

DOCUMENT REFERENCE

Code :KWT1000

Date :11/05/10

Page :1/3

This table summarises the general requirements and standards for food and agricultural imports into Kuwait.

Certification/ Requirements	Remarks
Pre-registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• With Nutrition Unit of Ministry of Public Health• For all special food products, such as diet, health and infant foods and artificial sweeteners
Islamic (Halal) slaughter certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issued by an approved Islamic centre in the country of origin.• To be notarized by Kuwait Embassy/ Consulate (or any other Arab Embassy/Consulate) in exporting country• For all meat and poultry products
Phytosanitary Certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For dry pea, lentil, rice, seeds, fresh fruits and vegetables, live plants and cut flowers, etc• To certify that they have been inspected and free from pest and conform with phytosanitary regulation of importing country
Health certification	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issued by the appropriate government agency in the country of origin• Required for all products to certify goods are fit for human consumption• For meat and poultry products to indicate that animals are slaughtered and processed according to health regulation (export health csrt)
Certificate of Origin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be notarized by a local or a national/ Arab Chamber of Commerce as well as Kuwaiti diplomatic mission in the exporting country
Other Required Documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commercial invoice• Packing list• Bill of Lading
Not permissible for import	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alcoholic beverages, pork and products containing alcohol and pork, as well as products with label containing picture of alcohol or pork, or a recipe requiring these products (even though the imported product is free of these ingredients).
Import Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health clearance: 7 to 10 days (2 to 4 weeks for laboratory testing)• Fresh products are usually cleared within 24 hours of arrival
Labeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standards are contained in Kuwait Standard (KS)42/1973, which is identical to Gulf Standard GS 9/1984
a) Standard declaration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brand name• Product name• Name and address of manufacturer/producer/distributor/importer/exporter/vendor• Country of origin

DOCUMENT REFERENCE

Code :KWT1000

Date :11/05/10

Page :2/3

Certification/ Requirements	Remarks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ingredients in descending order• additives, if any• Origin of animal fat, if applicable (must be sourced from Halal slaughtered animals)• Net content in metric units• Production and expiry dates (English digit only permitted, as is Arabic/English)• Special storage, transportation and preparation instructions, if any
b) Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bilingual labels are permitted, provided one of the languages is Arabic.
c) Production/ expiry date	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• These dates must be printed only in English, Arabic only or English/ Arabic. May not be printed on sticker.• Not required for products with long shelf-life, such as salt and sugar, and fresh items, fresh fruits vegetables, fresh bakery items.
d) Format P/E Dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dates are in digit, no text is allowed, 1/1/2001 not 1/JAN/2001.• DD/MM/YY for 6 months or less shelf life• MM/YY for 6 months or longer shelf life
e) Shelf life	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum 50 % remaining upon arrival in Kuwait
g) Food Colors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regulated under KS 214/ 1999, which is identical to GS 23/1998• Common name and index number must be noted on the product label. E number is permitted.
h) Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For special food products, such as diet, health and infant foods and artificial sweeteners• Label must contain detailed information about ingredients (eg. vitamins, minerals, supplements, food colors, preservatives, etc),• nutritive value per 100g,• health warnings if any, and• Instructions for proper use and storage.• US nutritional panel is permitted
Other Information	
Food Additives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Governed by local regulations based on Codex Alimentarius standards• Preservatives, flavourings, antioxidants, emulsifiers are regulated under KS 147/1994, which is identical to Codex Alimentarius Standard
Sweeteners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allowed for use, listed in KS 1176/1999, identical to GS 995/1198
Irradiated food products	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Permitted, but the product's label must clearly indicate that the product has been irradiated.• KS 1171/1999 (GS 988/1998) determines the maximum irradiation levels permitted in

DOCUMENT REFERENCE

Code :KWT1000

Date :11/05/10

Page :3/3

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	different food products.
Pesticide and other contaminants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Local regulation KS 514/1994 is based on Codex Alimentarius Standard
Alcoholic products	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Permitted for those with alcohol level does not exceed 0.05%

Reference: USDA FAS GAIN Report

DISCLAIMER:

This document has been prepared by SPRING Singapore with the intention of assisting Singapore based exporters of food products. While every possible care has been taken in the preparation of this document, the information may not be completely accurate as policies may have changed or clear and consistent information on these policies were not available. They cannot be taken as the official interpretation of the regulations. It is highly recommended that Singapore based exporters verify the full set of certification and import requirements with the relevant authorities in importing country. **Please note that final import approval of any product is subject to the importing country's rules and regulations as interpreted by custom officials at the point of entry.**