassium polyphosphates.
450A	Diphosphates. - di sodium dihydrogen di phosphate. - tri sodium mono hydrogen diphosphate .

450B	- tetra sodium di phosphate. - tetra potassium diphosphate. Triphosphates. - penta sodium tri phosphates - penta potassium tri phosphates
450C	Polyphosphates
460	Micro crystalline cellulose.
461	Methylcellulose.
463	Hydroxypropyl cellulose.
464	Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose.
465	Ethylmethylcellulose.
466	Carboxymethylcellulose.
470	Sodium, potassium and calcium salts of fatty acids.
471	Mono-and di-glycerides of fatty acids.
472A	Acetic acid esters of mono-and di-glycerides of fatty acids.
472B	Lactic acid esters of mono-and di-glycerides of fatty acids.
472C	Citric acid esters of mono-and di-glycerides of fatty acids.
472D	Tartaric acid esters of mono-and di-glycerides of fatty acids.
472E	Mono-and diacetylartaric acid esters of mono-and di-glycerides of fatty acids.
472F	acids.
473	Mixed acetic and tartaric acid esters of mono-and di-glycerides of fatty acids.
474	acids.
475	Sucrose esters of fatty acids.
476	Sucroglycerides.
477	Polyglycerol esters of fatty acids.
479	Polyglycerol polyricinoleate.
480	Propane-1,2-diols of esters of fatty acid.
481	Esters of glycerol and thermally oxidized soybean fatty acid.
482	Diethyl sodium sulfosuccinate.
483	Sodium stearyl -2- lactylate
491	Calcium stearyl -2- lactylate
492	Stearyl tartrate.
493	Sorbitan monostearate
494	Sorbitan tristearate
495	Sorbitan monolaurate Sorbitan mono oleate Sorbitan mono palmitate
-	Amylose and amylopectin
-	Calcium acetate
-	Cholic acid
-	Desoxy cholic acid
-	Modified starch
-	Polydextroses A x N
-	Potassium sodium L (+) tartrate
-	Tartric acid
-	Polyvinyl pyrrolidone
-	Sodium casinate
-	Succinylated monoglycerides
-	Sodium stearyl fumarate
-	Gelatin edible
-	Sorboyl palmitate
-	Stearyl citrate
-	Stearyl tartrate

-	Stearyl monoglyceridyl citrate.
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* SOURCE: Saudi Arabian Standard No. 709/1994.

APPENDIX III. PRODUCTS IMPORTED DUTY FREE

Because Saudi Arabia is largely desert, crop production depends entirely on irrigation, mainly from non-renewable underground water. Recognizing the country's limited agricultural potential, the Saudi Government has exempted selected foodstuffs, feed, and livestock from import duties. Food and agricultural products imported duty free are as follows:

HS Code	Category
	Live Horses, asses, mules and hinnies
	-Pure-bred breeding animals
01011010	Horses of Arab breed
01011020	Other
	-Other
01019010	Horses for sport
01019020	Ponies
01019030	Asses
01019040	Mules
01019050	Hinnies
01019090	Other
	-Live bovine animals
01021000	Pure-bred breeding animals
01029000	Other
01041010	Pure-bred breeding animals
01041090	Other
01042010	Pure-bred breeding animals
01042090	Other
	Live poultry, that is to say, fowls of the species Gallus domesticus, ducks, geese, turkeys and guinea fowls
	-Weighing not more than 185g:
01051100	Fowls of the species Gallus domesticus
01051200	Turkeys
01051900	Other
	-Other

	Fowls of the species Gallus domesticus, weighing not more than 2000g:
01059210	Hens (for laying eggs)
01059220	Chickens (for meat)
01059230	Hens
01059290	Other
	Fowls of the species Gallus domesticus, weighing more than 2000g:
01059310	Hens (for laying eggs)
01059320	Chickens (for meat)
01059330	Hens
01059390	Other
	Other
01059910	Tame ducks and geese
01059920	Turkeys
01059990	Other
	Other live animals
	-Mammals
01061100	Primates
01061200	Whales, dolphins and porpoises (mammals of the order Cetacea), manatees and dugongd (mammals of the order Sirenia)
01061910	Camels
01061920	Tame and wild rabbits
01061930	Gazelles and deer
01061940	Dogs
01061950	Foxes, minks and other fur animals
01061960	Animals for zoos, scientific and research labs
01061990	Other
01062000	Reptiles (including snakes and turtles)
	-Birds
01063100	Birds of prey:
01063200	Psittaciformes (including parrots, parakeets, macaws and cockatoos)

