

# NOM-051-SCFI/SSA1-2010

## Mexican Official Norm NOM-051-SCFI/SSA 1-2010, GENERAL LABELING SPECIFICATIONS FOR PRE-PACKAGED FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – COMMERCIAL AND FOOD SAFETY INFORMATION

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The Economy Secretariat and Health Secretariat, by means of the General Direction of Norms and the Federal Commission for Food Safety Protection, based on the clauses 34 fractions XII and XXXI and 39 fraction XXI of the Federal Public Administrative Organic Law; clause 4 of the Administrative Procedure Federal Law; clause 3 fraction XXIV, 13 appendix A fractions I, II and IX, 17 Bis fraction III and IV, 194, 195, 210, 212, 213, 215, 216, 217 and 393 of the General Health Law; 39 fraction V, 40 fraction XII, 47 fraction I of the Metrology and Normative Federal Law, 28 and 31 of the Metrology and Normative Federal Law Ruling; 25 of the Products and Services Safety Control Ruling; 19 fractions I, XIV and XV of the Economy Secretariat Internal Ruling; 2 letter C fraction X of the Health Department Internal Ruling and 3 fraction I subjects c and d and II and 10 fractions IV and VIII of the Federal Commission for Food Safety and Risk Protection Ruling.

### CONSIDERING

That it is the Federal Government's responsibility, to procure the necessary means to guarantee that the products sold in national territory comply with the commercial information that must be exhibited in its label or package, in order to guarantee the effective consumer protection.

That on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009, the National Committee of Consumer Safety, Commercial Information and Trade Practices (CCNNSUICPC) and the National Committee of Normative, Regulation and Food Safety Promotion (CCNNRFS), approved the publishing of the project Mexican Official Norm PROY-NOM-051-SCFI/SSA1-2009, "General Labeling Specifications for Pre-packaged Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages-Commercial and Food Safety Information", in the Federal Daily Gazette on August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009, with the purpose of having the interested parties presenting their comments.

That the regulatory impact manifest referenced in the Metrology and Normative Federal Law clause 45, was subject to the review of the Federal Commission of Regulatory Improvement, which granted the final approval on July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

That in the 60 calendar day period after the date of publication of the mentioned project, the interested parties presented their comments on the contents of this project, which were analyzed by the CCNNSUICPC and the CCNNRFS, making the necessary modifications.

That on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010, the CCNNSUICPC and CCNNRFS approved unanimously the norm in reference.

That the Metrology and Normative Federal Law establishes that the Mexican Official Norms are constituted as the proper instrument for the consumers interests protection, issues the following:

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Mexico D.F., a....

The General Director of Norms and President  
National Consultative Commission of  
Normative, Consumer Security,  
Commercial Information and Trade Practices

FRANCISCO RAMOS GOMEZ

MRM/GMM/PMR/SFC

The Federal Commissioner for Protection  
Against Food Safety Risks and President of  
the National Committee of Norms and  
Regulation and Food Safety Promotion

MIGUEL ANGEL TOSCANO VELASCO

### INTRODUCTION

**The following institutions and companies participated in the making of this Mexican Official Norm:**

ECONOMY SECRETARIAT  
General Direction of Norms  
Consumer Protection Agency (PROFECO)  
General Direction of Verification and Vigilance  
National Laboratory of Consumer Protection

SECRETARIAT OF HEALTH  
Federal Commission for the Protection against Food Safety Risks  
General Direction of Legal Affairs

1. Aranal S.A. de C.V.
2. Arcor Saic.
3. International Assoc. of Chewing Gum
4. General Transfer Warehouses Association
5. Mexican Association of Nutrition
6. National Association of Aromatic Products Manufacturers (ANFPA)
7. National Association of Importers and Exporters of Mexico (ANIERM)
8. National Association of Edible Oils and Shortenings (ANIAME)
9. National Association of Soft Drinks and Carbonated Water Producers (ANPRAC)
10. National Retailers Association (ANTAD)
11. Barroso Abogados & Assoc. (law firm)
12. Beneo Group
13. Benermex A.C.
14. Bufete Quimico S.A. de C.V. (laboratory)
15. National Chamber of the Milk Industry (CANILEC)
16. Calorie Control Council
17. National Chamber of the Transformation Industry (CANACINTRA)

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18. National Chamber of Commerce, Services and Tourism of Ciudad Juarez (CANACO Juarez)
19. National Chamber of Edible Oils and Shortenings Industry (CANIAG)
20. National Chamber of Wheat Mill Industry (CANIMOLT)
21. National Chamber of Industrialized Corn (CANAMI)
22. Casa Cuervo S.A. de C.V.
23. Comercializadora de Lácteos y Derivados S.A. de C.V.
24. National Confederation of Mexican Industrial Chambers (CONCAMIN)
25. Mexican Meat Council (COMECARNE)
26. U.S. Dairy Export Council
27. Consumer Products Industry Mexican Council
28. Mexican Wine Council
29. Agriculture and Livestock National Council (CNA)
30. Mexican Council of Milk and Derivatives Quality Promotion (COFOCALEC)
31. Corporate Affairs Cargill Mexico
32. Direction of Operative Supervision of the Expropriated Sugar Sector Companies Fund (FEESA) / Promotora Azucarera S.A. de C.V. (PROASA)
33. DSM Nutritional Products
34. Dr. Maria del Carmen Duran Dominguez de Bazua, Professor of the School of Chemistry UNAM.
35. Ganaderos Productores de Leche Pura S.A. de C.V.
36. Grecargo S.C.
37. Grupo BIMBO
38. Hershey de México S.A de C.V.
39. Chemistry Institute UNAM
40. National Institute of Medical Science and Nutrition Salvador Zubiran (INCMNSZ)
41. National Institute of Public Health
42. Kellogg Company Mexico
43. Kraft Foods de Mexico
44. Liconsa S.A. de C.V.
45. Logo Banuet Consultores
46. Logre International Food Science Consulting
47. Nacional de Alimentos y Helados S.A. de C.V. (NAYHSA)
48. Ministry of Economy, Industry and Commerce of Costa Rica
49. Ministry of Economy, Industry and Commerce of Guatemala
50. Electronic Norms and Certification (NYCE)
51. Paralelo 20 S.P.R. de R.L.
52. Pepsico Mexico
53. Rich Products Corporation
54. Terana S.A.
55. National Poultry Producers Union (UNA)
56. National Sugar Cane Producers Union
57. Universidad Iberoamericana de Leon

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#### **1 Objective and Application Field**

##### **1.1 Objective**

This Mexican Official Norm has the objective of the establishment of commercial and food safety information and the characteristics determination of such information that must contain the labeling of national or foreign manufactured pre-packaged food products and non-alcoholic beverages.

