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Required Report - public distribution

Date: 3/22/2012

Turkey

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Narrative

FAIRS Country Report

Approved By:

Clay Hamilton

Prepared By:

Yasemin Erkut

Report Highlights:

There were many changes to Turkish food and agriculture regulations in late 2011. For example, various Implementation regulations of *Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed Law* (No: 5996) were published in December 2011 with the intention of better harmonizing Turkey's regulations with those of the EU. Another major change has to do with pre-notification requirements for imports. Another major change is that the Biosafety Board approved three biotech soybean events so that biotech soy can now be imported for feed use only. As of March 2012, no other biotech agricultural commodities may enter Turkey.

Section I. Food Laws:

The majority of the regulations on food and agricultural products are prepared and published by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MINFAL). However, there are also regulations published by other Ministries, such as the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Health. Most Turkish agriculture-related regulations, laws, communiqués, directives, and notifications are available on the website of the General Directorate of Protection and Control (GDPC) of MARA: www.gkgm.gov.tr. Some of the regulations have an English translation available on the same website. The legal infrastructure of agriculture is mainly based on communiqués and/or regulations rather than on laws. The reason for this is that the Turkish constitutional system does not allow laws to be adopted, amended or abolished easily. Therefore governments have traditionally preferred to publish communiqués or regulations in some cases.

Currently, the main target of Turkish food and agriculture policy is to harmonize the related laws and regulations with the EU *acquis communautaire*. Sometimes it appears that this concern overwhelms other concerns such as national interest and farmers' interests. Moreover, the Turkish government only rarely informs the public or international bodies such as the World Trade Organization (WTO) about possible or actual regulation changes. In addition, the same regulations can be applied inconsistently by different provincial directorates and at different times.

Turkey combined the Food, Feed, Veterinary Services and Plant Health Laws together into the new *Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed Law (No: 5996)*, which was published in the Official Gazette on June 13, 2010. Following a six month interim period, the law was implemented on December 13, 2010. The publishing of the implementing regulations are almost completed as of February 2012. Please see below a table with the new regulations and implementation dates:

Date of official gazette	Name of regulation	Important articles
December 17, 2011	Official import controls of plant origin food and feed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed lawImporters should get electronic username and password for the pre-notification-Importers should electronically fill attached pre-notification form plant origin food; feed and food contact material and attached copies of certificate, ingredient list, and other documents which will be determined by MINFAL.-Border Inspection Post or provincial directorates gives a date of inspection-Frequency of analysis will be determined by risk analysis-If there is a non-compliance, importers can either use special treatment, declare change in intent of use, send it back or confiscate the product-If there is a protocol between two countries electronic certificate

		<p>will be accepted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Turkish translated labeling should be done before actual import control carried out.
December 17, 2011	Measurements to monitor certain substances and their residue on live animals and animal products.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -EU harmonization regulation, 96/23/EC -EU harmonization regulation, 97/747/EC -If they detect residue on imported animal or animal product then they will increase frequency of analysis from the same origin
December 17, 2011	Food Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -EU harmonization regulation, 852/2004/EC -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -Define general hygiene criteria for premises including HACCP criteria and good management practices
December 17, 2011	Food premises registration and approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -Define which premises requires registration and define criteria of how they should register
December 17, 2011	Food and Feed official control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -MINFAL is now ready to delegate some of their control and inspection authority to private food control offices or some NGO's who are accredited. Import and export controls are excluded -MINFAL decided to publish the list of approved premises, approvals suspended premises, approvals cancelled premises, it will increase transparency. -Defined Traceability, responsibility, general requirements for imports and exports -Establishing rapid alert system
December 17, 2011	Pre-notification and veterinary checks of animal and animal products entering to the country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -EU harmonization regulation, 282/2004/EC -EU harmonization regulation, 136/2004/EC -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -Pre-notification of imports of animal and animal products -Veterinarians responsibilities to check and sign forms
December 17, 2011	Specific rules for animal products official inspections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -EU harmonization regulation, 854/2004/EC -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -Approval of premises -General hygiene rules -Raw meat inspections -Role and duties of official veterinarian and his/her assistant -Live animal inspections and animal welfare

December 17, 2011	Veterinary checks on products entering to the country	<p>EU harmonization regulation, 97/78/EC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -Pre-notification and veterinary checks at the border inspection post -Issuance of veterinary check form -Frequency of veterinary controls -Physical criteria of border inspections post
December 17, 2011	Veterinary checks on live animals entering to the country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -EU harmonization regulation 97/794/EC -EU harmonization regulation, 91/496//EC -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -One day before arrival, importers should inform amount, variety and expected date of arrival to veterinary border inspection -Veterinary controls should contain documentary checks, physical checks, -First veterinary checks should be done at the border inspection posts
December 17, 2011	Domestic animal and animal products movements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -Issuance of veterinary health certificate on animal movements -Define vehicle criteria on animal and animal products movements
December 21, 2011	Animal Hospital regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -Criteria to setup animal hospital including staff qualifications
December 21, 2011	Veterinary checks on animal and animal products entering to the country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -EU harmonization regulation 97/78/EC -EU harmonization regulation, 91/496//EC - EU harmonization regulation, 2007/275//EC -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -Attached list of regulation classifies which products are animal and animal products
December 23, 2011	Animal welfare regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -Defines criteria of animal farms including barns, cages for chickens etc.
December 23, 2011	Protection and combating measurements against cattle leucosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -Vaccination to leucosis cattle is prohibited -Animal movements to herds that have leucosis cattle restricted
December 23, 2011	Protection and combating measurements against cattle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -Diagnosis, notification and combating measures.

