FOOD SAFETY INTERNATIONAL NETWORK
GLOBAL FOOD SAFETY & EXCELLENCE QUALITY

FOOD LABELING LEGISLATION IN UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

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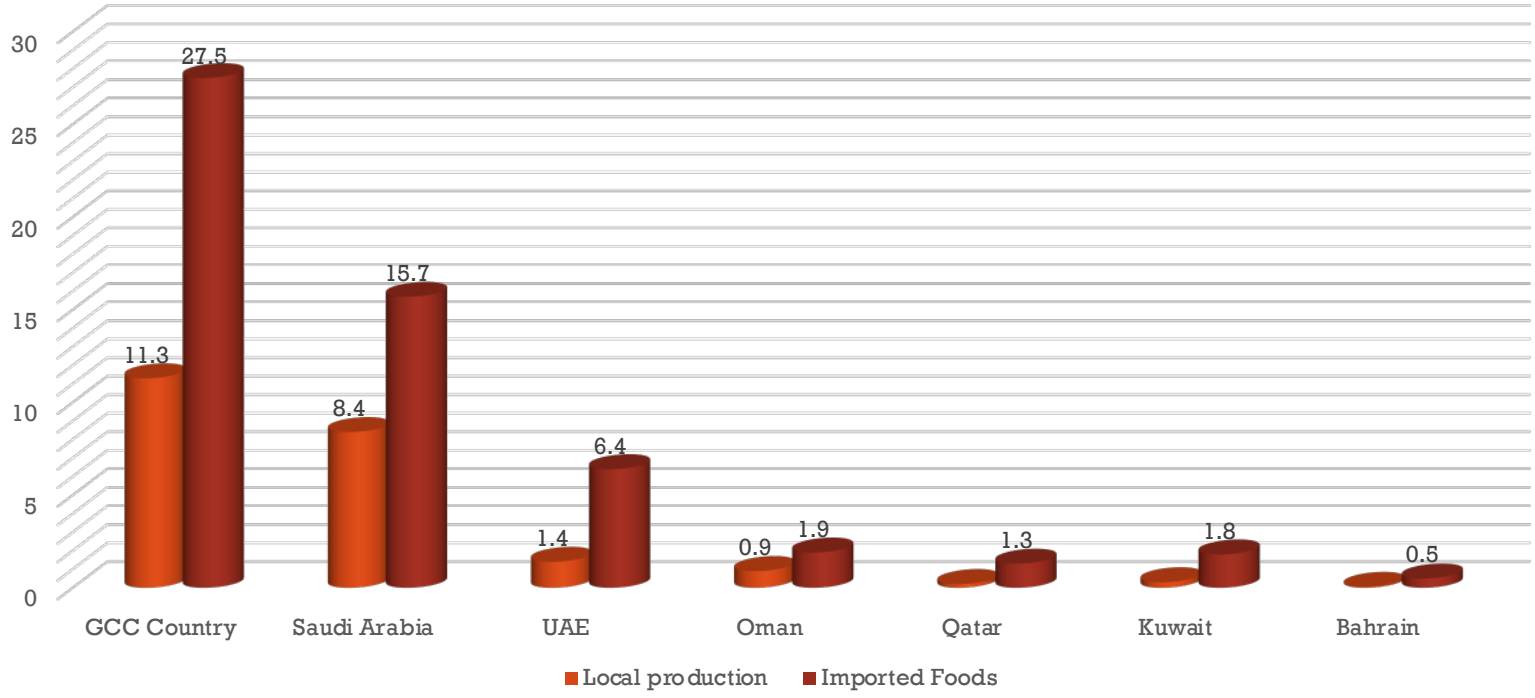
Food Labeling Legislation in United Arab Emirates

- Introduction
- Food Regulatory environment
- Labeling Requirements
- Authority Approval requirement

Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)

