

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY  
USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT  
POLICY

Voluntary  Public

**Date:** 7/10/2013

**GAIN Report Number:** E80031

## EU-27

**Post:** Brussels USEU

### **Changes to Export Certification for U.S. Grape Juice**

**Report Categories:**

FAIRS Subject Report

**Approved By:**

Maurice House

**Prepared By:**

Hilde Brans

**Report Highlights:**

As of July 1, 2013, U.S. grape juice producers are allowed to use a "Simplified VI-1" document to export grape juice to the EU. Companies wishing to export grape juice can self-certify compliance with EU rules and it is no longer needed for the U.S. Government to sign the certificate. A sample certificate and explanatory note are provided at the end of this report.

## **General Information:**

# **Changes to Export Certification for U.S. Grape Juice**

## **Simplified Certification**

The EU has agreed that as of July 1, 2013, U.S. operators can start using a simplified VI-1 certificate to accompany grape juice exports to the EU. The U.S. Government no longer needs to sign certificates attesting that grape juice destined for the EU market is produced in accordance with EU wine-making practices. U.S. exporters of grape juice are now allowed to self-certify that the grape juice will not be used in wine-making. The simplified certificate removes the EU requirement for a laboratory test saving U.S. exporters of grape juice approximately \$250 per shipment. Please see the next page for a sample certificate.

## **Background**

Grape juice falls within the scope of the EU's wine regulation 479/2008. Despite the fact that this regulation prohibits the use of grape juice imported from non-EU countries for wine-making purposes, a certificate was required to attest compliance with EU wine-making practices including a specific analysis of the product. As U.S. grape juice was not even allowed under EU rules to be used for the purposes for which the certification was intended, FAS and USTR have been working with the European Commission to reach agreement on the use of a simplified certificate. The U.S. exported \$1 million of grape juice to the EU in 2012.

**Simplified VI-1**  
**Commercial document to accompany grape juice**  
**originating in the United States of America**

*Article 45 of regulation (EC) n° 555/2008*

1. Exporter - <i>Consignor</i> : (name and address)	
1a <i>Registration number</i> :	
2. Importer - <i>Consignee</i> : (name and address)	
3. Customs stamp (For official EU use only)	4. Date grape juice clears EU customs (For official EU use only)
5. Means of transport and transport details	6. Intended place of delivery (if different from 2)
7. Description of the imported product	8. Quantity
7a. <i>Total acidity</i> : 7b. <i>Total sulphur dioxyde</i> :	8a. <i>CN code</i> :
9. Certificates	
<p>The consignor certifies that the product described above is intended for direct human consumption, complies with the conditions governing the production and entry into circulation applicable in the United States of America. It shall not be used to make or blend (coupage) into wine per European Concil Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007, Annex XVb, Points B and C of 22 October 2007.</p> <p>9a. <i>Consignor certifying authority or agency (name and address)</i>:</p>	
10. Record of control for EU only. For use by competent authority	11. Signatory's company and telephone number
	12. Name of signatory
	13. Place and date
	14. Signature

## ***Explanatory note (EN)***

**Instructions to draw up the Simplified VI-1 Commercial document to accompany grape juice originating in the United States of America (Articles 43, 45 and 48 of regulation (EC) n° 555/2008)**

**1. Exporter - Consignor:** full name and address including post code

**1a. Registration number:** reference to the register number given to the individual approval as producer received from the competent authorities of the third countries of export (article 45(1) of Regulation (EC) n° 555/2008.

**2. Consignee:** full name and address including post code

**5. Means of transport and transport details:**

- the type of transport used (lorry, van, tanker, motor car, railway wagon, rail tanker, airplane);
- the registration number or, in the case of a ship, the name (optional particulars).

**6. Place of delivery:** the actual place of delivery, if the goods are not delivered to the address given for the consignee. Where there is a change in the place of delivery: the actual place of delivery shall be indicated on the back of the document.

**7. Description of the imported products:** designation of the product, identification numbers and number of packages, number of internal packages

**8. Quantity and weight:**

- for products in bulk, the total net quantity,
- for packaged products, the number of containers used.

**8a. CN Code: Code(s) of the combined nomenclature**

**9. Certificate:** The consignor certifies the accuracy of the information required on the basis of their records or the certified information in the documents accompanying the previous consignments of the product in question.

**9a. Consignor certifying authority or agency:** full name and address including post code of the authority or agency having certified that the consignor have received individual approval for their production and are subject to inspection by them.