	anthrax	
December 23, 2011	Surveillance of zoonose and zoonotic agents, related antimicrobial resistance and food borne outbreak	-EU harmonization regulation 97/78/EC -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -Surveillance of Brucellosis,
December 24, 2011	Criteria of livestock markets registration, inspections	-Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law
December 24, 2011	Animal welfare during animal transportation	-Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -Criteria of animal transportation vehicles including ships and trucks -Responsibilities, training, inspections and reports
December 24, 2011	Animal byproducts that are not intended to use for human consumption	-EU harmonization regulation 1069/2009/EC -Categorization of byproducts -Collection and transportation criteria
December 24, 2011	Sperm, Ovum and Embryo production center establishments regulations	-Registration, approval and certification of centers
December 27, 2011	Special hygiene regulation for animal products	-EU harmonization regulation, 853/2004//EC -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -Defines criteria for animal slaughtering and animal products processing facilities
December 27, 2011	Feed hygiene	-EU harmonization regulation, 183/2005//EC -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -Registration and approval of feed premises
December 27, 2011	placing on the market and use of feed	EU harmonization regulation, 767/2009//EC -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -Principles of labeling and presentation

December 27,2011	methods of sampling and analysis for the official control of feed	-EU harmonization regulation, 767/2009//EC -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law
December 29,2011	Turkish food codex, Maximum residue limits of pesticides	-Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law
December 29,2011	Turkish food codex, flavorings and certain food ingredients with flavoring properties	-EU harmonization regulation, 1337/2008//EC -EU harmonization regulation, 2065/2003//EC -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law
December 29,2011	Turkish food codex; Food additives	EU harmonization regulation, 1333/2008//EC -Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law
December 29,2011	Turkish Food Codex	-Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law
December 29,2011	Turkish Food Codex preparation	-Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law
December 29,2011	Turkish food codex, Microbiological criteria for foodstuff	-Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -EU harmonization regulation, 2073/2005//EC
December 29,2011	Turkish food codex, labeling	-Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -EU harmonization regulation, 2000/13/,/79/112/,2002/67/,/608/2004/,/90/496,87/250,1924/2006 EEC
December 29,2011	Turkish food codex, Contamination	-Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -EU harmonization regulation,1881/2006/EC
December 29,2011	Turkish food codex, Materials and articles	Based on 5996 law, veterinary services, plant health, food and feed law -EU harmonization regulation,1935/2004/EC

	intended to come into contact with food	
December 30, 2011	Import inspection regulating	-Published by Ministry of Economics -Explain which products requires at the custom what kind of document from Ministry of Agriculture to release products
December 4, 2012	Turkish food codex, Bread and varieties of Bread	-Increased bran content of bread -Decrease weight of bread to decrease the amount of waste bread
December 4, 2012	Turkish food codex, methods of sampling for chemical analysis for the monitoring of preserved milk	-EU harmonization regulation, 87/524/EEC
December 4, 2012	Turkish food codex, composition and labeling of foodstuffs suitable for people intolerant to gluten	-EU harmonization regulation, 41/2009/EC
December 4, 2012	Turkish food codex, sampling, testing method for dioxin and similar products	-EU harmonization regulation, 1881/2006/EC
December 4, 2012	Turkish food codex, methods of sampling for chemical analysis of edible caseins and caseinates	-EU harmonization regulation, 86/424/EC
December 4, 2012	Turkish food codex ,indications or marks identifying the lot to which a foodstuff belongs	-EU harmonization regulation, 89/396/EC

The former Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs went through a major re-organization in 2011 and changed its name to the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MINFAL). The organization and responsibilities also changed during this transition period. The new system is based on division of responsibility between plant and animal products. This was also reflected on the inspection and import of these products.

The majority of food and non-food imports used to require a “control certificate”. However, according to the new import regime published in the Official Gazette on December 30, 2011, control certificates are required only for animal and animal products. Plant and plant products are no longer required to have a control certificate prior to import. A control certificate is in essence an import license that is granted to the importer at the discretion of the import officials. Please see Annex-1 and Annex-2 of this report for the HS codes of the products that require and not require control certificates.

The control certificates are valid for a period of between 4 and 12 months, depending on the product. Control certificates are sometimes used as an instrument to deny or delay the importation of some products.

While many U.S. foods are imported into Turkey without problems, some U.S. companies have encountered difficulty complying with demands from import officials for certificates that are not normally issued in the United States. Requirements and standards for some imported foods may be stricter than both those currently applied in the EU and those applied to domestically produced products.

Section II. Labeling Requirements:

A. General Requirements

The communiqué regulating the packaging and labeling of food materials is dated August 25, 2002 and numbered 2002/58. This regulation was prepared within the framework of harmonization with the EU Directives 2000/13/EEC on the Labeling, Presentation and Advertising of Foodstuffs, 90/496/EEC Directive on Nutrition Labeling of Foodstuffs, and Directive 80/232/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the member states relating to the ranges of nominal quantities and nominal capacities permitted for certain prepackaged products. This regulation was amended once in 2004 and twice in 2006.

On December 29, 2011, the General Directorate of Food and Control (GDFC) published new labeling regulation on the Official Gazette. According to the new regulation, the food processing sector will need to adjust the labels to meet this requirement, such as font and content of the label.

A Biosafety Law has been in effect since September 26, 2010. Related implementing regulations include the Regulation on GMOs and Products and the Regulation on the Working Principles of the Biosafety Board and the Committees. According to the regulations, transgenic food and/ or feed must be approved before it is allowed to be imported. So far three soybean events and 13 corn events are approved for feed use only.

Transgenic products that are allowed to be imported into Turkey must be labeled “Contains GMO” if it

is over 0.9 percent within a given shipment.