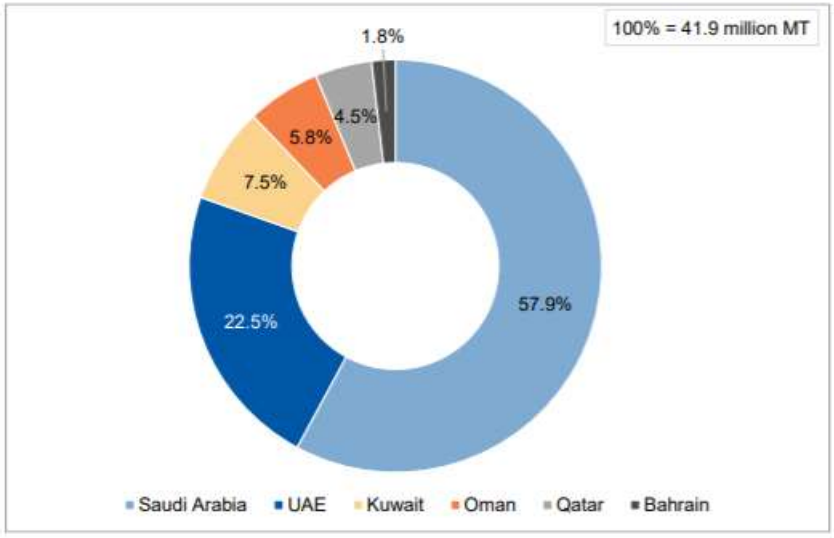
Local Production Vs Imported Quantity (Metric Tons)