##### **1.2 Application Field**

This Mexican official norm is applicable to all national or foreign manufactured pre-packaged food products and non-alcoholic beverages to be sold in Mexican territory.

This Mexican official norm does not apply to:

- a) Pre-packaged food and non-alcoholic beverages subject to specific Mexican Official Norms commercial and food safety information or in any other federal ruling in effect that explicitly exclude them from complying with this norm.
- b) Bulk products
- c) Food products and non-alcoholic beverages packed at the point of sale
- d) Other products determined by the authorities according to their attributions

#### **2 References**

This Mexican official norm complements with the following norms in effect:

NOM-002-SCFI-1993, Pre-packaged products – Net content –Tolerances and Verification Methods, published in the Federal Daily Official Gazette on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 1993.

NOM-008-SCFI-2002, Measurement Units General System, published in the Federal Daily Official Gazette on November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2002.

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NOM-030-SCFI-2006, Commercial Information – Label's Quantity Declaration, published in the Federal Official Daily Gazette published on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

NOM-043-SSA2-2005 Basic Health Services - Promotion and Food Health Education – Orientation Criteria, published in the Federal Official Daily Gazette on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2006.

NOM-086-SSA1-1994 Food and Non-alcoholic Beverages with Composition Modifications – Nutritional Specifications, published in the Federal Official Daily Gazette on June 26<sup>th</sup>, 1996.

### 3 Definitions, Symbols and Abbreviations

The following definitions, symbols and abbreviations are the established for this Mexican official norm:

#### 3.1 Agreement

It is understood as Agreement to the *“Agreement by which are determined the permitted substances such as additives and helpers in food products, beverages and food supplements”* from the Secretariat of Health.

#### 3.2 Additive

Any permitted substance that without having nutritional properties is included in the products' formulations acting as a stabilizer, preservative or modification agent of the organoleptic characteristics favoring the stability, preservation, appearance or acceptance.

#### 3.3 Food

Any solid, semisolid, natural or transformed substance or product that provides the organism with nutritional elements

#### 3.4 Sugars

All monosaccharides and disaccharides present in food or non-alcoholic beverages.

#### 3.5 Non-alcoholic beverage

Any liquid natural or transformed that provides the organism with nutritional elements containing less than 2,0 percent in volume of ethylic alcohol.

#### 3.6 Elaboration Helper

Substance or matter -excluding equipment or utensils- that is not consumed as a food ingredient per se, intentionally used in the manufacture of raw materials, food or its ingredients, with a functional purpose during the product elaboration, that could -without intention but inevitably- leave residues or derivatives in the final product.

#### 3.7 Consumer

Individual or company that acquires or enjoys as final consumer the pre-packaged food products and non-alcoholic beverages

#### 3.8 Content

Pre-packaged amount of product that because of its nature can be quantified by a numeric unit count for its trading

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### **3.9 Net Content**

Amount of pre-packaged product that remains after deducting the packaging weight

### **3.10 Properties Declarations**

Any text or representation that assures, suggests or implies that a pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage has special qualities because of its origin, nutritional properties, nature, elaboration, composition or other quality, excluding the product brand and the ingredients names.

### **3.11 Nutritional Properties Declaration**

Any text or representation that assures, suggests or implies that a pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage has particular nutritional qualities not only related with its energetic value or content of: proteins, fats or lipids, carbohydrates or vitamins and inorganic nutriments (minerals).

#### **Not considered as Nutritional Properties Declaration:**

- a) The listing of substances in the ingredients list, name of brand of the pre-packaged product.
- b) The listing of nutriments as part of the mandatory nutritional labeling, when the statement of this information is mandatory.
- c) The quantitative or qualitative statement in the nutritional properties label of some nutrients or ingredients when this is mandatory, in compliance with the applicable legal ordinance.

### **3.12 Nutritional Statement**

List or numbering of the nutrients content of the pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage

### **3.13 Packaging**

Material that wraps, contains and protects the pre-packaged products for its storage and transportation

### **3.14 Container**

Any container or wrap in which are packed two or more pre-packaged product units equal or different for its sale to the consumer.

### **3.16 Label**

Any sign, tag, inscription or any other descriptive mean or graphic, written, printed, stencil, marked, engraved in high or low embossment, adhered, superimposed or fixed to the pre-packaged product container when it is not possible to label the packaging because of the product's characteristics.

### **3.17 Caducity date**

Due date in which it is considered that a pre-packaged product's food safety and quality characteristics that must have for its consumption in storage according to the manufacturer's recommendations, are reduced or eliminated in such way that after that date it cannot be consumed.

### **3.18 Preferred Consumption Date**

Date in which under determined storage conditions, expires the selling date of the pre-packaged product however maintaining its specific qualities and after which it can still be consumed.

