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Explanatory Notes on the Application of the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (Grading, Packaging And Labelling of Agricultural Produce) 2008 [P. U. (A) 274/2008]

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Part 1: Introduction to the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (Grading, Packaging and Labelling of Agricultural Produce) 2008 [P. U. (A) 274/2008]

1.1 Statutory functions of FAMA

The Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority ("FAMA") was established by the Government of Malaysia in 1965, under the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority Act 1965 [Act 141]. The main objectives of establishment of FAMA are to supervise, coordinate, regulate and develop the marketing of produce in Malaysia, including the importation and exportation of produce.

1.2 Objectives of Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (Grading, Packaging and Labelling of Agricultural Produce) 2008 ('Regulations'')

The Regulations are made pursuant to the powers under Act 141 and was gazetted on 18th August 2008.

The main objectives of the Regulations are:

- (1) to specify a uniform grade standards for agricultural produce which are to be exported, imported or sold by wholesale or retail in the country;
- (2) to prescribe a uniform requirements of packaging and labeling for produce to be exported or imported and sold by wholesale or retail in the country;
- (3) to adopt national standards, standards of exporting countries and standards recommended by Codex Alimentarius Commission;
- (4) to recognize grade standards of exporting countries which are considered equivalent with the local standards or which have been harmonised pursuant to bilateral or multilateral agreements;
- (5) to prescribe the Rules of Origin for the purpose of labelling and marking to identify the place of origin of produce;
- (6) to provide the export and import control system which is transparent and fair in respect of grade standard compliance;

- (7) to provide inspection and certification and system for grade standard which is transparent and fair;
- (8) to provide measures to protect consumer from marketing fraud and to facilitate trade by labelling accurate and correct products' descriptions;
- (9) to provide a system that can be integrated in the national food security and control system, which guarantee a safe and quality food for consumer;
- (10) to adopt Code of Ethics For International Trade in Food, issued by Codex Alimentarius, to prevent and stop exporters and exporting countries from dumping produce that are not safe for domestic and international trades;
- (11) to gather marketing information and trade statistic; and
- (12) to promote the producer of produce to perform the grading, packaging and labelling of produce at the production area or collection centre.

1.3 The main requirements of the Regulations

The main requirements under the Regulations are as follows:

Requirements of grading, packaging and labelling.

1.3.1 All produce specified in the Regulations for the purpose of export, import, wholesale and retail shall be graded in accordance with the prescribed grade standards and comply with the requirements of packaging and labelling under in the Regulations.

Compliance with prescribed grade standards

- 1.3.2 Every produce prescribed in the Regulations shall be graded in accordance with the following grade standards:
 - (a) grade standards specified by Malaysian Standard;
 - (b) if grade standards are not specified by Malaysian Standard, grade standards specified by country of origin; and
 - (c) if grade standards are not specified by Malaysian Standards and country of origin, grade standards prescribed by FAMA.

Inspection and certification for produce that are to be exported or imported

- 1.3.3 (a) Every produce for export or which are to be imported shall subject to conformity inspection and payment of inspection fee, and if such produce has complied with the grade standard and the requirements of packaging and labeling under the Regulations, FAMA may issue a conformity certificate, which enable the produce to be exported or imported, as the case may be.
 - (b) Exporter or importer who exports or imports any produce without a conformity certificate is guilty of an offence under the Regulations.

Requirements of grading, packaging and labelling of produce for wholesale and retail.

- 1.3.4 (a) Produce which are intended for wholesale or retail in any market, premises or place shall comply with grade standards and the requirements of packaging and labelling specified in the Regulations.
 - (b) Any wholesaler or retailer who fails to grade his produce and comply with the requirements of packaging and labelling of produce under the Regulations is guilty of an offence under the Regulations.

Part 2 : Explanatory Notes on the provisions of the Regulations

2.1 Scope of Application and Interpretation

2.1.1 Geographical area

The Regulations apply throughout the States of Malaysia, including its boundaries and federal territories of Malaysia.

2.1.2 Marketing activities

Marketing activities regulated under the Regulations are exporting and importing of produce, and wholesaling and retailing of produce in Malaysia.

2.1.3 Types of produce

Produce that are regulated under the Regulations are listed in the <u>First Schedule</u>, in their raw form.