01063910	Tame and Wild pigeons, partridges, pheasants, quail, snipe, sand grouse, wild ducks and similar animals
01063920	Ornamental birds
01063990	Other
	Other
01069010	Bees and other insects
01069090	Other
02011000	Carcasses and half-carcasses
02012000	Other cuts with bone in
02013000	Boneless
02041000	Carcasses and half-carcasses of lamb, fresh or chilled
	Other meat of sheep, fresh or chilled
02042100	Carcasses and half-carcasses
02042200	Other cuts with bone in
02042300	Boneless
02045011	Fresh or chilled
02045021	Fresh or chilled
	Boneless:
02045031	Fresh or chilled
02068010	Sheep and goat offal, fresh
02081010	Fresh or chilled
	Live fish
03011000	Ornamental fish
	Other live fish:
	Trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i> , <i>Onchorynchus mykiss</i> , <i>Onchorynchus clarki</i> , <i>Onchorynchus aguabonita</i> , <i>Onchorynchus gilae</i> , <i>Onchorynchus apache</i> and <i>Onchorynchus chrysogaster</i>):
03019110	For breeding
03019190	Other
	Eels (<i>Anguilla</i> spp.)
03019210	For breeding

03019290	Other
	Carp:
03019310	For breeding
03019390	Other
	Other:
03019910	For breeding
03019920	Tilapia (Tilapia Nilotica), Sarotherodonspp.)
03019990	Other
	Fish, fresh or chilled, excluding fish fillets and other fish meat of heading
	Salmonidae, excluding livers and roes:
03021100	Trout (Salmo trutta Onchorynchus mykiss, Onchorynchus clarki, Onchorynchus aguabonita, Onchorynchus gilae, Onchorynchus gilae, Onchorynchus apache and Onchorynchus chrysogaster)
03021200	Pacific Salmon (Onchorynchus nerka, Onchorynchus gorbuscha, Onchorynchus keta, Onchorynchus tshawtscha, Onchorynchus kisutch, Onchorynchus masou and Onchorynchus rhodurus). Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) and Danube salmon(Hucho Hucho)
03021900	Other
	Flat fish (Pleuronectidae, Bothidae, Cynoglossidae, Soleidae, Scophthalmidae and Citharidae), excluding livers and roes:
03022100	Halibut (Reinhardtius Hippoglossoides, Hippoglossus hippoglossus, hippoglossus stenolepsis)
03022200	Plaice (Pleuronectes platessa)
03022300	Sole (Solea spp.)
03022900	Other
	Tunas (of the genus Thunnus) skipjack or stripe-bellied bonito (Euthynnus (Katsuwonus) Pelamis), excluding livers and roes:
03023100	Albacore or longfinned tunas (Thunnus alalunga)
03023200	Yellowfin tunas (Thunnus albacares)
03023300	Skipjack or stripe-bellied bonito
03023400	Bigeye tunas (Thunnus obesus)
03023500	Bigeye tunas (Thunnus thynnus)