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### 3.19 Dietetic Fiber

The Carbohydrates Polymers with 3 or more mono-meric units that are not hydrolyzed by the endogen enzyme of the small human intestine and that belong to the following categories:

- Edible carbohydrates polymers that are naturally present in the way the food is consumed
- Carbohydrate polymers obtained from food raw material by physical, enzymatic or chemical means and that have proven through scientific tests accepted and approved by the proper authorities to have a physiologic health benefit
- Synthetic carbohydrate polymers that have proven through scientific tests accepted and approved by the proper authorities to have a physiologic health benefit

### 3.20 Technologic Function

The effect produced by the use of additives in pre-packaged food and non-alcoholic beverages that provide or intensify its scent, color, flavor and/or improve its stability and preservation amongst other. See additives

### 3.21 Available Carbohydrates

Carbohydrates excluding dietetic fiber

### 3.22 Nutritional Information

Any description that has the purpose to inform the consumer about the nutritional properties of a pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage. It has two aspects:

- a) The mandatory nutritional statement
- b) The complementary nutritional statement

### 3.23 Intake or Recommended Daily Intake

It is obtained by the sum of two typical deviations to the average of the needs required of 97.5 % of the individuals in the population. If the typical deviation is unknown the Average Nutritional Requirement (RNP) of a population is multiplied by 1,2, supposing a coefficient of variation (typical deviation by 100 divided by the average) of 10%. Where RNP is the Average Nutritional Requirement of a population, which in combination with the variation, describe the statistical variation of the individual requirements.

### 3.24 Intake or Suggested Daily Intake (IDS)

It is used instead of the IDR in the cases in which the information on the requirements is insufficient.

### 3.25 Ingredient

Any substance or product including the additives, that is used in the manufacture, elaboration, preparation or treatment of a food or non-alcoholic beverage and that is present in the final product transformed or not.

### 3.26 Composed Ingredient

Previously elaborated mix of substances and products that constitute a finished product that is used in the manufacture of a different ingredient.

### 3.27 Precaution Messages

Any text or representation that warns the consumer on the presence of a specific ingredient or the health damage that may result for the abuse in the consumption of the product

### 3.28 Lot

The amount of product elaborated in the same cycle, integrated by homogenous units and identified by a specific code.

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### **3.29 Drained Mass**

Amount of solid or semisolid product that represents the content in a container after the liquid has been removed through a previously established method.

### **3.30 Commonly Used Name**

Is the name given to a pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage according to the uses and customs. Such is the case of waffles or hot cakes, amongst other.

### **3.31 Nutriment**

Any substance including proteins, amino acids, fats, lipids, carbohydrates, water, vitamins and inorganic nutrients (minerals) normally consumed as a component of a food or non-alcoholic beverage that:

- a) Provides energy
- b) Is necessary for the growth, development and maintenance of life; or
- c) Which lack provokes specific chemical or physiologic changes

### **3.32 Portion**

Amount of product that is suggested for consumption or that is generally consumed in an intake, expressed in units from the Measurement Units General System

### **3.33 Bulk Product**

Amount of product that must be weighed, measured or counted in the presence of the consumer because it is not pre-packaged at the moment of the sale

### **3.34 Pre-packaged Product**

Food and non-alcoholic beverages that are placed in a package of any nature without the consumer's presence and the amount of product contained in it cannot be altered unless the package is opened or visibly modified

### **3.35 Responsible of the Product**

Individual or company that imports or manufactures a product or that has ordered the total or partial manufacture to a third party

### **3.36 Measurement Unit Symbol**

Conventional sign that designates the measurement unit symbol in accordance with the NOM-008-SCFI-2002, mentioned in the references chapter

### **3.37 Information Panel**

Any area of the package or container different to the main exhibit panel

### **3.38 Main Exhibit Panel**

Is that area where the name and commercial brand of the product is placed. Its dimensions are calculated according to NOM-030-SCFI-2006, mentioned in the references chapter

### **3.39 Measurement Unit**

Value of the magnitude through which it is accepted that the numeric value is equal to 1 (see reference)

### **3.40 Reference Nutritional Values (VNR)**

Group of figures that serve as guide to value and plan the nutriment intake of a properly nourished and healthy population



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### 3.41 Symbols and Abbreviations

Symbol	Meaning
IDR	Recommended Daily Intake
IDS	Suggested Daily Intake
kJ	Kilojoule
kcal	Kilocalorie
L, l	Liter
m/m	mass/mass
mg	milligrams
ml, mL	Milliliters
g	Gramos
µg	Microgram
%	Percentage
VNR	Referenced Nutritional Value

## 4 Specifications

### 4.1 General Labeling Requirements

**4.1.1** The information contained in the labels of pre-packaged food and non-alcoholic beverages must be true, described and presented in such way that the consumer is not lead to a misconception about the product's nature and characteristics

**4.1.2** The pre-packaged products must be presented with a label in which they are described using words, illustrations or other graphic representations that refer to the product

**4.1.3** The pre-packaged food and non-alcoholic beverages can incorporate the graphic or descriptive suggestions of use or preparation as long as there is a message referring to this aspect

**4.2** The following are obligatory commercial and food safety information requirements, except for the mentioned in the next paragraph

Unless it is spices o aromatic herbs, small products in which the largest surface in smaller than 10 cm<sup>2</sup> will be exempt of the following requirements: ingredients list and instructions of use

**4.2.1** Name or denomination of the pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage

**4.2.1.1** The name or denomination of the pre-packaged product must correspond to the established in the specific law ordinance; in the absence of these, the common name can be indicated or a description according to the basic composition's characteristics of the pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage that does not drive the consumer to a misconception or lies to the consumer can be used. If the product has been subject to some kind of treatment, the name of the treatment can be included, except for those that according to the corresponding law are mandatory.

**4.2.2** List of Ingredients

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**4.2.2.1** The label of the pre-packaged products' units to be sold individually must contain an ingredients list which can be exempted of if the product has only one ingredient

**4.2.2.1.1** The ingredients list must be titled or preceded by the term: **Ingredientes:**

**4.2.2.1.2** The pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage must be numbered in quantitative decreasing order (m/m)

**4.2.2.1.3** A composed ingredient must be declared when it constitutes more than 5% of the food or non-alcoholic beverage and must be accompanied by a list of its constitutive ingredients in decreasing quantitative order in parenthesis (m/m), including the additives with a function in the finished product or that are associated to allergic reactions.