FAS Ankara will provide updates on future biotech regulations and decisions as new information is available, via the GAIN report system under “Attaché Reports”: www.fas.usda.gov

Every food product in the market has to be labeled clearly, completely and accurately in the Turkish language. An imported food item, however, may arrive in its original package, but a permanent ‘sticker’ label, in Turkish, must be attached to the package before it is marketed. Other languages in addition to Turkish may also appear. Labeling requirements are enforced by the MINFAL and local municipality officials.

The following information must be printed on all food labels, imported or domestic:

- Name and brand of product
- Name and address of producing, packaging and importing companies
- Production batch number and date
- Place of Production and Country of Origin
- Expiration date/shelf life (see below)
- Nutrition and caloric values
- Net weight/volume
- List of ingredients and additives
 - Ministry of Agriculture production or import license number/and date
- Storage, preparation and usage instructions when needed
- Name and type of packing material
- Special warnings, if appropriate
 - Percentage of alcohol (if the product contains more than 1.2 percent alcohol)

If the product has a shelf life of less than three months, it must include the day/month/year of expiration, if the shelf life is more than three months but less than eighteen, the month and year are required and if the shelf life is more than three years, only the year is required. In the case of fruits and vegetables, which might be sold in bins or open stands, labels are required on the exterior of bulk packaging. Another regulation requires that labels for fruit beverages specify whether the product contains fruit juice (90-100% concentration), nectar (20-50% concentration), or fruit drinks (up to 10% concentration). Also, the communiqué 2007/26 on Non-Alcoholic Beverages details the labeling requirements of fruit juices, aromatized drinks, syrups, juice powders, natural mineral waters, sodas, tonics and aromatized waters.

The Turkish Food Codex prohibits the inclusion of statements like "prevents or cures disease" on labels. In 2006, this article was amended and this prohibition was extended to the promotion and advertisement of the food products. For example, an imported product whose label said “America’s #1 Choice!” could not be sold until this language was stickered over –despite the manufacturer’s willingness to back up the claim.

A regulation published on April 6, 2005, requires that imported wine and alcoholic beverages have a Turkish label attached to the container during production or prior to arrival to Turkey. On March 17, 2007, the Ministry of Finance published a communiqué in the Official Gazette, which entered into force on June 15. The communiqué required that a special government band be attached on the labels of all domestically produced or imported tobacco and alcoholic products, except for beer. For beer, there must be a code identifying the production facility on the label. This regulation was put into force mainly to prevent smuggling, which has been increasing due to very high taxes. The complete English translation of this regulation is available in FAS GAIN report TU7026, which can be found on the FAS website, www.fas.usda.gov

B. Requirements Specific to Nutritional Labeling

Items that are suitable for individuals that have metabolic or digestive disorders and special physiological conditions can use "diet" on the label according to the regulation dated April 22, 2002. MARA updated its regulations related to nutritional labeling on August 25, 2002. Nutritional labeling is only required if the product is for a particular nutritional or dietary requirement (such as diabetic) and if it is modified for that purpose. Nutritional values (by 100 gr. measures) must be included on labels for locally produced and imported nutritional products. Nutritional values should include protein, carbohydrate and fat content of the product. If the energy and/or fat content of a product is reduced by twenty-five percent, the word "reduced" or "light" may be printed on the label. The standard U.S. nutritional fact panel may be included on the label, but cannot replace the locally required information. Disputes regarding health claims in food should be submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture.

Section III. Packaging and Container Regulations:

The Turkish Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for setting and imposing regulations for packaging and containers that may come into contact with food. Turkish food packing material regulations were revised on July 4, 2005. The importation of some food packaging materials may require an import license. According to the regulations, in each case a health certificate is required from a public authority i.e., State Department of Public Health. In some cases the Ministry also accepts a "Certificate of Free Sale". It is imperative to check with the importer to determine what language is required and accepted. Turkish regulations include nine different standards for food grade packaging materials, including paper, glass, metal, and plastics like PET and PVC bottles. There are different communiqués published to set forth requirements of each type of food packaging material. Sizes and types of packaging used for foods are generally flexible, but there are some restrictions. These regulations are available on the GDPC website.

Section IV. Food Additives Regulations:

The Turkish Food Codex lists maximum amounts of additives allowed in food items (positive list) as well as conditions under which additives cannot be used. For example, it is forbidden to use added sweeteners in infant formulas and baby foods (0-3 years). The food additive section of the codex is quite detailed and is drafted to conform to EU regulations. It refers to the FEMA (Flavor and Extract Manufacturers Association) and COE (Council of Europe) codes for additives, when applicable. Of concern to exporters of processed products is that all flavors (which may be proprietary) be specifically listed in the application for product registration.

Section V. Pesticides and Other Contaminants:

The Turkish Food Codex lists the maximum level of pesticides and veterinary medicines which are permitted in food items, and undergoes occasional updates. The list of permitted pesticides and veterinary medicines are covered in this list.

The Turkish Food Law maintains provisions for regulators to refer to the Codex Alimentarius or EU Directives if the pesticides or veterinary medicine products are not contained in the Turkish Food Codex.

Section VI. Other Regulations and Requirements:

Importers are responsible for registering each product. The process normally takes up to one week. Laboratory testing is required for all products.

The sample analysis costs at the public control laboratories are determined annually by a commission organized by the General Directorate, taking into consideration the analysis expenditures.

Sending samples: Requirements for product sample shipments are slightly different than for products intended for consumption. For the importation of samples, there is no pre-permission or control certificate required. Technically, there are no documentation requirements if the sample is for an exhibit or scientific research.