03023600	Southern Bluefin tunas
03023900	Other
03024000	Herrings (<i>Clupea harengus</i> , <i>Clupea pallasii</i>), excluding livers and roes
03025000	Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i> , <i>Gadus ogac</i> , <i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>), excluding livers and roes
	Other fish, excluding livers and roes
03026100	Sardines (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i> , <i>Sardinops</i> spp), sardinella (<i>Sardinella</i> spp.), bnsling or sprats (<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>)
03026200	Haddock (<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>)
03026300	Coalfish (<i>Pollachius virens</i>)
	Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>, <i>Scomber australasicus</i>, <i>Scomber japonicus</i>)
03026410	Kingfish (<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>)
03026420	Indian mackerel (<i>Rastrelliger Kanagurta</i>)
03026490	Other
03026500	Dogfish and other sharks
03026600	Eels (<i>Anguilla</i> spp.)
	Other
03026910	Groupers (All genus following the family Serranidae)
03026920	Emperors (<i>Lethrinus</i> spp.), (<i>Monotaxis</i> spp.)
03026930	Snappers/Jobfishes (All genus following the family: Lutjanidae)
03026940	Jacks, Trevallies and Scads (All genus following the family : Carangidae)
03026950	Pomfret (<i>Pampus argenteus</i> , <i>parastromateus niger</i>)
03026960	Sibalti, Shamm, Nahhash, Fresh
03026970	Nigroor fish
03026980	Striped mullet (<i>Mugil cephalus</i>)
	Other
03026991	Safi fish
03026999	Other
03027000	Livers and roes
	Crustaceans, whether in shell or not, live, fresh, chilled, frozen, dried, salted or in brine, crustaceans, in shell, cooked by steaming or by boiling in

	water, whether or not chilled, frozen, dried, salted or in brine, flour, meals and pellets of crustace.
	Frozen:
03061100	Rock lobster and other sea crawfish (Palinurus spp., Panulirus spp., Jasus spp.)
03061200	Lobsters (Homarus spp.)
03061300	Shrimps and prawns
03061400	Crabs
03061900	Other, Including flours, meals and pellets or crustaceans, fit for human consumption
	Not frozen:
03062100	Rock lobster and other sea crawfish (Palinurus spp., Panulirus spp., Jasus spp.)
03062200	Lobsters (Homarus spp.)
03062300	Shrimps and prawns
03062400	Crabs
03062900	Other, including flours, meals and pellets of crustaceans, fit for human consumption
04070011	For hatching
06011000	Bulbs, tubers, tuberous roots, corms, crowns and rhizomes, dormant
06012000	Bulbs, tubers, tuberous roots, corms, crowns and rhizomes, In growth or in flower, chicory plants and roots
	Unrooted cuttings and slips:
06021010	Grapevines (Grapeslips)
06021090	Other
	Trees, shrubs and bushes, grafted or not, of kinds which bear edible fruit or nuts:
06022010	Palm tree seedling
06022090	Other
07011000	Seed
07019000	Other
07020000	Tomatoes, fresh or chilled.
	Onions, shallots, garlic, leeks and other alliaceous vegetables, fresh

	or chilled. Onions and shallots:
	Onions:
07031011	Onions for food(green or dry rind)
07031012	Onions (for sowing)
07031020	Shallots
07032000	Garlic
07039000	Leeks and other alliaceous vegetables
07041000	Cauliflowers and headed broccoli
07042000	Brussels sprouts
07049000	Other
	Lettuce (Lactuca sativa) and chicory (Cichorium spp.), fresh or chilled
	Lettuce:
07051100	Cabbage lettuce (head lettuce)
07051900	Other
	Chicory:
07052100	Witloof chicory (Cichorium intybus var. foliosum)
07052900	Other
	Carrots, turnips, salad beetroot, salsify, celeriac, radishes and similar edible roots, fresh or chilled.
07061000	Carrots and turnips
07069000	Other
07070000	Cucumbers and gherkins, fresh or chilled
	Leguminous vegetables, shelled or unshelled, fresh or chilled.
07081000	Peas (Pisum sativum)
07082000	Beans (Vigna spp., Phaseolus spp.)
	Other leguminous vegetables:
07089010	Beans
07089090	Other
	Other vegetables,. Fresh and chilled