Source: Dubai chamber of commerce

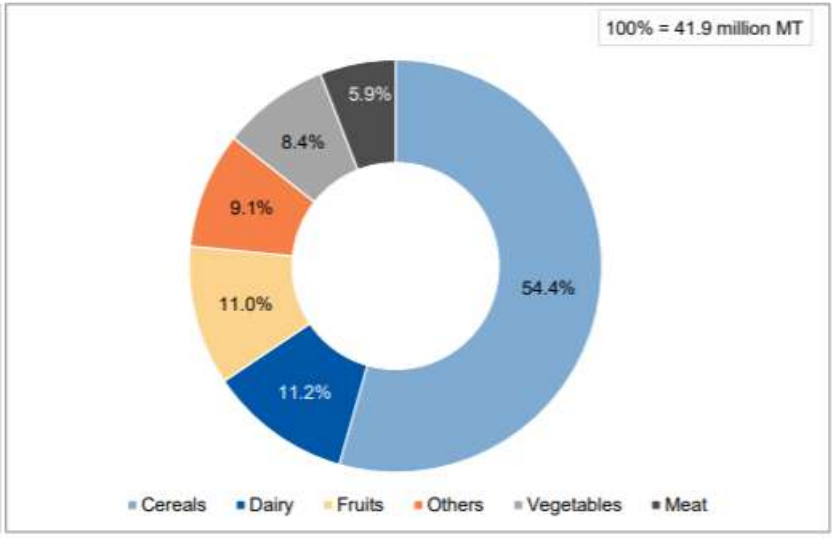
GCC food import situation

Country-wise of Net Food Imports Volume



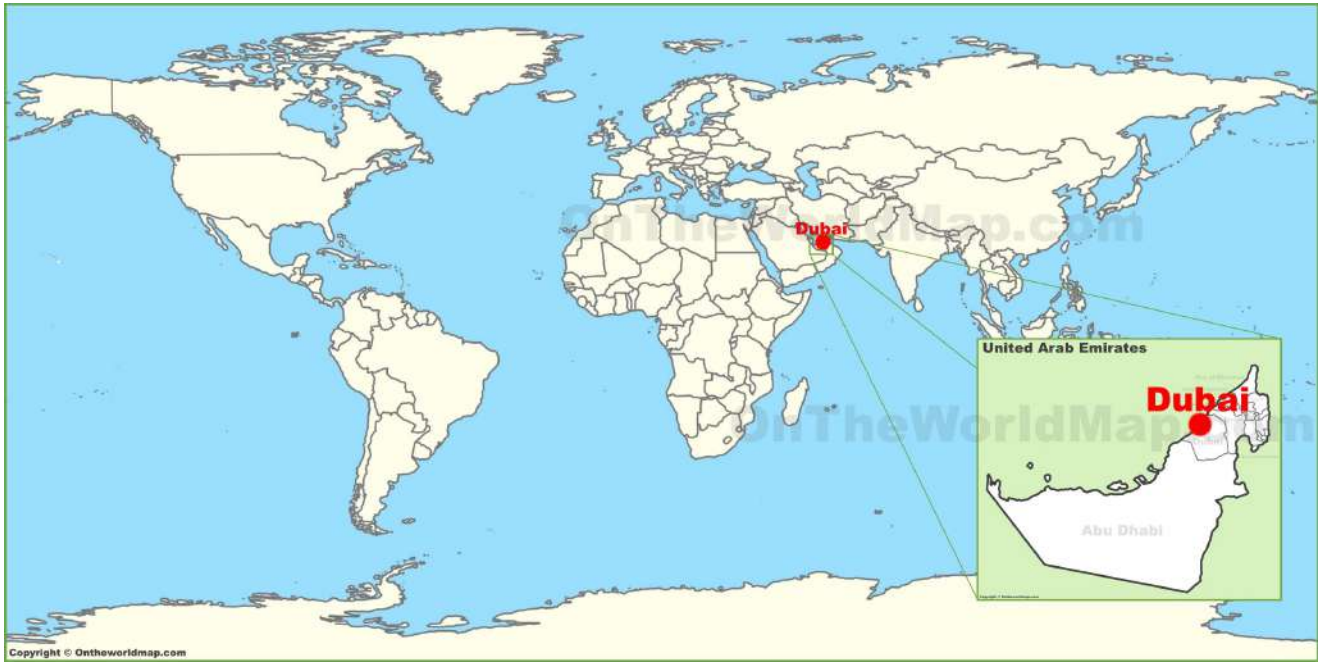
Source: AOAD, FCSA of UAE, NCSI of Oman, CIO of Bahrain, MDPS Qatar, GAS of Saudi Arabia, FAO

Category-wise of Net Food Imports Volume



Source: AOAD, FCSA of UAE, NCSI of Oman, CIO of Bahrain, MDPS Qatar, GAS of Saudi Arabia, FAO