**4.2.2.1.4** The water added must be indicated in the ingredients list in predominant order, except when the water is part of a composed ingredient declared in the list and the water used in the cooking or reconstitution process. It is not necessary to declare the water or other volatile ingredients that evaporate during the manufacture.

**4.2.2.1.5** In the case of dehydrated or condensed products, meant to be reconstituted, the ingredients can be numbered in quantitative decreasing order (m/m) in the reconstituted product, as long as there is the following indication: "ingredients of the product when prepared according to the label's instructions", or other similar indications.

**4.2.2.1.6** The list of ingredients must contain a specific denomination according to the indications in 4.2.2.1, including the ingredients mentioned in 4.2.2.2.3 except for the ingredients which generic denominations are included in Table 1

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Table 1	Ingredients Generic Denomination
Ingredients Classification	Generic Denomination
Refined Oils different to olive oil	Oil followed by the term: vegetable of animal; qualified as hydrogenated or partially hydrogenated depending on the case
Refined Fats	Fats, followed by the term: vegetable or animal or mixed or composed, qualified as hydrogenated depending on the case
Starches, different to the chemically modified starches	Starch
All fish species, when constituting an ingredient of other food and as long as in the product's presentation and label there is no reference to a determined fish species	Fish
All types of poultry meat when constituting an ingredient of other food and as long as in the pre-packaged product's label and presentation there is no reference to a specific kind of poultry meat	Poultry meat
All types of cheeses, when the cheese or cheese blend constitutes an ingredient of other foods as long as in the pre-packaged product label and presentation there is no reference to a specific type of cheese	Cheese or cheeses or cheese blend depending on the case
All spices and spices extracts in amounts no higher than 2% in weight, alone or blended in the pre-packaged product.	Spice, spices or spices blends depending on the case
All aromatic herbs or parts of aromatic herbs in amounts no higher than 2% in weight, alone or blended in the pre-packaged product.	Aromatic herb, aromatic herbs or aromatic herbs blends depending on the case.
All kinds of gum preparations used in the manufacture of base gum for the chewing gum product	Base gum
All kinds of saccharose	Sugar
Anhydrous dextrose and monohydrated dextrose	Dextrose or Glucose
All kinds of caseinates	Caseinates
Dairy products that contain minimum 50% of milk protein (m/m) in the dry extract	Dairy protein
Cacao butter obtained by crushing, extraction or refined methods	Cacao butter
All sugar coated fruits not exceeding 10% of the pre-packaged product	Sugar coated fruits
All condiments in quantities not higher than 2% in weight, alone or blended in the pre-packaged product	Condiment, condiments or Condiments blend, depending on the case
All kinds of microorganisms used in the lactose fermentation as long as in the label and the product's presentation, there is no reference to a specific type of microorganism	Lactic cultures
Butter whey, cheese whey, milk whey, milk protein concentrate, whey protein of lactose	Milk solids
All pepper varieties or blends	Pepper or peppers or peppers blend

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**4.2.2.1.7** Despite of the specified in the table above, lard and bovine fat or tallow must always be declared by its specific denominations.

### **4.2.2.2 Elaboration Helpers and Additive Transfer**

**4.2.2.2.1** The additives used in the ingredients of a pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage that are transferred to other pre-packaged product in enough quantities to be functional must be included in the ingredients list.

**4.2.2.2.2** The additives transferred to the pre-packaged food or non- alcoholic beverages that are no longer functional in the finished product as well as the elaboration helpers are exempt to be declared in the ingredients list with the exception of those that can cause hypersensitiveness.

**4.2.2.2.3** All those ingredients and additives that cause hypersensitiveness, intolerance or allergy must be declared in compliance with the corresponding law ordinance.

It has been proven that the following foods and ingredients cause hypersensitiveness and must always be declared:

- Cereals containing gluten: for example wheat, rye, barley, oats, spelt or its hybrids and derived products
- Crustacean and its products
- Egg and egg products
- Fish and fish products
- Peanuts and its products
- Soy and its products (except for soybean oil)
- Milk and dairy products (lactose included)
- Tree nuts and derivatives
- Sulfite in concentrations of 10mg/kg or more

**4.2.2.2.4** In the declaration of the additives used in the pre-packaged food and non-alcoholic beverages the common name or synonymous established in the Agreement must be used.

The enzymes and flavorings, flavor enhancers or aromatic agents can be declared as generic denominations.

The flavorings, flavor enhancers or aromatic agents can be qualified as: “natural”, “identical to natural”, “artificial” or the corresponding combination.

### **4.2.2.3 Quantitative Ingredients Labeling**

**4.2.2.3.1** All pre-packed food or non-alcoholic beverages sold as mix or combination must declare the ingredient percentage according to the weight or volume corresponding to the ingredient at the moment of the manufacture (including the composed ingredients or ingredients categories), when this ingredient:

- a) Is emphasized in the label through words, images or graphics, or
- b) Is not present in the name or denomination of the pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage and it's essential to the product, given the fact that the consumers assume its presence in the pre-packaged product and the lack of quantitative ingredient declaration lies or drives the consumer to a misconception.

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Such declarations are not required when:

- c) The ingredient is used in small amounts with a flavoring and/or aromatic purpose

In reference to subject 4.2.2.3.1 (a):

- d) The reference in the food name, ingredient or ingredient category emphasized in the label does not require a quantitative declaration as long as:

The reference to the ingredient emphasized does not drive the consumer to a misconception or creates a mistaken impression of the pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage product's nature, because the ingredient or ingredients amount variation amongst products is not necessary to distinguish it from similar products.