2.1.4 Interpretation

For the purpose of this Document, the following interpretations are applicable:-

"Act" means the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority Act 1965 [Act 141];

"authorised officer" means an officer authorised in writing under the Act;

"container" means a suitable container which contains any produce of the same type and grade and are exhibit for sale by retail;

"consumer package" means a package containing the produce of the same type and grade for sale to consumer;

"consumer" means any person who purchases any produce for personal, domestic or household purpose, use or consumption;

"Conformity Inspection" means a physical inspection of a produce conducted by an authorised officer, for the purpose of export or import, to ensure that such produce has been graded, packaged and labelled in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations;

"Conformity Certificate" means a document as prescribed in the Fifth Schedule, and issued, by an authorised officer, certifying the produce which had undergone a Conformity Inspection, has complied with the requirements of grade standard, packaging and labelling under the Regulations;

"country of origin grade standards" means grade standards issued by the authority of the exporting countries;

'FAMA" means Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority, a statutory body established by the Government of Malaysia, under the Act;

"Regulations" means the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (Grading, Packaging and Labelling of Agricultural Produce) 2008 [P. U. (A) 274/2008];

"grade standards prescribed by FAMA" means grade standards adopted and published by FAMA, from time to time;

"grade standard" means a document which defined parameters that segregate similar produce into categories and described them with consistent terminology that can be commonly understood by market participants;

"Malaysian Standard or MS" means standard published by Department of Standard, Malaysia, under the Standard of Malaysia Act 1996 [Act 549]

"national language" means the Malay language;

"retailer" includes supermarkets and hyper markets;

"RM or ringgit" means Malaysian currency;

"sell by retail or retailing" means selling any produce by retail to a consumer in any market, premises or place in Malaysia;

"sell by wholesale or wholesaling" means selling any produce by wholesale to any person other than a consumer in any market, premises or place in Malaysia;

2.2 Compliance with prescribed grade standards [regulation 4]

All produce prescribed under the Regulations shall be graded in accordance with:

1.2.1 Malaysian Standard (MS) - for produce specified in <u>column 1 of</u> Second Schedule, either for export, import, or wholesale or retail;

- 1.2.2 Country of origin grade standard for imported produce of which grade standards are not specified in Second Schedule; or
- 1.2.3 Grade standard prescribed by FAMA for produce of which grade standards are not specified under the Malaysian Standard and country of origin grade standard.

2.3 Grade standards of produce for export

Grade standards of produce for export shall comply with :-

- (1) for produce prescribed in <u>column (1) of the Second Schedule</u>, grade standards specified in <u>column (3) of the Second Schedule</u>;
- (2) for other produce specified in the First Schedule, grade standards prescribed by FAMA or grade standards prescribed by importing countries.

2.4 Grade standards of imported produce

Grade standards for imported produce shall comply with:

- (1) for produce prescribed in <u>column (1) of the Second Schedule</u>, grade standards specified in <u>column (3) of the Second Schedule</u>;
- (2) for other produce prescribed in the First Schedule, grade standards prescribed by FAMA or grade standards prescribed by exporting countries.

2.5 Grade standards of produce for wholesale and retail

Grade standards of produce for wholesale and retail shall comply with:

- (1) for produce prescribed in <u>column (1) of the Second Schedule</u>, grade standards specified in <u>column 3 of the Second Schedule</u>; and
- (2) for other produce prescribed in Second Schedule, grade standards prescribed by FAMA or prescribed by the exporting countries, if such produce are imported.

2.6 Produce package specification for export [regulation 5]

A package shall comply with the following requirements:

- 2.6.1 the size of a package shall be suitable for the quantity and shape of produce;
- 2.6.2 a package shall contain produce of the same type and grade;
- 2.6.3 the weight of each package shall not exceed 30 kilograms;
- 2.6.4 the design and material of each package is able to provide protection to the produce during handling and transporting; and
- 2.6.5 the material or the package shall not caused damage to the shape and quality of produce.