For commercial samples, the importer needs to fill out a special form from the Provincial Agricultural Directorate and provide a copy of the pro forma invoice (if it is free of charge, this is simply stated on the invoice). Once the Provincial Agricultural Directorate has that form, they will prepare a letter to customs to notify them to release the sample. Note - there is still no health certificate requirement.

Section VII. Other Specific Standards:

Some food products face special requirements. The production, storage, marketing and transportation of products listed below are determined by independent communiqués:

Aromatized Wines (2006/28)

Baby Food and Supplementary Baby Food (2007/50)

Baby Formulas (2008/52) Continuation / Support Formulas (2008/53)

Black tea(2008/42)

Chewing gum (99/2)

Chocolate and Chocolate Products(2003/23)

Cocoa and cocoa products(2000/10)

Fermented Milk (2009/25)

Frozen Food(2002/7 &2004/46&2001/45)

Fruit Juices and Similar products (2006/56)

Gluten-Free Food(2003/33)

Ice cream(2004/45)

Jams marmalades jelly (2006/55)

Lentils (2003/25)
Non-alcoholic Drinks (2007/26)
Pasta(2002/20)
Rice(2001/10)
Salt (2007/53)
Sugar (2006/40)
Sweeteners(2006/45)
Vegetable Oils(2001/29)

A complete list of regulation can be found at the following link.

http://www.gkgm.gov.tr/mevzuat/kodeks/kodeks_liste.html

Live Cattle and Meat:

Turkey has banned all meat, beef, poultry and slaughter cattle imports for years, but in 2010 it opened the market temporarily for meat, feeder cattle, and slaughter cattle. Please see GAIN Attaché Reports on the FAS website for the latest updates on the status of import requirements as it changes frequently. In July 2007, the United States and Turkey signed a protocol to permit the import of live female breeding cattle from the United States and in 2010 a protocol for the import of live breeding bulls was also signed. A certificate for fattening cattle was finalized in March but slaughter cattle protocols are still in negotiation. Cut meat imports to Turkey is still banned from all countries but quarters and carcass meat could be imported from countries those have signed protocols in effect. The U.S has not begun negotiations for a meat import protocols with Turkey due to its non-OIE consistent BSE requirements.

Poultry Products:

Turkey allows imports of poultry products only for re-export. However, Turkey allows imports of pet foods which contain poultry products, but these products are subject to various restrictions due to Avian Influenza. For current regulations on importing pet foods, contact the FAS Office at agankara@fas.usda.gov

In order to track which products are restricted for which diseases in Turkey, one must go to the following website: <http://yasakli.gkgm.gov.tr>. The list of all countries appears in the first column with the corresponding disease in the next column. The list is in alphabetical order and the United States comes first because in Turkish it is abbreviated as “ABD.” This is listed both in Turkish and in English

Gelatin Capsules:

MINFAL requirements for imports of gelatin capsules vary depending on whether they are empty or filled capsules and are restricted for BSE reasons. The only statement required for pure gelatin is “fit for human consumption.” Health certificates for gelatin capsules that are either filled or empty must have the following statements a. Gelatin is sourced from either plant material or non-ruminant material (porcine meat is allowed); b. Materials are fit for human consumption. (Empty capsules can contain the statement, “Free for sale for human consumption” instead of the statement, “fit for human consumption”); c. Ruminant origin materials are free from BSE (defined as originating from countries

that are BSE-free, such as Uruguay, Australia and New Zealand.

In addition to these statements, the end-product must be produced in a non-BSE State. Even if the material is imported, the certificate must state that the end product was “produced in X State” (any State that has not had a case of BSE). Filled gelatin capsules have the same requirements as stated above for empty capsules. In addition, the certificate needs to list the contents of the capsules. Currently, gelatin is forbidden if it is produced from any bovine sources. It can only be produced using hides and skins in facilities approved by Turkish officials. At this time, only two companies (one in Spain and one in Slovenia) are approved.

Energy Drinks: According to the Official Gazette on July 04, 2006 ref. no.: 26309, the caffeine amount is limited to 150 mg/L in energy drinks. The following ingredients have maximum levels:

-Inositol	100 mg/L
-Glucoronolactone	20 mg/L
-Taurine	800 mg/L

Also, health certificates for energy drinks must contain the phrase “product is free from harmful substances and fit for human consumption.” This can be problematic, as FDA will not usually issue a certificate with this wording. In some instances, this problem can be overcome by getting a certificate of free sale from a government agency at the state or local level.

Section VIII. Copyright and/or Trademark Laws:

Companies must apply to the Turkish Patent and Trademark Institute for trademark registration. A separate application is required for each brand name. After the initial inspection and check, the trademark is announced in the Official Trademark Gazette for three months. If there are no objections during this period, the trademark can be registered. The process takes about four months.

Section IX. Import Procedures:

Imports of food products into Turkey are allowed only if they conform to Turkey’s Food Codex Regulations. Turkey is harmonizing all of its food import regulations with those of the European Union via the Turkish Food Codex Regulation. If the product in question is not covered by the Turkish Food Codex, officials can reference the international Codex Alimentarius or relevant EU Directives on a case-by-case basis.