**4.2.2.3.2** The information required in subject 4.2.2.3.1 will be declared in the label as a numeric percentage.

The ingredient percentage by weight or volume will be declared in the label very close to the words, images or graphics that emphasize the specific ingredient or on one side of the common name or denomination of the pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage or adjacent to the corresponding ingredient in the ingredients list. It will be declared as a minimum percentage when the emphasis is the presence of the ingredient and as a maximum percentage when the emphasis is the low content of the ingredient. In the case of food that has lost moisture after heat exposure or other treatment, the percentage (according to weight or volume) will correspond to the ingredient's amount or ingredients used in relation with the finished product.

### 4.2.3 Net Content and Drained Mass

**4.2.3.1** The net content and when necessary the drained mass must be declared in units from the Measurement Units General System in compliance with NOM-030-SCFI-2006, and can also be expressed in other units (see References).

### 4.2.4 Name, Denomination or Legal Name and Fiscal Address

**4.2.4.1** For pre-packaged food and non-alcoholic beverages the name, denomination, legal name and fiscal address of the person responsible for the product must be indicated as a statement not limited to but including: street, number, zip code, and federative entity.

**4.2.4.2** For imported pre-packaged food and non-alcoholic beverages the name, denomination or legal name and fiscal address of the person responsible for the product must be indicated in the label. This information can be incorporated to the pre-packaged product in Mexican territory, after the customs release and before the product is sold.

### 4.2.5 Country of Origin

**4.2.5.1** The national or foreign origin pre-packaged food and non-alcoholic beverages must incorporate a statement that identifies the product's country of origin, for example: "Made in...", "Product of..." "Made in...", or other similar, followed by the name of the country, subject to the international agreements that Mexico has signed with. The use of gentile nouns and other analog terms is permitted as long as these are precise and do not drive to a mistake in regards with the country of origin. For example: "Producto Espanol", "Producto Estadounidense", among others.

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### 4.2.6 Lot Traceability

**4.2.6.1** Each packaging must have engraved or marked in any way the lot identification with a key that allows its traceability.

**4.2.6.2** The lot identification incorporated in the prepackaged product by the manufacturer must be marked in permanent form and cannot be altered or hidden in any way until it is purchased by the consumer.

**4.2.6.3** The Lot Number must be preceded by any of the following indications: "LOTE", "Lot", "L", "Lote", "lote", "lot", "l", "lt", "LT", "LOT", or include a reference of the place in the package where it can be found.

### 4.2.7 Caducity Date of Preferred Consumption Date

**4.2.7.1** If it is not indicated in a different way in a Mexican Official Norm, the Caducity Date of Preferred Consumption Date must comply with the following:

- i) The manufacturer must declare it in the container of label, which must consist in at least:
  - The day and month for products with a maximum shelf life of 3 months
  - The month and year for products with a shelf life longer than three months
- ii) The date must be preceded by a statement that specifies that such date is referring to the caducity date and not to the preferred consumption date.

-In the case of the caducity date, it must be indicated preceded by one of the following words, abbreviations or analog statements:

"Fecha de caducidad\_\_\_\_", "Caducidad\_\_\_\_", "Fech Cad\_\_\_\_", CAD, Cad, cad, Fecha de Expiracion, Expira, Exp, EXP, exp, Fecha de Vencimiento, Vencimiento.

-In the case of the preferred consumption date, it must be indicated and preceded by any of the statements, abbreviations or analog statements:

"Consumir preferentemente antes del\_\_\_\_", "Cons.Pref. antes del\_\_\_\_", and "Cons Pref"

- iii) The words prescribed in ii) should be accompanied by:
  - The date, or
  - A reference of the place in which the date is located in the packaging

For the imported products, when the caducity date or preferred consumption date statements does not correspond to the format established in 4.2.7.1 i), it can be adjusted in order to comply with the norm, or the label or package must have the interpretation of this date. In neither of these situations the adjustments will be considered and alteration.

**4.2.7.2** When declaring the caducity date or preferred consumption date it must be indicated in the label any of the special conditions required for the pre-packaged food or non alcoholic beverage product preservation when it is vital to the effect of the date.

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For example: statements as “keep refrigerated”, “keep frozen”, “do not freeze after thawed”, “keep refrigerated after opening”, or other similar.

**4.2.7.3** The caducity date or preferred consumption date incorporated in the pre-packaged product by the manufacturer cannot be altered under any circumstance.

**4.2.7.4** The following products do not require caducity or preferred consumption date:

- Vinegar
- Food grade salt
- Solid sugar
- Confection products such as scented and/or colored sugar
- Chewing gum

### 4.2.8 Nutritional Information

**4.2.8.1** The nutritional information statement in the label is mandatory for pre-packaged products

#### 4.2.8.2 Nutriment that must be declared

**4.2.8.2.1** It is mandatory to declare the following, with the exception of the pre-packaged food and non-alcoholic beverages regulated by other applicable laws:

- a) Energetic content
- b) Protein content
- c) Carbohydrates content or available carbohydrates indicating the corresponding amount from sugar
- d) The fat or lipids content specifying the amount corresponding to saturated fat
- e) The dietetic fiber content
- f) Sodium content
- g) The content of any other nutriment that is considered important, regulated by the applicable law

**4.2.8.2.2** When a specific property of the product regarding the content or type of carbohydrates or carbohydrates is declared, it is also permitted to indicate the amounts of starch and/or other carbohydrate component.

**4.2.8.2.3** When a declaration of properties in relation with the amount of type of fatty acids or cholesterol is made, it must also be declared the amounts of: trans fat, monounsaturated fatty acids, polyunsaturated fatty acids and cholesterol.

**4.2.8.2.4** Apart from the established in 4.2.8.1, the following are exempt of including the nutritional information as long as no product property declaration is made:

- i) Products with only one ingredient
- ii) Herbs, spices or blends of these
- iii) Coffee extracts, whole coffee beans or ground, decaffeinated or regular
- iv) Herbs infusions, decaffeinated or not decaffeinated tea, instant and/or soluble that do not contain added ingredients
- v) Fermented vinegar and substitutes

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vi) Purified bottled water, natural mineral water

### 4.2.8.3 Nutritional Information Presentation

**4.2.8.3.1** The nutritional information must be expressed in the corresponding units of the Measurement Units General System NOM-008-SCFI-2002, mentioned in the references chapter. Additionally, other measurement units can be used. In the case of dietetic fiber, vitamins and inorganic nutrients (minerals), these must comply with the ruling stated in 4.2.8.3.5.