2.7 Produce package specification for import [regulation 5]

- 2.7.1 the size of a package shall be suitable for the quantity and shape of produce;
- 2.7.2 a package shall contain produce of the same type and grade;
- 2.7.3 the weight of each package shall not exceed 30 kilograms;
- 2.7.4 the design and material of each package is able to provide protection to the produce during handling and transporting; and
- 2.7.5 the material or the package shall not caused damage to the shape and quality of produce.

2.8 Produce package specification for wholesale [regulation 5]

- 2.8.1 the size of a package shall be suitable for the quantity and shape of produce;
- 2.8.2 a package shall contain produce of the same type and grade;
- 2.8.3 the weight of each package shall not exceed 30 kilograms;

- 2.8.4 the design and material of each package is able to provide protection to the produce during handling and transporting; and
- 2.8.5 the material or the package shall not cause damage to the shape and quality of produce.

2.9 Produce package specification for retail [regulation 12]

- 2.9.1 the size of a package shall be suitable for the quantity and shape of produce;
- 2.9.2 a package shall contain produce of the same type and grade;
- 2.9.3 the weight of each package shall not exceed 30 kilograms;
- 2.9.4 the design and material of each package is able to provide protection to the produce during handling and transporting; and
- 2.9.5 the material or the package shall not cause damage to the shape and quality of produce.

However <u>subregulation 12(2)</u> provides that produce offered for sale by retail may be displayed in a container which contains the same types and grade of produce and a label or tag shall be placed next to such produce. Such label or tag shall be written with the following particulars:

- (1) common name of produce;
- (2) grade standard of produce;
- (3) size of produce; and
- (4) country of origin of produce.

2.10 Labelling of produce package for export [regulation 6]

2.10.1 Every package of produce shall be labelled or affixed with a label on the package which is not less than 11 centimetres by 7 centimetres and such label shall be applied firmly and conspicuously on the top or side surface of the package.

- 2.10.2 The particulars on the label shall be written or printed as follows:
 - (1) the size of letter shall not be less than 20 point lettering;
 - (2) all capital letters or all lower case letters or lower case letters with an initial capital letters;
 - (3) appear in a colour that contrasts strongly with its background; and
 - (4) the type face shall be uniform in every word.
- 2.10.3 The label shall contain the following particulars:
 - (1) name and business address of the exporter in Malaysia and producer or packer or distributor of produce in Malaysia;
 - (2) common name of produce;
 - (3) grade standard of produce;
 - (4) country of origin of produce;
 - (5) weight of package of produce; and
 - (6) the statement "Produce of Malaysia".
- 2.10.4 The language used for particulars of label shall be in **English** and may include translation in any other language, subject to an official language of importing country.

2.11 Labelling of package for imported produce [regulation 6].

2.11.1 Every package of produce shall be labelled or affixed with a label on the package which is not less than 11 centimetres by 7 centimetres and such label shall be applied firmly and conspicuously on the tap or side surface of the package.

- 2.11.2 The particulars on the label shall be written or printed as follows:
 - (1) the size of letter shall not be less than 20 point lettering;
 - (2) all capital letters or all lower case letters or lower case letters with an initial capital letters;
 - (3) appear in a colour that contrasts strongly with it background; and
 - (4) the type face shall be uniform in every word.
- 2.11.3 The label shall contain the following particulars :
 - (1) name and business address of the importer in Malaysia and producer or packer or distributor of produce of the exporting country;
 - (2) common name of produce;
 - (3) grade standard of produce;
 - (4) country of origin of produce; and
 - (5) weight of package of produce.
- 2.11.4 The language used for particulars on the label shall be in the National Language of Malaysia and may include translation in any other language.

2.12 Labelling of produce package for wholesale [regulation 6]

- 2.12.1 Every package of produce shall be labelled or affixed with a label on the package which is not less than 11 centimetres by 7 centimetres and such label shall be applied firmly and conspicuously on the top or side surface of the package.
- 2.12.2 The particulars on the label shall be written or printed as follows:
 - (1) the size of letter shall not be less than 20 point lettering;

- (2) all capital letters or all lower case letters or lower case letters with an initial capital letters;
- (3) appear in a colour that contrasts strongly with its background; and
- (4) the type face shall be uniform in every word.
- 2.12.3 The label shall contain the following particulars:
 - (1) name and business address of the producer or distributor or packer or if the produce is imported, the name and business address of the importer in Malaysia;
 - (2) common name of produce;
 - (3) grade standard of produce; country of origin of produce; and weight of package of produce.
 - 2.12.4 The language used for particulars of label shall be in the National Language and may include translation in any other languages.