The Import Process

According to the most recent revision to the Turkish Food Codex formerly requested control certificate is not required for plant and plant based products and is only required for animal and animal based products. The requirements for products to obtain control certificate might vary but below is the basic list:

1. A completed import license form obtainable from the www.gkgm.gov.tr website;
2. A pro forma Invoice;

3. A health certificate from the government food inspection agency of the country of origin stating that the product meets the requirements of the importing country.
4. For consumer-ready products, this is normally a “Certificate of Free Sale” indicating that “the product was produced in accordance with local laws and regulations and is fit for human consumption and is freely marketed in the country origin”; This can be problematic, as FDA will not usually issue a certificate with this exact wording. In some instances, this problem can be overcome by getting a certificate of free sale from a government agency at the state or local level.
5. For alcoholic products, a “distribution certificate” provided by the producer’s company to the importer and/or distributor indicating that the Turkish company is authorized to market and deliver the product in Turkey;
6. For “special” foods such as diet foods, foods for diabetics, vitamins, baby foods, etc. the importer must provide a written declaration that the product will not be advertised in such a way as to mislead the consumer.

The importer will normally receive written approval along with an approved control certificate from the Provincial Agricultural Directorate Authority within one or two weeks.

Customs Inspection and Documentation

Upon entry of the product at Customs, the importer should be prepared to present the approved control certificate as well as other normal import documentation such as the bill of lading, original invoice and certificate of origin. In addition, the importer should be prepared to present Customs with the exporting company’s analysis report for physical, chemical, microbiological and heavy metal content, and a certificate from the official food inspection agency of the country of origin stating that the product meets the quarantine requirements of the importing country.

The Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MINFAL) officials take samples of the imported product to government laboratories for physical, chemical and microbiological analysis and confirm it matches the information supplied from the exporting country. Import of the foodstuff is allowed if the results of the analysis are found to be acceptable and consistent with Turkish regulations, and the imports have been approved by MINFAL. Results of the analysis are normally received within a few working days.

If the inspection results do not match with Turkish requirements, the importer may request secondary sample tests. In the case that the secondary test results are also against the Turkish import requirements then the shipment is rejected by MINFAL authorities.

In addition, if the foodstuff is a bulk or semi-processed commodity, it is checked by plant quarantine specialists or veterinarians for consistency with the appropriate law and regulations

Annex-1: HS Codes of the Commodities that Require Control Certificate

Subject to veterinary control	Seed, saplings and flower bulbs	Veterinary biological products	Veterinary medical products and ingredients
HS CODE	HS Code	HS Code	HS Code
01.01	0601.10.10.00.00	3002.30.00.00.00	1108.12.00.10.00
01.02	0601.10.20.00.00	3002.90.50.10.11	1301.90.00.31.00
01.03	0601.10.30.00.00	3002.90.90.00.13	1302.20.10.10.00
01.04	0601.10.40.00.00	3821.00.00.00.00	1302.39.00.90.00
01.05	0601.10.90.10.00	3822.00	1508.90.10.00.00
01.06	0601.10.90.90.00		1701.12.90.00.00
02.01	0601.20.30.00.11		1702.11.00.10.00
02.02	0601.20.30.00.12		1702.30.90.00.00
02.03	0601.20.30.00.13		2519.90.10.00.11
02.04	0601.20.30.00.14		2519.90.10.00.12
0205.00	0601.20.90.10.11		2519.90.90.00.19
02.06	0601.20.90.10.19		2707.50.90.00.19
02.07	0601.20.90.90.00		2707.99.80.00.12
02.08	0602.10.10.00.00		2707.99.80.00.19
02.09	0602.10.90.00.00		2710.19.99.00.21
02.10	0602.20.10.00.00		2710.19.99.00.22
03.01	0602.20.90.00.19		2710.19.99.00.23
03.02	0602.30.00.00.00		2710.19.99.00.24
03.03	0602.40.00.00.00		2710.19.99.00.98
03.04	0602.90.30.00.00		2801.20.00.90.00
03.05	0602.90.45.00.11		2809.20.00.00.17
03.06	0602.90.45.00.12		2811.22.00.00.00
03.07	0602.90.49.00.00		2811.29.90.90.12
04.01	0602.90.50.00.00		2831.10.00.00.12
04.02	0602.90.70.00.11		2833.25.00.20.00
04.03	0602.90.70.00.12		2833.29.30.00.00
04.04	0602.90.91.00.00		2833.29.80.00.19
04.05	0602.90.99.00.00		2833.40.00.30.00
04.06	0701.10.00.00.00		2835.10.00.10.11
04.07	0703.10.11.00.00		2835.10.00.10.12
04.08	0703.20.00.00.12		2835.22.00.00.11
0409.00	0712.90.11.00.00		2835.25.00.00.00
0410.00	0713.10.10.00.19		2835.26.00.00.00
05.06	0713.20.00.00.11		2835.39.00.10.00
05.07	0713.31.00.00.11		2836.99.17.30.00
0510.00	0713.32.00.00.11		2839.11.00.00.00
05.11	0713.33.10.00.00		2842.90.10.00.11
15.01	0713.34.00.00.11		2902.41.00.00.00
15.02	0713.35.00.00.11		2902.42.00.00.00
1503.00	0713.39.00.00.11		2902.43.00.00.00
15.04	0713.40.00.00.11		2905.12.00.00.12
1506.00	0713.50.00.00.11		2905.32.00.00.00
1516.10	0713.60.00.00.11		2905.39.20.00.00
1518.00	0713.90.00.00.12		2905.43.00.00.00
1601.00	0713.90.00.00.13		2905.44.91.00.00