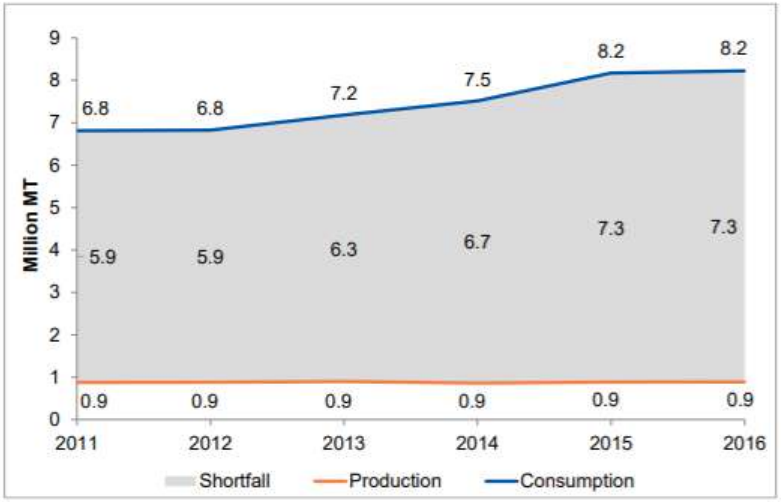
United Arab emirates



8.6 bn $ value of UAE food products traded in Q1 2020

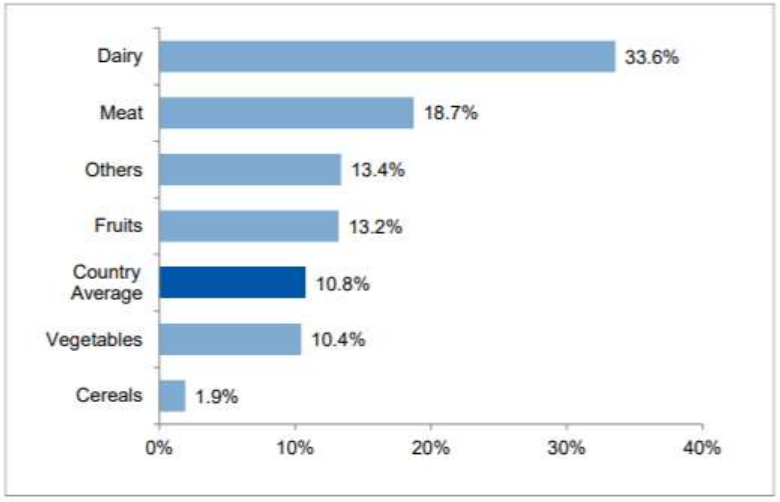
UAE Landscape and Self sufficiency Ratio

Exhibit 18: The UAE Food Landscape



Source: AOAD, FCSA of UAE

Exhibit 19: Self-sufficiency Ratio in the UAE (2016)



Source: AOAD, FCSA of UAE

GSO Standards

- The GCC Standardization Organization (GSO) is a standards organization for the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council and Yemen. It was established under the authority of the Gulf Cooperation Council with headquartered in Saudi Arabia.

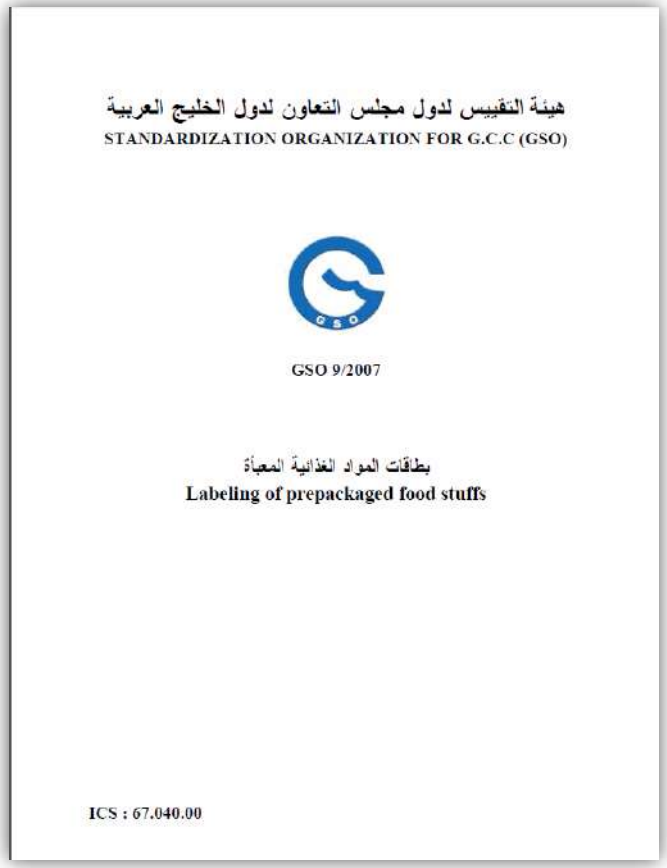
- https://www.gso.org.sa/store/

هيئة التقييس
لدول مجلس التعاون لدول الخليج العربية
GCC Standardization Organization

UAE Labeling Standard

- UAE.S/GSO 09/2007 Labelling of Pre-packaged foods.
- UAE S/GSO 2233 requirements of nutrition labeling
- UAE.S 2333 Permitted Health and Nutrition Claims UAE.S/GSO 150 Expiration periods at food products.
- To find all standards check the link:

http://www.esma.gov.ae/ar-ae/pages/home.aspx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STANDARDIZATION ORGANIZATION FOR G.C.C (GSO)

GSO 9/2007

بطاقات المواد الغذائية المعبأة
Labeling of prepackaged food stuffs

ICS : 67.040.00

Labelling Definition

- **Food label:** Any tag, brand, mark, pictorial or written descriptive matter, whether printed, embossed or impressed on, or attached to, a container of food in such way as not to be remove bale.
- **Labelling:** Any written, printed information or pictorial mark on the label realring to the food product or nutritional Properties, including the nature or preparation or consumption.
- **Foodstuff:** Any Substances whether processed, semi processed or unprocessed which is intended for direct human consumption or to be used in manufacturing. Preparing or treating a foodstuff.
- **Container:** any packaging of food for delivery as a single item, whether by completely or partially enclosing the food and includes wrappers. A container may enclose several unites or types pf packaging when such is offered for the consumer
- **Ingredient(s):**Any Substances, including food additives, used in the manufactr9ng or preparation of food stuff and is present in type product although possibly in a modified from.