2.13 Labelling of produce package for retail <u>[regulation 6]</u> and <u>subregulation 12(2)]</u>

- 2.13.1 Every package of produce shall be labelled or affixed with a label on a package which is not less than 11 centimetres by 7 centimetres and such label shall be applied firmly and conspicuously on the top or side surface of the package.
- 2.13.2 The particulars on the label shall be written or printed as follows:
 - (1) the size of letter shall not be less than 2 point lettering;
 - (2) all capital letters or all lower case letters or lower case letters with an initial capital letters;
 - (3) appear in a colour that contrasts strongly with its background; and
 - (4) the type face shall be uniform in every word.

2.13.3 The label shall contain the following particulars:

- (1) name and business address of the producer or packer or distributor of produce or if the produce is imported, name and business address of the importer in Malaysia;
- (2) common name of produce;
- (3) grade standard of produce;
- (4) country of origin of produce; and
- (5) weight of package of produce.
- 2.13.4 The language used for particulars of label shall be in the **National** Language and may include translation in any other languages.

2.14 Conformity Inspection of produce for export and issuance of Conformity Certificate [regulation 8]

2.14.1 Place of Conformity Inspection

Conformity Inspection may be conducted at any premises specified by FAMA or at exporter's premises [subregulation 8(3)].

2.14.2 Place and time of Conformity Inspection

The day and time to conduct Conformity Inspection are as specified in the <u>Third Schedule</u>.

2.14.3 Conformity Inspection fee and other payments

The Conformity Inspection fee and other payments are specified in the Fourth Schedule.

2.14.4 Issuance of Conformity Certificate [subregulation 8(5)].

FAMA may issue a Conformity Certificate as specified in the <u>Fifth Schedule</u> to the exporter, if the exporter has complied with the requirements under the Regulations and the Conformity Inspection fee and other payments under the <u>Fourth Schedule</u> have been paid to FAMA.

- 2.14.5 Removal of produce which had undergone Conformity Inspection at any premises managed by FAMA [subregulation 8(6)] and subregulation 8(7)]
 - (i) Exporter or his agent shall remove his produce which had undergone Conformity Inspection from any premises managed by FAMA, in accordance with the time specified by FAMA;
 - (ii) If the exporter or his agent fails to remove such produce in accordance with time specified by FAMA, FAMA may destroy or dispose of such produce in any manner as FAMA deems fit and all expenses so incurred shall be reimbursed by the exporter.

2.15 Conformity Inspection of imported produce and issuance of Conformity Certificate [regulation 10].

2.15.1 Place of Conformity Inspection [subregulation 10(3)].

Conformity Inspection may be conducted at the following places:

- (1) inland clearance depot;
- (2) customs warehouse;
- (3) licensed warehouse;
- (4) premises managed by FAMA; and
- (5) premises managed by any competent authority.
- 2.15.2 Place and time of Conformity Inspection.

The day and time of Conformity Inspection are specified in the <u>Third Schedule.</u>

2.15.3 Conformity Inspection fee and other payments.

Conformity Inspection fee and other payments are specified in the <u>Fourth Schedule</u>.

2.15.4 Issuance of Conformity Certificate [subregulation 10(5)]

FAMA may issue a Conformity Certificate as specified in the <u>Fifth Schedule</u>, if the importer has complied with all the requirements under the Regulations in respect of any produce and the required Conformity Inspection fee and other payments under the <u>Fourth Schedule</u> have been paid to FAMA.

- 2.15.5 Removal of produce upon completion of Conformity Inspection [subregulation 10(6) and subregulation 10(7)].
 - (i) Importer or his agent shall remove his produce which had undergone Conformity Inspection from any place of inspection in accordance with the time specified by FAMA;
 - (ii) If the importer or his agent fails to remove such produce in accordance with the specified by FAMA, FAMA may destroy or dispose of such produce in any manner as FAMA deems fit and all expenses so incurred shall be reimbursed by the importer.