07091000	Globe artichokes
07092000	Asparagus
07093000	Aubergines (egg-plants)
07094000	Celery other than celeriac
	Mushrooms and truffles:
07095100	Mushrooms
07095200	Truffles
07095900	Other
07096000	Fruits of the genus Capsicum or of the genus Pimenta
07097000	Spinach, New Zealand spinach and orache spinach (garden spinach)
	Other:
07099010	Pumpkins
07099020	Marrow
07099030	Olives
07099040	Okra
07099050	Parsley
07099060	Coriander
07099090	Other
	Beans of the species Vigna Mungo (L) Hepper or Vigna radiata (L)Wilczek:
07133110	For sowing
	Small red (Adzuki) beans (Phaseolus or Vigna angularis):
07133210	For sowing
	Kidney beans, including white pea beans (Phaseolus vulgaris):
07133310	For sowing
08030000	Bananas, including plantains, fresh or dried
	Figs:
08042010	Fresh
08042020	Dried
08043000	Pineapples
08044000	Avocados

	Guavas, mangoes and mangosteens:
08045010	Guavas
08045020	Mangoes
08045030	Mangosteens
	Citrus fruit, fresh or dried
08051000	Oranges
08052000	Mandarins (including tangerines and satsumas), clementines, wilkings and similar citrus hybrids
08054000	Grape fruit
	Lemons (citrus limon, Citrus limonum and limes (Citrus aurantifolia):
08055010	Fresh
08055020	Dried
08059000	Other
	Grapes, fresh or dried
08061000	Fresh
08062000	Dried
	Melons (including watermelons) and papaws (Papayas), fresh
	Melons (Including watermelons),
08071100	Watermelons
	Other:
08071910	Melon (muskmelon)
08071990	Other
08072000	Papaws (Papayas)
	Apples, pears and quinces, fresh
08081000	Apples
	Pears and quinces:
08082010	Pears
08082020	Quinces
	Apricots, cherries. Peaches (including nectarines), plums and sloes, fresh

08091000	Apricots
08092000	Cherries
08093000	Peaches, including nectarines
08094000	Plums and sloes
	Other fruit, fresh
08101000	Strawberries
08102000	Raspberries, blackberries, mulberries and loganberries
08103000	Black, white or red currants and gooseberries
08104000	Cranberries, bilberries and other fruits of the genus Vaccinium
08105000	Kiwi fruit
08106000	Durians
	Other:
08109010	Pomegranates
08109020	Medlar
08109030	Prickly pears
08109090	Other
	Coffee, not roasted:
09011100	Not decaffeinated
09011200	Decaffeinated
	Coffee roasted:
09012100	Not decaffeinated
09012200	Decaffeinated
09019000	Other
	Tea, whether or not flavored.
09021000	Green tea (not fermented) in immediate packing of a content not exceeding 3 kg
09022000	Other green tea (not fermented)
	Black tea (fermented) and partly fermented tea, in immediate packing of a content not exceeding 3 kg.
09023010	Tea bag not exceeding 3 kg

09023090	Other
09024000	Other black tea (fermented) and other partly fermented tea
09083000	Cardamoms
	Other
10011000	Durum wheat
10019010	Normal wheat
10019020	Thin wheat
10019030	Mixed wheat and rye
10030000	Barley
	Oats
10040010	Grey oats (or black)
10040020	White oats (or yellow)
	Maize (corn)
10051000	Seed
	Other
10059010	Golden corn
10059020	White corn
10059030	Brown corn
10059090	Other
	Rice
10061000	Rice in the husk (paddy or rough)
10062000	Husked (brown) rice
10063000	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed:
10064000	Broken rice
	Buckwheat, millet and canary seed, other cereals.
10081000	Buckwheat
10082000	Millet
10083000	Canary seed
10089000	Other cereals
11010020	Flour of mixed wheat and rye

	Cereal flours other than of wheat or meslin
11021000	Rye flour
11022000	Maize (corn) flour
11023000	Rice flour
	Other:
11029010	Barley flour
11029020	Oats flour
11029030	Grain sorghum flour
11029040	Buckwheat flour
11029050	Millet flour
11029090	Other
	Cereal groats, meal and pellets
	Groats and meal:
	Of wheat:
11031110	Groats
11031120	Meal
	Of Maize (Corn):
11031310	Groats
11031320	Meal
	Of other cereals:
11031910	Of barley:
11031920	Of sorghum cereals:
11031930	Of darnel:
11031940	Of black wheat:
11031950	Of millet:
11031990	Of other cereals:
11032000	Pellets:
12091000	Sugar beet seed
	Seed of forage plants