16.02	1001.11.00.00.00		2905.59.98.90.19
1603.00	1001.91.10.00.00		2906.21.00.00.00
16.04	1001.91.20.00.11		2906.29.00.10.11
16.05	1002.10.00.00.00		2907.11.00.10.00
1702.11	1003.10.00.00.11		2907.12.00.10.00
19.01	1003.10.00.00.19		2908.19.00.10.12
19.02	1004.10.00.00.00		2908.19.00.90.19
19.05	1005.10.13.00.00		2912.19.90.90.14
20.04	1005.10.15.00.00		2912.60.00.00.00
20.05	1005.10.18.00.00		2914.69.90.00.19
2103.90.90	1005.10.90.00.00		2914.70.00.90.00
21.04	1006.10.10.00.00		2915.29.00.90.19
2105.00	1007.10.10.00.00		2915.31.00.00.00
21.06	1007.10.90.00.00		2915.32.00.00.00
23.01	1008.21.00.00.11		2915.39 (***)
2835.25.00.00.00	1008.21.00.00.12		2915.40
2835.26.00.00.00	1008.60.00.00.00		2915.50
30.01	1201.10.00.00.00		2915.60.90.90.19
30.02	1202.30.00.00.00		2915.70
3503.00	1204.00.10.00.00		2915.90.70.00.49
	1205.10.10.00.00		2916.20
	1205.90.00.00.00		2916.31
	1206.00.10.00.00		2916.32
	1207.10.00.00.00		2916.39.10.00.00
	1207.21.00.00.00		2916.39
	1207.30.00.00.00		2917.11
	1207.40.10.00.00		2917.20.00.00.00
	1207.50.10.00.00		2917.34
	1207.60.00.00.00		2918.11
	1207.70.00.00.00		2918.12.00.00.00
	1207.91.10.00.00		2918.13
	1207.99.20.00.00		2918.14.00.00.00
	1207.99.91.00.00		2918.15
	12.09		2918.16
	1212.99.41.00.00		2918.21
	1212.99.49.00.00		2918.22
			2918.23
			2918.99.90.00.12
			2918.99.90.00.19
			2919.90.00.20.00
			2921.11.00.00.24
			2921.45.00.00.29
			2922.11.00.00.11
			2922.13.10.00.00
			2922.41
			2922.42
			2922.49.85.90.32
			2922.49.85.90.34
			2923.10.00.00.00

			2923.20
			2923.90.00.90.19
			2924.19.00.00.29
			2924.21.00.00.29
			2924.29.98.00.27
			2924.29.98.00.38
			2925.29.00.00.19
			2926.90.95.00.29
			2927.00.00.00.31
			2930.90.99.90.43
			2930.90.99.90.68
			2931.90.90.90.68
			2932.20.90.90.19
			2933.11.90.00.11
			2933.11.90.00.19
			2933.31
			2933.39.99.00.29
			2933.49.90.00.29
			2933.59.95.00.38
			2933.69.80.00.19
			2933.79.00.00.19
			2933.91.90.00.49
			2934.10.00.00.19
			2934.99.60.90.00
			2934.99.90.90.21
			2934.99.90.90.29
			2935.00
			29.36
			29.37
			2938.90.90.90.19
			2939.30.00.00.11
			2939.99.00.90.12
			29.41
			2942.00.00.00.29
			3001.90.98.10.00
			30.03 (***)
			30.04 (***)
			3204.13.00.00.00
			3204.17.00.00.11
			3204.90.00.00.00
			3404.20.00.00.00
			3505.10.50.00.00
			38.24
			3905.19.00.00.00
			3905.99.90.00.00
			3907.20.11.00.00
			3910.00.00.00.11
			3912.39.85.00.00
			3912.90.90.00.00

Annex-2: HS Codes of the Commodities that do not Require Control Certificate

Subject to veterinary controls	Plant and plant materials	Subject to agriculture quarantine controls
0502.10	07	06.01
0504.00	08	06.02
05.05	09	06.03
1213.00.00.00.00	10	06.04
1214.90	11	07.01
1521.90	12	0702.00.00.00.00
23.09	13	07.03
3101.00	1404.90.00.99.11	07.04
35.01	1404.90.00.99.19	07.05
35.02	15.07	07.06
3504.00	15.08	0707.00
3507.10.00.00.00	15.09	07.08
41.01	15.10	07.09
41.02	15.11	0712.90.11.00.00
41.03	15.12	07.13
4205.00	15.13	07.14
4206.00.00.00.00	15.14	0801.12.00.00.00
43.01	15.15	0801.19.00.00.00
51.01	1516.20	0801.21.00.00.00
51.02	15.17	0801.31.00.00.00
51.03	1518.00	0802.11
9508.10.00.00.00	1521.10	0802.21.00.00.00
9705.00.00.00.00	17	0802.31.00.00.00
	18	0802.41.00.00.00
	19	0802.51.00.00.00
	20	0802.61.00.00.00
	21	0802.70.00.00.00
	22	0802.80.00.00.00
	23.02	0802.90
	23.03	08.03
	2304.00.00.00.00	0804.10.00.00.00
	2305.00.00.00.00	0804.20.10.00.00
	23.06	0804.30.00.00.00
	2308.00	0804.40.00.00.00
	23.09	0804.50
	2501.00	08.05
	2503.00	0806.10
	2506.20.00.00.11	08.07
	2506.20.00.00.19	08.08
	25.08	08.09
	2525.10.00.00.00	08.10
	2525.20.00.00.00	0813.50.39.00.00