General Requirements

- Food labeling shall not be described or presented in a manner that is false,
- Food labeling shall not refer to either directly or indirectly to any other product which might lead to consumer confuse.
- Labels on pre-packaged foods shall be applied in such a manner that they will not become separated from the packaging.
- Any information or pictorial device written, printed, or graphic matter may be displayed on the label shall be compatible with the ethical and religious regulations applied in the United Arab Emirates.
- If the label comes in direct contact with the food, the material from which the food label is made shall be food grade (this includes the ink).

Contains 15% Juice

يحتوي على 15% عصير

Nutrition Facts

معلومات التغذية

Serving Size 8 fl oz (240mL) 1 cup

Servings Per Container 8

الكمية المقدمة 8 أونصات سائلة (240 مل) 1 كوب

عدد الحصص في العلبة 8

Amount Per Serving / الكمية لكل حصة	
Calories / سعرات حرارية 110	Calories from Fat / سعرات حرارية من الدهون 0
	% Daily Value* / القيمة اليومية %
Total Fat 0g	مجموع الدهون 0 غرام — 0%
Sodium 40mg	صوديوم 40 ملغرام — 1%
Potassium 45mg	بوتاسيوم 45 ملغرام — 1%
Total Carbohydrate 28g	مجموع الكربوهيدرات 28 غرام — 9%
Sugars 28g	السكريات 28 غرام
Protein 0g	بروتينات 0 غرام
Vitamin C 100%	فيتامين سي 100%

Not a significant source of saturated fat, trans fat, cholesterol, dietary fiber, vitamin A, calcium or iron.

لا يعتبر مصدراً مهماً للدهون المشبعة، الدهون المتحولة، الكولسترول، الألياف الغذائية، فيتامين أ، الكالسيوم، الحديد

*Percent Daily Values are based on a 2000 calorie diet. *النسب المئوية للقيم اليومية على نظام غذائي من 2000 سعر حراري

INGREDIENTS: Filtered Water , Cane or Beet Sugar , Apple Juice from Concentrate 7.8% , Cranberry Juice from Concentrate 5% , Raspberry Juice from Concentrate 1.8% , Grape Juice from Concentrate 0.8% , Natural Flavor (Raspberry Flavor) , Natural Color E163 , Fumaric Acid , Citric Acid , Sodium Citrate , Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C)

المكونات: ماء نقي، قصب السكر أو سكر بنجر، عصير تفاح من المركز 7.8%، عصير توت العرق من المركز 5%، عصير توت أحمر من المركز 1.8%، عصير العنب من المركز 0.8%، نكهات طبيعية (نكهة التوت الأحمر)، لون طبيعي E163، حمض فوماريك، سترات الصوديوم، حمض الستريك، حمض الأسكوربيك (فيتامين سي)

Language

- All information displayed on the label of foods shall be labelled in Arabic.
- If the language on the original label is not Arabic, a supplementary Arabic label (additional sticker) can be obtained.
- Validity dates shall not be written on the Arabic sticker (they shall be on the original sticker).
- If the label is applied in the UAE, it is subject to the control and supervision local authority.

Mandatory Labeling Information

- The name of food
- List of ingredients
  - Food Additives
  - Processing aids and carry- over of food additives
  - Compound ingredients
  - Added water
  - Allergen ingredient declaration
- Net Weight
- Name and Address of Manufacturer
- Country of Origin

The name of food

- The name shall indicate the true nature of the food and it shall be specific and not generic.
- The name of food shall be presented in bold type on the principal display panel, shall be in a size reasonably related to the most prominent printed matter on the panel.
- If no name or names prescribed by UAE / GSO Standards or national legislation exist, a customary name which, in time, come to be accepted by consumers in the local community, may be used.