12092100	Lucerne (alfalfa) seed
12092200	Clover (Trifolium spp.) seed
12092300	Fescue seed
12092400	Kentucky blue grass (Poa pratensis L.) seed
12092500	Rye grass (Lolium multiflorum Lam., Lolium perenne L.) Seed
12092600	Timothy grass seed
	Other:
12092910	Lupines
12092990	Other
12093000	Seeds of herbaceous plants cultivated principally for their flowers
	Other
	Vegetable seeds:
12099110	Tomato seeds
12099120	Leek seeds
12099130	Radish seeds
12099140	Carrot seeds
12099150	Cucumber seeds
12099160	Marrow seeds
12099170	Pumpkin seeds
12099180	Eggplant seeds
	Other
12099191	Lettuce seeds
12099192	Cress seeds
12099193	Capsicum seeds
12099199	Other
12099900	Other
	Cane or beet sugar and chemically pure sucrose, in solid form.
	Raw sugar not containing added flavoring or coloring matter:
	Cane sugar:
17011110	For industrial refining and filting

17011190	Other
	Beet sugar:
17011210	For industrial refining and filtering
17011290	Other
	Other
17019100	Containing added flavoring or coloring matter
	Other:
	Filt (refing):
17019911	Crystals
17019912	Moulds
17019913	Castor
17019920	Sugar candy, neither flavored or colored
17019930	Chemically pure sucrose
17019990	Other
19011010	Infant food with milk base, no cocoa
19011020	Infant food with milk base, by weight under 5% cocoa
19011090	Other
21069070	Sweets, gum and the like (for diabetics, in particular) Containing synthetic sweetening agents (e.g. sorbitol) instead of sugar
23040000	Oil-cake and other solid residues, whether or not ground or in the form of pellets, resulting from the extraction of soyabean oil.

APPENDIX IV. TRADE BARRIERS**A. Products Subject to a Five Percent Import Tariff**

Saudi Arabia imposes a 5 percent import duty on all food and agricultural products with the exception of the following:

B. Products Subject to a 20 percent Customs Duty

The Kingdom justifies imposition of a 20 percent import duty when local production of a food or agricultural product meets or exceeds 40 percent of total consumption. This measure is aimed at protecting local production from competitively priced imports. The table below provides a list of products subject to a 20 percent import duty.

H.S. CODE	CATEGORY	Ad Valorem Duty Rate
0207.10.00- 0207.50.00	Meat and Offal of Poultry	20% (with minimum duty of US\$0.27 per Kg)
0208.10.10 & 0208.20.20	Meat of Rabbits or Hares, fresh, chilled or frozen	20% (with minimum duty of US\$0.27 per Kg)
0208.90.21 & 0208.90.22	Deer, and Gazelle	20% (with minimum duty of US\$0.27 per Kg)
0407.00.19 0408.11.00- 0408.99.00	Table eggs Birds' eggs, not in shells, fresh, cooked or dried	20% (with minimum duty of US\$0.16 per egg)
1302.19.30	Tahina (sesame concentrate)	
1701.99.11- 1701.99.31	Sugar (crystal, or varying refinement, cubes or blocks and powdered)	
1704.10.00	Chewing Gum	
1704.90.10- 1704.90.40 1704.90.60- 1704.90.90	Sugar Confectionery, Toffee and other	
1806.20.20- 1806.90.90	Sugar Confectionery Containing Cocoa (including Ice-Cream & Ice-Cream powder)	
1901.10.20	Infant Foods based on milk or milk prepared as substitute for mother's milk, containing less than 10%, by weight of cocoa	
1902.11.10	Macaroni and similar products such as spaghetti and pasta	