	2528.00.00.00.00	0814.00.00.00.00
	2530.90.00.90.39	0901.11.00.00.00
	2707.10.90.00.00	10.01
	2707.50.90.00.11	10.02
	2707.50.90.00.19	10.03
	27.10	1004.00
	28.01	10.05
	28.09	1006.10
	28.11	10.07
	28.15	10.08
	2816.10.00.00.00	1201.00.10.00.00
	2817.00.00.10.00	1201.00.90.00.00
	28.20	12.02
	2821.10	1203.00.00.00.00
	2822.00	1204.00
	2823.00.00.00.00	1205.10.10.00.00
	28.27	1205.10.90.00.00
	28.28	1205.90.00.00.00
	2829.90.80.30.11	1206.00
	28.32	12.07
	28.33	12.09
	28.34	1210.10.00.00.00
	28.35	12.11
	28.36	1212.21.00.10.00
	28.39	1212.21.00.90.00
	2841.70.00.10.00	1212.29.00.10.00
	2841.70.00.90.11	1212.29.00.90.00
	2842.10.00.00.00	1212.91.80.00.00
	2842.90.10.00.11	1212.92.00.00.00
	2847.00	1212.93.00.00.00
	29.01	1212.94.00.00.00
	29.02	1212.99.41.00.00
	2904.90.95.00.34	1212.99.49.00.00
	2904.90.95.00.35	1212.99.95.00.13
	2904.90.95.00.39	1212.99.95.00.14
	29.05	1212.99.95.00.19
	29.06	1214.90
	2907.19.90.90.19	1404.20.00.00.00
	29.09	1404.90.00.10.00
	29.12	1404.90.00.30.00
	29.14	1404.90.00.92.14
	29.15	1404.90.00.92.16
		1404.90.00.99.19
	9.16	
	29.18	1801.00.00.00.11
	2921.19.99.00.49	24.01
	2921.19.99.00.59	2703.00
	2922.41	44.01
	2922.42	44.03

	2922.49	44.04
	2922.50	44.06
	2923.10.00.00.00	44.07
	2923.20	44.15
	2923.90.00.10.12	4416.00
	2923.90.00.10.13	4501.10.00.00.00
	2923.90.00.10.19	5201.00.90.00.00
	2923.90.00.90.19	5202.10.00.00.19
	2924.19.00.00.17	5202.91.00.00.12
	2924.29.98.00.32	5202.91.00.00.19
	2924.29.98.00.33	5202.99.00.00.12
	2924.29.98.00.38	5202.99.00.00.18
	29.25	9603.10.00.00.00
	2929.90.00.00.13	
	2929.90.00.00.14	
	2930. 0.10.00.00	
	2930.40.90.00.00	
	2930.90.13.00.00	
	2930.90.99.90.43	
	2930.90.99.90.68	
	2931.90.90.10.00	
	29.32	
	2933.29.90.00.19	
	2933.39.99.00.29	
	2933.49.90.00.29	
	2933.59.95.00.38	
	29.34	
	29.36	
	2939.30	
	2940.00	
	29.41	
	3002.90.50.10.19	
	3002.90.50.90.00	
	3002.90.90.00.11	
	3002.90.90.00.12	
	3002.90.9 .00.19	
	3102.10.10.00.00	
	3102.21.00.00.00	
	3102.50.10.90.00	
	31.04	
	31.05	
	3203.00	
	32.04	
	3205.00	
	32.06	
	33.01	
	33.02	

	3402.90.10.00.12	
	34.04	
	3504.00.90.00.19	
	35.05 (***)	
	35.06	
	3507.90.90.00.19	
	3802.10.00.00.00	
	3802.90.00.90.12	
	3802.90.00.90.13	
	3808.92.90.00.19	
	3808.99.90.00.11	
	3808.99.90.00.19	
	38.12	
	38.15	
	3821.00.00.00.00	
	38.22	
	38.23	
	38.24	
	39.01	
	39.02	
	39.03	
	39.04	
	39.05	
	39.06	
	39.07	
	39.08	
	39.09	
	3910.00	
	39.11	
	39.12	
	39.13	
	3914.00.00.00.00	
	39.16	
	39.17	
	39.19	
	39.20	
	39.21	
	39.23	
	39.24	
	3925.10.00.00.00	
	40.02	
	4009.11.00.00.00	
	4009.21	
	4017.00.00.99.11	
	4017.00.00.99.19	
	4419.00	
	4421.90.98.90.00	
	45.03	
	48	

	6909.90	
	6911.10	
	6912.00	
	70.10	
	70.13	
	7205.29.00.00.13	
	7310.21.11.00.00	
	7310.21.19.00.00	
	7323.92.00.00.00	
	7323.93.00.00.00	
	7323.94.00.00.00	
	7323.99.00.00.00	
	7615.10	
	8211.91.00.00.00	
	8215.20.10.00.00	
	83.09	
	9602.00.00.10.00	
	96.17	

Annex-3. Government Regulatory Agency Contacts:

Dr. Nihat Pakdil, Acting General Director
General Directorate of Food and Control
Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock
Eskisehir Yolu 9. Km.
Ankara, Turkey
Phone: (312)- 287 33 60
Fax: 312 286 39 64

Dr. Ahmet Aslan, Deputy General Director
General Directorate of Food and Control
Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock
Eskisehir Yolu 9. Km.
Ankara, Turkey
Phone: (312)- 287 33 60
Fax: 312 286 39 64

There are 20 Provincial Agricultural Directorate Authorities, each of which has the first-line regulatory authority to issue control certificates for specific products. They are intended to be the primary point of contact for importers to submit their import applications. The complete list can be found on the internet at: <http://www.kkgm.gov.tr/genel/linkler.html>.