**4.2.8.3.2** The energetic content declaration must be expressed in either (kcal) per 100 gr, or 100 ml, or per portion when the package has several portions or per container when it has only one portion.

**4.2.8.3.3** The pre-packaged food and non-alcoholic product's protein, carbohydrates, lipids (fat) and sodium content declaration must be expressed in measurement units per 100g or per 100 ml or per portion and per container if it has only one portion.

**4.2.8.3.4** The numeric declaration of dietetic fiber, vitamins and inorganic nutrients (minerals) must be expressed in measurement units or percentage of the nutritional values referenced or both per 100g or per 100 ml or per portion contained in a package with several portions or per container when it has only one portion.

**4.2.8.3.5** For these labels, the Suggested Daily Intake and Recommended Daily Intake table for the Mexican population must be used as follows:



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Table 2		Nutritional Values Reference for the Mexican Population	
Nutriment/measurement unit		RNV	
		RDI	SDI
Protein g/kg body weight		1	
Dietetic Fiber g		30	
Vitamin A µg (equivalent from retinol)			568
Vitamin B1 µg (Thiamine)			800
Vitamin B2 µg (Riboflavin)			840
Vitamin B6 µg (Pyridoxine)			930
Niacina mg (equivalent to Nicotinic Acid)			11
Folic Acid µg (Folacin)			380
Vitamin B12 µg (Cobalamin)			2,1
Vitamin C mg (Ascorbic Acid)		60	
Vitamin D µg (as Cholecalciferol)			5,6
Vitamin E mg (equivalent to Tocopherol)			11
Vitamin K µg			78
Panhotenic Acid mg			4,0
Calcium mg			900
Copper µg			650
Chromium µg			22
Fluoride mg			2,2
Phosphorous mg		664	
Iron mg			17
Magnesium			248
Selenium µg			41
Iodine µg			99
Zinc mg			10

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**4.2.8.3.6** The Nutritional Information may be presented in the following or analog formats according to Table 3:

**Table 3 Nutritional Information Presentation Format**

Nutritional Information		Per 100 g or 100 ml or per portion or per container
Energetic content kj (kcal)		_____ kj (kcal)
Proteins		_____ g
Fat (lipids)		_____ g. from which
		_____ g of saturated fat
Carbohydrates (hidratos de carbono)		_____ g. from which
		_____ g of sugar
Dietetic fiber		_____ g
Sodium		_____ mg
Additional information		_____ mg. µg or RDI%

### 4.2.8.3.7 Tolerances and Compliance

The Health Secretariat can establish tolerance limits to the nutritional information according to the public health needs. The shelf stability, analysis precision, diverse elaboration methods, instability and variability of the nutriment in the product, depending if the nutriment has been added to the product or it is naturally in it, will be regulated by the Mexican Official Norms.

**4.2.8.3.8** The chemical composition values stated in the nutritional declaration of the pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage must be average weighted values resulted of an analysis, database or tables with international recognition.

### 4.2.9 Nutritional Properties Declaration

**4.2.9.1** All declarations related to the nutritional information must comply with the established in the NOM-086-SSA1 (see references chapter) despite of the established in this Norm.

### 4.2.10 Mandatory Requirements Presentation

#### 4.2.10.1 Generals

**4.2.10.1.1** The pre-packaged products labels must be attached to the container in such way that they are correctly preserved until the moment of the product's consumption and must be placed in each unit, multiple container or collective package.

**4.2.10.2** When the mandatory commercial information of the pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage products that will be sold to the final consumer is placed in the multiple or collective container it will not be necessary that this information is placed in each individual unit. However, the lot number and caducity or expiration date or preferred consumption date must appear in each pre-packaged food or non alcoholic beverage unit. It must also be indicated in each unit the following statement: "Not labeled for its individual sale" in those cases when these are not labeled with the full mandatory information or an equivalent statement.

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**4.2.10.3** The information included in the label must appear in clear, visible, indelible font and contrast colors easy to be read by the consumer in normal purchase and use circumstances.

The lot and caducity or preferred consumption date information can be placed in any part of the container/package.

**4.2.10.4** When the container is covered in a wrap or film, this wrap must contain all the applicable information unless the container's label can be fully read through the film or wrap.

**4.2.10.5** On the main exhibit panel of the prepackaged food or non-alcoholic beverage must be placed at least the following information:

Brand, quantity declaration and denomination or name of the product and any other information which location may have been specified before. The remaining information established in the Mexican Official Norm, can be incorporated in any other part of the container or package.

### 4.2.11 Language

**4.2.11.1** The pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverages must show the mandatory information stated in this Mexican Norm in Spanish language not minding if it is also expressed in other languages. When the information is expressed in other languages it must also be expressed in Spanish, at least in the same size and equally visible conditions.

**4.2.11.2** The information's presentation or graphic representation in the label of additional information to that established in this Mexican Official Norm, which can be presented in a different language is optional therefore, it cannot replace -under any circumstances- but can be added to the labeling requirements in this Norm as long as such information is necessary to avoid the consumer's misconception on the product.

### 4.3 Optional Information Requirements

#### 4.3.1 Complementary Nutritional Information

The use of the Complementary Nutritional Information in written or graphic form, included in the pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverages is optional and it cannot replace -under no circumstances- the nutrients declaration, except in the case of the food or non-alcoholic beverages which composition is modified in which case these will have to comply with NOM-086-SSA1 (See References chapter).