1904.10.10 1904.90.10	Prepared foods obtained by the swelling or roasting of cereals of cereal products containing cocoa
1905.30.10 & 1905.90.93	Sweet Biscuits and other Biscuits, whether or not salted
2105.00.00	Ice Cream and other edible ice, whether or not containing cocoa
2201.10.10 & 2201.90.10	Natural Mineral Waters & Ordinary Natural Waters
2501.00.10	Common Salt
4409.10.00- 4414.00.00	Molded Wood and Wooden Frames

C. Products Subject to a 12 percent Customs Duty

HS Code	Description
0406300000	Cheese, processed, not grated or powdered
0406400000	Cheese, blue-veined, Nesoi
0406901000	Cheese, cheddar, Nesoi
0710100000	Potatoes, uncooked or cooked by steaming or boiling in water, frozen
0902300000	Black Tea (Fermented) and partly fermented Tea, in immediate packing of a content not exceeding 3kg
1507904020	Soybean oil and its fractions, once-refined (Subject to alkalai or caustic wash but not bleached or deodorized), not chemically modified
1511900000	Palm oil and its Fractions, refined but not chemically modified
1512190020	Sunflower - seed oil and fractions thereof, refined, but not chemically modified
1513290000	Palm kernel or babassu oil and fractions thereof, refined but not chemically modified
1514900000	Rapeseed, Colza or Mustard oil and Fractions thereof, refined, but not chemically modified
1515290020	Corn (Maize) oil and its Fractions, once-refined (subject to Alkalai or caustic Wash but not bleached or deodorized) not chemically modified
1601000010	Sausages and similar products, of poultry, of chicken
1601000020	Sausages and similar products, of other poultry
1602509020	Prepared meals of the meat of bovine animals, containing cereals or vegetables

1901200005	Mixes and dough for the prep of cookies (sweet biscuits), waffles and wafers, containing cocoa powder in a proportion by weight of less than 40%
1901200015	Mixes and dough for the preparation of pastries, cakes and similar sweet baked products, including gingerbread, pudding, contain <40% cocoa powder
190220020	Pasta, stuffed, canned
1904100080	Prepared foods obtained by the swelling or roasting or cereals or cereal products, not containing cane and or beet sugar
1905400000	Rusks, toasted bread and similar toasted products
1905901041	Pastries, cakes, similar baked products and puddings, whether or not containing chocolate, fruit, nuts or confectionery, frozen
1905901049	Bread, biscuits and similar baked products, whether or not containing chocolate, fruit, nuts or confectionery, frozen
1905901080	Bread, biscuits and similar baked products, whether or not containing chocolate, fruit, nuts or confectionery, Nesoi
1905901050	Pastry, cakes, and similar sweet baked products, and puddings whether or not containing chocolate, fruit, nuts or confectionary, Nesoi
1905909030	Corn chips and similar crisp savory snack foods
2005200020	Potato chips, prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid, not frozen, other than products of heading 2006
2005400000	Peas (<i>Pisum sativum</i>), prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid, not frozen
2005512020	Cowpeas, black-eye, shelled, dried canned
2005514040	Beans (<i>Vigna</i> spp., <i>Phaseolus</i> spp.) except black-eye cowpeas, shelled, prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid, Nesoi not frozen
2008111000	Peanut butter
2009110020	Orange juice, unfermented, frozen in containers each holding less than 0.946 liter
2009204020	Grapefruit juice, unfermented, Nesoi, frozen
2009303000	Citrus, juice of single fruit, unfermented, not containing spirit, whether or not sweetened Nesoi, not concentrated
2009402000	Pineapple, juice, unfermented, not concentrated or having a degree of concentration not more than 3.5 degrees
2009500000	Tomato juice (dry wight content less than 7%)
2009600060	Grape juice including grape must, unfermented, concentrated, not frozen

2009700010	Apple juice, unfermented, concentrated, frozen
2009800000	Juice of any other single fruit or vegetable, unfermented not containing added spirit, whether or not sweetened, Nesoi
2009902000	Mixtures of vegetable juices, unfermented
2009904000	Mixtures of fruit juices, unfermented
2102100000	Yeasts, active
2102-	Yeasts, dead sing-cell micro-org Nesoi, baking powder
2102300000	Baking powders, prepared
2103202000	Tomato Ketchup
2103909020	Mayonnaise
2202903400	Orange juice fortified with vitamins or minerals, in non-concentrated form
2202909090	Nonalcoholic beverages, Nesoi, excluding fruit or vegetable juices of heading 2009

D. Products Subject to a 100 percent Customs Duty

Saudi Arabia imposes a minimum of 100 percent customs duty on tobacco and tobacco products. This high tariff was implemented to discourage smoking as well as to increasing government revenue.