List of ingredients

- The list of ingredients shall be headed or preceded by a suitable heading which consists of or includes the word ‘ingredients
- A specific name shall be used for ingredients in the list of ingredients in accordance with permitted given name in the standards for the additives & other used ingredients.

Allergen ingredient declaration

- Cereals containing gluten; i.e., wheat, rye, barley, oats,
- Crustacea and their products
- Eggs and egg products
- Fish and fish products
- Peanuts, soybeans and their products
- Walnut and their products
- Milk and milk products (lactose included);
- Tree nuts and nut products; and
- Sulphite in concentrations of 10 mg/kg or more.
- Celery and their products
- Mustard and their products
- Sesame seed and their products
- Clams and their products
- Lupin and their products

Net Weight

- The net contents shall be declared on the label in the metric system

The net contents shall be declared in an obvious and distinct manner as follows:

a) for liquid foods, by volume

b) for solid foods, by weight

c) for semi-solid or viscous foods, either by weight or volume.

- The net weight or volume of packaging contents shall be equal to the weight or volume of prepackaged food during preparation according to its condition

Name and Address of Manufacturer

- The name and address of the manufacturer or packer shall be declared.
- The name of distributor, importer, exporter or vendor may be written

Country of Origin

- The indication of the country/place of origin shall be declared on the label
- When a food undergoes processing in a second country which may probably change its fundamental nature, the country where the processing has taken place shall be considered as the country of origin.

Nutrient contents declaration

- Amount of energy.
- Amount of any other nutrient of a claimed nutritional or health effect
- Amount of protein and carbohydrate available

Nutrition Facts

8 servings per container

Serving size **2/3 cup (55g)**

Amount per serving

Calories **230**

	% Daily Value*
Total Fat 8g	**10%**
Saturated Fat 1g	**5%**
Trans Fat 0g	
Cholesterol 0mg	**0%**
Sodium 160mg	**7%**
Total Carbohydrate 37g	**13%**
Dietary Fiber 4g	**14%**
Total Sugars 12g	
Includes 10g Added Sugars	**20%**
Protein 3g	

* The % Daily Value (DV) tells you how much a nutrient in a serving of food contributes to a daily diet. 2,000 calories a day is used for general nutrition advice.

Food Shelf life Standards

- Gulf Standard for the expiration of food products No. GSO150
  - Part 1 Mandatory expiration Shelf life
  - Part 2 Voluntary expiration shelf life

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STANDARDIZATION ORGANIZATION FOR G.C.C (GSO)

GSO 150/2007

فترات صلاحية المنتجات الغذائية
Expiration Periods of food products

ICS : 67.040.00

Part 1: Food with mandatory shelf life

- Chilled products kept at a of 0 to 5 degrees Celsius, such as: dairy products and chilled meat.
- Baby food should be kept at a suitable temperature in well-ventilated stores, not exceeding 25 ° C.
- Food products that, by their nature, require a certain temperature for preservation, such as eggs.

Part 2: Voluntary expiration dates

- Frozen food, stored at a temperature not exceeding -18
- Chilled food to be kept from 0 to 5 degrees Celsius.
- Products kept at a suitable temperature in well-ventilated stores, not exceeding 25 ° C.

Foods exempt from expiration date

- White sugar, table salt, legumes, rice, and tea.
- Fresh vegetables and fruits are exempted from production and expiration dates.

Authority Approval requirement

All Products in local markets should be registered in the Federal registration system "ZAD":

- Locally Manufactured products
- Imported products for local market consumption
- Import for Reexport products
- Products that undergoes amendment in major information such as ingredients or Claims.

Food Item Pre approval

Food Label Assessment	• To ensure that the product conforms to the approved conditions and specifications.
Food Item registration	• The application must be submitted online with product image and the food
Fitness Lab Test	• Subjected to Authority request • The results of the samples is not relied upon for release, but rather on the sample taken from the actual shipment of the shipment.

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