**4.3.1.1** When the Complementary Nutritional Information is presented the following criteria must be applied:

- a) The inclusion of any of the following nutrients does not force the inclusion of any of the others and will only be included if there is a VNR (Nutritional Value Reference) assigned and the portion's content is over 5% of the VNR (either if it is RDI or SDI):

Vitamin A (%VNR), Vitamin E (%VNR), Vitamin C (% VNR), Vitamin B1 (Thiamine) (%VNR), Vitamin B2 (Riboflavin) (%VNR), Vitamin B6 (Pyridoxine) (%VNR), Vitamin B12 (Cobalamin) (%VNR), Vitamin D (%VNR), Vitamin K (%VNR), Panthothenic Acid (%VNR), Folic Acid (Folacin) (%VNR), Niacin (Nicotinic Acid) (%VNR), Calcium (%VNR), Phosphorous (%VNR), Magnesium (%VNR), Iron (%VNR), Zinc (%VNR), Iodine (%VNR), Copper (%VNR), Chromium (%VNR), Fluoride (%VNR), Selenium (%VNR).

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b) All or none of the following:

Polyunsaturated fat \_\_\_\_\_g; Monounsaturated fat \_\_\_\_\_g; Trans fat \_\_\_\_\_g; Cholesterol \_\_\_\_\_mg.

c) The inclusion of any of the following does not force the inclusion of the others:

Starches \_\_\_\_\_g; Polyols \_\_\_\_\_g; Polydextroses \_\_\_\_\_g.

d) When expressing the types of carbohydrates and fat (lipids) components referenced in 4.2.8.2.1 c) and d), it must be preceded by the following or analog statement:

“from which....”

e) Number of portions per package

**4.3.1.2** The Complementary Nutritional Information may be presented as per the indications in Table 4.

**Table 4 - Complementary Nutritional Information Declaration Format**

Nutriments / VNR Percentage (RDI or SDI)		
Vitamin A _____%		
Vitamin B1 (Thiamine) _____%		
Vitamin B2 (Riboflavin) _____%		
Vitamin B6 (Pyridoxine) _____%		
Vitamin B12 (Cobalamin) _____%		
Vitamin C (Ascorbic Acid) _____%		
Niacin (Nocitinic Acid) _____%		
Folic Acid (Folacine) _____%		
Iron _____%		

### 4.3.2 Instructions of Use

The label must contain the instructions for the use of the product when necessary, including the process to rehydration if it is the case, in order to ensure the correct use of the pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage.

### 4.4 Additional Information

Any information written or printed or graphic representation can be shown in the label as long as it is not in contradiction with the mandatory requirements of this Norm, including those related to the product properties stated in 4.1.1.

**4.4.1** When the label includes Quality Claims, these must be easily comprehensive avoiding the consumer’s misunderstanding or misconception.

**4.4.2** The label may include any information or graphic representation indication that the container of the pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage does not affect the environment avoiding false information for the consumer.

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### 5 Calculations

#### 5.1 Nutriment Calculations

##### 5.1.1 Energy Calculation

The energy content that must be declared must be calculated using the following conversion factors:

<b>Available carbohydrates</b>	<b>4kcal/g</b>	<b>17 kj/g</b>
<b>Proteins</b>	<b>4 kcal/g</b>	<b>17 kj/g</b>
<b>Fat</b>	<b>9 kcal/g</b>	<b>37 kj/g</b>

##### 5.1.2 Proteins Calculation

The protein content that must be declared has to be calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{Protein} = \text{total Nitrogen content} \quad \text{Kjeldahl} \times 6,25$$

**5.1.3** A different factor can be used for the calculation of protein according to the established in the applicable law ordinance.

### 6 Properties Declarations

This chapter is based on the principle that no pre-packaged food or non-alcoholic beverage will be described or presented with false, wrong or misleading information, or in any other way that may drive the consumer to a misconception on the product's nature.

#### 6.1 The use of the following declarations is not permitted:

##### 6.1.1 Property Claims

- Declarations that lead to believe that a balanced diet based on ordinary foods cannot provide enough nutrients.
- Declarations that cannot be proved
- Declarations on the food or non-alcoholic beverage usefulness to prevent, treat or cure an illness, syndrome or physiologic condition.
- Declarations that may cause doubts on the safety of analog food or non-alcoholic beverages or may cause or provoke the consumer's fear.
- Declarations stating that a particular food is an adequate source of all the essential nutrients.

##### 6.1.2 Potentially Misleading Properties Declarations

Following are the examples of properties declarations that can be misleading:

- Declarations of properties that do not make sense including comparisons and incomplete superlatives.
- Declarations of properties regarding proper hygiene or trade, such as: genuineness, healthiness, healthy, with the exception of those indicated in other applicable law ordinances.

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### 6.2 Conditional Properties Declarations

The following conditional properties declarations are permitted depending of the particular condition assigned to each of them:

- a) It will be permitted to indicate that a food has acquired a special or superior nutritive value because of the addition of nutriments such as: vitamins, inorganic nutriments (minerals) and amino acids only if such addition has been made based on the nutritional considerations according to the applicable law ordinance.
- b) The statements on the product's special nutritional qualities resulting from the reduction or lack of a nutriment will be made based on the nutritional considerations and be subject to the applicable law ordinance.
- c) When using terms such as: "natural", "pure", "fresh", and "homemade", "organically cultivated", or "biologically cultivated", these will have to be according to the applicable law ordinance. The use of these terms will have to be in compliance with the prohibitions stated in 6.1.
- d) A food's ritual or religious preparation can be declared, -for example Halal, Kosher-, as long as the declaration is done according to the rules of the religious authorities or corresponding ritual.
- e) Properties declarations stating that the food has special characteristics when all of the foods of the same kind have the same characteristics, if this fact is apparent in the properties declaration.
- f) Properties declarations that highlight the lack or no-addition of particular substances in food, as long as these are not misleading and the substance:
  - i) Is not subject to special requirements in any Norm
  - ii) Is not a substance that consumers expect to find normally in that food product
  - iii) Has not been replaced by another one providing equivalent characteristics, unless the nature of the replacement is explicitly declared with the same importance.
  - iv) Is an ingredient which presence or addition in the food is allowed
- g) Properties declarations that expose the absence or no addition of one or more nutriments must be considered as nutritional properties declarations and therefore, will have to comply with the mandatory nutritional declaration in the applicable law ordinance.