The Main Provincial Directorate Authorities are:

Istanbul Provincial Directorate
Provincial Agricultural Directorate-Istanbul
Tarim Il Mudurlugu
Bagdat Cad. No.333, Kadikoy
Istanbul, Turkey
Phone: (90-216) 467 57 34
Fax: (90-216) 369 81 51

Izmir Provincial Directorate
Izmir Tarim Il Mudurlugu
Universite Cad. No: 47 Bornova, Izmir, Turkey
Phone: (90-232) 462 60 33
Fax: (90-232) 462 24 93

Mersin Provincial Directorate
Mersin Tarim Il Mudurlugu
Gazi Mah. Mersin, Turkey
Phone: (90-324) 326 40 13
Fax: (90-324) 326 40 12

There are 40 provincial food control laboratories, the three largest being:

1) Ankara Provincial Food Control Laboratory Directorate Ankara, Turkey
Phone: (90 312) 315-0089 or 315-8709 Fax: (90 312) 315 7934

2) Istanbul Provincial Food Control Laboratory Directorate Istanbul, Turkey
Phone: (90 212) 663-3961 or 663-3959 Fax: (90 212) 663-4296

3) Izmir Provincial Food Control Laboratory Directorate Izmir, Turkey
Phone: (90 232) 435-1481 or 435-6637
Fax: (90 232)-462 4197

Turkish Patent Institute
Hipodrom Caddesi No:115 (06330) Yenimahalle / ANKARA
Phone: (90 312) 303 10 00 Fax: (90 312) 303 11 73

Turkish Competition Authority
B-3 Blok, Bilkent Plaza
Ankara, Turkey
Phone: (312) 291 44 44 Fax (90 312) 266-7920

Annex-4: Other Import Specialist Contacts:

U.S. exporters are advised to contact the FAS offices in Ankara or Istanbul for additional information and/or a list of private sector firms which can provide assistance with customs clearance and import regulation issues. In most cases, the importing company or agent should be familiar with (and ultimately responsible for) existing regulations.

Foreign Agricultural Service Offices in Turkey

American Embassy
110 Ataturk Blvd.
Kavaklıdere, Ankara
Tel: +90-312-455 55 55
Fax: +90-312-467 00 56
Email: agankara@fas.usda.gov

American Consulate, Istanbul
Kaplıcalar Mevki Sokak
İstinye, 334460 Istanbul
Tel: +90-212-335-9000
Fax: +90-212-335-9077
Email: agistanbul@fas.usda.gov

Annex-5: Additional Labeling requirements

A. Turkish Labeling for Imported Foodstuffs

1. The name and address of the exporting company;
2. The name(s) and corresponding EU tariff number(s) of the food additive(s);
3. The names, uses, and amounts in decreasing order, of any other substances used to dilute, dissociate, standardize, or facilitate the storage and marketing of the food additive;
4. The specific usage and storage instructions, if needed;
5. A statement indicating that the additive can be used in food;
6. The lot and serial number;
7. The net quantity;
8. If the additive is to be used only in restricted amounts, the applicable percentage restrictions;
9. If the product is derived from an animal, indication of the animal type.
10. The date of production;
11. The expiration date, conforming with provisions of Section 9 of the TFCR on packaging and labeling;
12. The import permission date and number;
13. Artificial sweeteners such as aspartame which will be sold directly to the consumer should have a cautionary statement that the product if used in excess can cause diarrhea, and that the product includes phenylalanine if applicable.

B. Turkish Labeling for Food Flavoring

1. The name and address of the manufacturer or packer or seller company;
2. A statement indicating that this is a “Flavoring Substances” or a more specific description of the flavoring;
3. A statement indicating that this flavoring substance is suitable to be used in food;
4. The list of flavoring substances by their categories in decreasing order;
5. The names, classifications, and EU numbers in decreasing order of those flavoring substances

listed in Article 9 of the Food Flavoring Section (Section VI) below, if they are used in the food;

6. The maximum quantities of those ingredients allowed are listed in Appendix 12
7. A statement indicating that this flavoring substance is “For Food Production”;
8. Net quantity;
9. The lot or serial number;
10. The date of production and shelf life;
11. The import permission date and number;
12. The specific storage and usage conditions, if needed;

NOTE: If the food additive is sold directly to the consumer, it should also contain instructions for use.

Annex-6: Documents needed to obtain Control Certificate/Import License for various items

Special Nutritional Food

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Health Certificate
Component List
Specification Document
Product Label
Commercial Activity Certificate*1

Energy Drinks and Alcoholic Beverages

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Proforma Invoice
Component List
Product Label
Certificate of Free Sale
Commercial Activity Certificate *1

Animal Products (Pork Products Only)

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Proforma Invoice
Component List
Sample Health Certificate
Letter of Undertaking (Promissory note to provide original health certificate upon arrival of goods)
Product Label
Commercial Activity Certificate *1

Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form

Proforma Invoice
Commercial Activity Certificate *1

Cheese

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Proforma Invoice
Sample Health Certificate
Letter of Undertaking (Promissory note to provide original health certificate
Upon arrival of goods)
Component List
Specification Document
Product Label
Commercial Activity Certificate *1
Trade Registry Gazette*2
Import License (original copy, notarized copy and their photocopies)

Butter

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Proforma Invoice
Sample Health Certificate
Letter of Undertaking (Promissory note to provide original health certificate
upon arrival of goods)
Component List
Specification Document
Product Label
Commercial Activity Certificate *1
Trade Registry Gazette*2
Inward Processing Permit or Import License (original copy, notarized copy and their photocopies)

Stone Fruit and nuts

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Proforma Invoice
Commercial Activity Certificate *1

Dried powdered products

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Proforma Invoice
Certificate or Letter of Undertaking
Commercial Activity Certificate *1
Trade Registry Gazette*2

Dried Products in granule or lumps

Cover letter to application
Control Certificate form
Proforma Invoice
Component List
Commercial Activity Certificate *1
Trade Registry Gazette*2

*1 The importing firms will present their commercial activity certificate only during the first application. This certificate will not be required with the following applications.

*2 A Trade Registry Gazette is required if the commercial activity certificate does not clearly indicate importing as one of the commercial activities.