H.S. CODE	Product Description	Tariff Rate
240110	Tobacco, not stemmed/stripped	100% or US\$5.33/kg
240120	Tobacco, partly or wholly stemmed/stripped	100% or US\$5.33/kg
240130	Tobacco refuse (waste)	100% or US\$5.33/kg
240210	Cigars, cheroots and cigarillos, containing tobacco	100% or US\$40/kg
240220	Cigarettes containing tobacco	100% or US\$26.67/kg
240290	Cigars, cheroots, cigarillos and cigarettes of tobacco substitutes, not containing tobacco	100% or US\$40/kg
240310	Smoking tobacco, whether or not containing tobacco substitutes in any proportion	100% or US\$10.67/kg
240391	Homogenized or reconstituted tobacco	100% or US\$10.67/kg
240399	Manufactured tobacco and its substitutes, nesoi, tobacco extracts and essences	100% or US\$1.6/kg

E. Products Banned from Importation

For religious reasons, Saudi Arabia bans imports of alcoholic beverages, live swine, pork and foodstuff ingredients or additives that contain pork products including pork fat, and gelatin. Meat and poultry shipments must be accompanied by a "Halal" slaughter certificate issued by an Islamic center in the country of origin.

Provided below are products banned by the Saudi Government:

H.S. CODE	CATEGORY
0103.10.00- 0103.92.00	Live Swine
0203.11.00- 0203.29.00 0206.30.00- 0206.49.00 0210.11.00- 0210.19.00	Meat & Offal of Swine, fresh, chilled or frozen
0205.00.90	Meat of Asses, Mules, or Hinnies, fresh, chilled or frozen
0208.20.00	Frog's legs
0908.20.00	Mace
1207.91.00- 1302.19.10	Poppy Seeds, Hemp Seeds, Opium and Hops
2203.00.10- 2206.00.00 2208.10.10- 2208.50.00 2208.90.90, 2307.00.10	Alcoholic Beverages
4107.10.00	Leather of Swine

F. Shelf Life

U.S. exporters must pay attention to "Shelf life" regulations issued by the Saudi Arabian Standards Organization (SASO). The shelf life for several products was reduced in 1993. Saudi Standard Number 702/1993 (Gulf Standard No. 150/1993) entitled "Expiration Periods of Food Products-Part One," modified expiration periods of selected food products. The shelf life of several products was halved, even though the expiration periods on others were actually increased.

The following table summarizes products subject to a shorter shelf life as a result Saudi Standard No. 702/1993:

Product	Type of packaging	Expiration period SSA 457/84	Expiration period SSA 702 (GS 150/93)
Spiced tomato sauce	Hermetically sealed: -metallic Containers -glass	24 months	12 months

	Containers	24 months	18 months
Tomato puree (pulp) & ketchup	Hermetically sealed: -metallic containers	18 months	12 months
Tomato sauce	Metallic containers Glass containers	N/a N/a	12 months 18 months
Strained baby foods	-tightly sealed glass containers & sterilized	24 months	12 months
Baby food in powder or granules form prepared from cereals, legumes, fruits or vegetables, etc.	-metallic containers packed under vacuum or in the presence of inert gas & tightly sealed	24 months	18 months

Food products requiring by its nature definite temperature for storing

Product	Type of packaging	Expiration period SSA 457/84	Expiration period GS 150/93
Beef & buffalo, meat	Suitable containers (temp. 0 c to (-2) c	4 weeks from slaughtering date	21 days
Mutton & goat meat	Suitable containers (temp. 0 c to (-2)	4 weeks from slaughtering date	14 days from slaughtering date