### 6.3 Healthy and Nutritional Declarations

This kind of declarations can be related to the caloric content, proteins, carbohydrates, fats (lipids) and derivatives, dietetic fiber, sodium, vitamins and inorganic nutriments (minerals), for which the Reference Nutritional Values have been established.

The following Properties Declarations definitions are permitted conditioned to the terms in each case:

**6.3.1** It is understood that the Properties Declaration related to the Nutriments content is the nutritional properties declaration that describes the content level of a particular nutriment in a food. (Examples: "Source of Calcium", "High Fiber Content" and "Low Fat").

**6.3.2** It is understood that the Nutriments Properties Comparison is a properties declaration that compares the nutriments and/or energetic value of two or more foods. (Examples: "reduced", "less than...", "less...", "increased...", "more than...").

**6.3.3** Healthy Properties Declaration is any representation that declares, suggests or implies that there is a relation between a food or food component and health. The Healthy Properties Declarations includes the following:

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**6.3.3.1** It is understood that the Declaration of Nutriment Function is a Nutritional Properties Declaration that describes a physiologic function of the nutriment in the growth, development and normal body functions.

Example: "Nutriment A (mentioning a physiologic body function of nutriment A in relation with the health maintenance, growth promotion and normal development). Food X is a source of ....high in nutriment A".

**6.3.3.2** Other Function Properties Declaration – These are properties declarations that pertain to the beneficial effects of the food consumption or its components in the context of a total diet over the functions or normal biologic body activities. Such Properties Declarations are related to a positive contribution to the health or a function's improvement, or the health's modification or preservation. Example: "Substance A (naming the effects of A over the physiologic function's or health's association with the biologic activity). Food "Y" contains "X" grams of substance "A".

**6.3.4** Properties Declarations will not be allowed when there is an intention to give the product characteristics that it does not contain or poses, nor declarations associated to the reduction or illness risk reduction.

## 7 Statements

### 7.1 Precaution Statements

**7.1.1** Precaution Statements must make reference to the ingredient or ingredient's origin that based on recognized scientific information is related with real or potential risks associated with digestive intolerance, allergies or metabolic diseases or toxicity.

**7.1.2** Specific Precaution Statements per product will be established in the corresponding Mexican Official Norms or other law ordinances.

**7.3** Statements that promote a recommended diet and/or food orientation can be included. NOM-043-SSA2-2005 can be consulted for these cases.

## 8 Verification and Vigilance

The verification and vigilance of this Mexican Official Norm will be performed by the Federal Consumer Protection Agency and the Federal Commission for Food Safety Risk according to their corresponding competence complying with the Consumer Protection Federal Law, General Health Law and other applicable law ordinances.

## 9 Compliance Evaluation

This Mexican Official Norm cannot be certified and the Commercial Information Verification Units approved and appointed by the Economy Secretariat will be able to verify the compliance of it according to the Metrology and Normative Federal Law.

## 10 Bibliography

- General Health Law
- Consumer Protection General Law
- Metrology and Normative General Law published in the Federal Daily Gazette
- Product and Services Safety Control Ruling

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- Metrology and Normative Federal Law Ruling
- Agreement to determine the permitted substances such as additives and helpers in food, beverages and food supplements.- Codex Alimentarius Codex VI-Norms and Directions for food and food additives 1987. FAQ/WHO.
- ISO/IEC Guide 37 1995 (E) Instructions for use of products of consumer interest.
- Rosado, Jorge; Casanueva, Esther y Hector, Bourges; Recomendaciones de Ingestión de Nutrimientos para la Población Mexicana. Bases Fisiológicas; Medica Panamericana, 2005.

### 11 Harmonization with International Norms

This Mexican Official Norm is partially harmonized with the Codex Norms:

- CODEX STAN 1-1985, Rev. 1-1991. Prepackaged Products General Labeling Norm and its amendments.
- CAC/GL 1-1979, Rev. 1-1991. General Directions on Properties Declarations and its amendments.
- CAC/GL 2-1985, Rev. 1-1993. Nutritional Labeling Directions and its amendments.
- CAC/GL 23-1997, Rev. 1-2004. Nutritional and Healthy Declarations Directions and its amendments.

### TRANSITORY CLAUSES

**FIRST:** This Mexican Official Norm will be put in effect 270 calendar days after its publication in the Federal Official Daily Gazette.

**SECOND:** For those pre-packaged food or non alcoholic beverages which labeling cannot be modified to comply with the NOM-051-SCFI/SSA1-2010 at the moment of its enforcement, the interested companies will be able to request a one-time permission to the General Direction of Norms – Secretariat of Economy, to make the necessary modifications.

The request can be presented from the date of the publication of the NOM-051-SCFI/SSA1-2010 published in the Official Daily Gazette and until three months before its enforcement and will have to be accompanied by the technical and economic information to justify it.

**THIRD:** This Mexican Official Norm cancels the Mexican Official Norm NOM-051-SCFI-1994 General Labeling Specifications for the Pre-packaged Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages published in the Federal Official Daily Gazette on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 1996.

**FOURTH:** This Mexican Official Norm cancels all of the criteria, rules, instructions, manuals, memorandums, rulings, procedures or other mandatory indications derived from the Mexican Official Norms NOM-051-SCFI-1994, General Labeling Specifications for Pre-packaged Food and Non-alcoholic Beverages published in the Federal Official Daily Gazette on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 1996.



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Mexico D.F., a....

The General Director of Norms and President  
National Consultative Commission of  
Normative, Consumer Security,  
Commercial Information and Trade Practices

FRANCISCO RAMOS GOMEZ

**MRM/GMM/PMR/SFC**

The Federal Commissioner for Protection  
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