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Mexico

Honey

Final Rule for Labeling of Honey Products

NOM-145-SCFI-2000

2001

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Report Highlights:

On April 23, 2001, Mexico's Secretariat of Economy (SE) published the final regulation NOM-145-SCFI-2000, entitled, "Commercial Information – Labeling of Honey Products." It is schedule to take effect October 20, 2001.

Introduction: This report summarizes a Final Rule published in Mexico's "*Diario Oficial*" (Federal Register) on April 23, 2001.

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 Spanish, the latter shall prevail.

FAS/Mexico's Executive Summary: Mexico's Secretariat of Economy (SE) announced in the "*Diario Oficial*" (Federal Register) the Final Rule NOM-145-SCFI-2001, entitled, "Commercial Information – Labeling of Honey Products."

The final rule applies to the labeling of all honey products that are traded throughout the country. This final rule is an attempt to protect the final consumer from the problem that Mexico faces with honey adulterated with corn syrup and other similar sweeteners being sold as pure honey.

Title: Final Rule NOM-145-SCFI-ZOO-2000, Commercial Information -- Labeling of Honey Products.

Type of Regulation: Final

Background:

DATE	ACTION	FAS Rept #
11/11/2000	First published as a Proposed Rule PROY-NOM-145-SCFI-2000. A period of 60 calendar days for comments was set.	MX0169
27/11/2000	Notification before the World Trade Organization	N/A
06/04/2001	Answers to the comments for the Proposed Rule PROY-NOM-145-SCFI-2000.	N/A

Important Dates

1. **Publication Date:** April 23, 2001
2. **Effective Date:** October 20, 2001

Products Affected: All honey products in its various prepackaged presentations.

Agency in Charge: Secretariat of Economy (formerly SECOFI)

Important Features of the Final Regulation:

This rule covers all domestic and imported honey products in all prepackaged presentations that contains no preservatives nor added substances. Honey products that contain such substances must comply with NOM-051-SCFI-1994.

The information contained on labels of prepackaged honey products included in this rule must be clear and precise to avoid any misinterpretation regarding its nature and characteristics.

Information contained on the label can be in languages other than Spanish, provided the package also contains a Spanish label in equal sized fonts that is equally noticeable. Labels must comply with NOM-008-SCFI-1993 which establishes the General System of Units of Measure and with NOM-031-SCFI-1993, "Commercial Information-Specifications-Quantity Declared on the Label."

The following must be contained on the label:

- Specific name of the product.
- Content in quantity (mass).
- Identification of the packer or manufacturer
 - Name
 - Legal address
- Identification of the importer (if applicable)
 - Name
 - Address
- Brand of the product.
- Legend: "Made in Mexico" or country of origin.
- Generic names of the product that must comply with specifications contained in the Mexican Norm NMX-F-036-1997-NORMEX which establishes the "Specifications and Testing Methods for Food – Honey." (FAS/Mexico Note: This is a voluntary industry standard.)
- Classification of Quality as established in NMX-F-036-1997-NORMEX

This Official Mexican Standard is equivalent to sections 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 & 6.4 of the International Rule Annex 2 to the Volume III of the CODEX ALIMENTARIUS. Rules of CODEX for sugars (honey) 1990.

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FAS Mexico Web Site: We are available at <http://www.atomexico.gob.mx> or visit our headquarter's home page at <http://www.fas.usda.gov> for a complete selection of FAS's worldwide agricultural reporting.

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Agriculture (SAGAR) can be found at www.sagar.gob.mx and Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Commerce (SECOFI) can be found at www.secofi.gob.mx. These web sites are mentioned for the readers' convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with the information contained on the mentioned sites.