Part 3: Offences under the Regulations

3.1 Offences under the Regulations

3.1.1 Export of produce without a Conformity Certificate [subregulation 8(8)]

Any exporter who exports any produce without a Conformity Certificate commits an offence and shall on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding RM 1,000.00 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both.

3.1.2 Export of produce which does not comply with the requirements of packaging and labelling under the Regulations [subregulation 8(9)]

Any exporter who exports any produce which did not comply with the requirements of grade standard, packaging and labelling under the Regulations commits an offence and shall on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding RM 1,000.00 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both.

3.1.3 Import of produce without a Certificate of Conformity [subregulation10(8)].

Any importer who imports any produce without a Certificate of Conformity commits an offence and shall on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding RM 1,000.00 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both.

3.1.4 Import of produce which does not comply with the requirements of grade standard, packaging and labelling under the Regulations [subregulation 10(9)].

Any importer who imports any produce which did not comply the requirements of grade standard, packaging and labelling under the Regulations commits an offence and shall in conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding RM 1,000.00 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both.

3.1.5 Wholesale of produce without complying with the requirements under the Regulations [subregulation 11(2)]

Any person who sells by wholesale any produce without being graded, packaged and labelled in compliance with the requirements of the Regulations commits an offence and shall on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding RM 1,000.00 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both.

3.1.6 Sell by retail without complying with the requirements under the Regulations [subregulation 12(3)1

Any person who sells by retail any produce without being graded, packaged and labelled in compliance with the requirements of the Regulation, commits an offence and shall on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding RM 1,000.00 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both.

3.1.7 Reuse of package without removing the former label [subregulation 13(2)]

Any person who packages any produce into any package that has been used without removing or erasing the former label on such package commits an offence and shall on conviction, be liable to fine not exceeding RM 1,000.00 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both.

3.1.8 False representation of place of origin of produce [regulation 14]

Any person who uses or applies a label which makes a representation that a particular produce originates from a particular place which he knows or has reasons to believe is false or misleading, commits an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding RM 1,000.00 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both.

3.1.9 Offence committed by body corporate [regulation 15].

- (1) Any body corporate which commits an offence under the Regulations shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding RM 25,000.00 and for a second or subsequent offence to a fine not exceeding RM 50,000.00 [section 25(1) of the Act]
- (2) Where a body corporate is charged with an offence under the Regulations, every person who at the time of the commission of the offence is a director or officer of the body corporate may be charged jointly in the same proceeding with the body corporate [section 25(2) of the Act].
- (3) Where the body corporate is convicted of the offence charged under the Regulations, every such director or officer shall be deemed to have committed that offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding RM 15,000.00 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both and for a second or subsequent offence, to a fine not exceeding RM 25,000.00 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years or both.

Part 4: Powers of Enforcement under the Federal Agricultural Marketing Act 1965 (Revised) [Act 141].

4.1 Power to stop and search conveyance [section 21 of the Act]

Where an authorised officer has reasonable suspicion that any conveyance is carrying any produce in contravention of the Regulations, it shall be lawful for the officer to stop and examine the conveyance for the purpose of ascertaining whether any produce is being transported contrary to the Regulations.

4.2 Power to take possession of produce, etc [section 21A of the Act]

If any authorised officer has reason to believe that any person is committing an offence under the Regulations, he may take possession as he shall deem fit of any produce or any conveyance or other article.

4.3 Search of premises without warrant [section 20 of the Act]

Where there is a reasonable cause to believe that in any premises there is concealed or deposited any produce as to which an offence against the Regulations, the authorised officer may at any reasonable time enter the premises or place and search or collect sample or produce or seize any produce or search and seize any document or search and seize any machinery contrivance or other equipment or article.

4.4 Power of arrest [section 18 of the Act]

Any authorised officer may arrest without warrant any person whom he sees or finds committing or attempting to commit or abetting the commission of an offence under the Regulations, if such person refuses or fails to furnish his name and address or he has furnished a false name or address or that he is likely to abscond.

Part 5: Responsibilities of Exporter, Importer, Wholesaler, Retailer, etc.

- 5.1 Compliance with food safety requirements and prohibition of specified packaging material.
 - 5.1.1 Beside to comply with the requirements under the Regulations, exporter, importer, wholesaler and retailer are required to comply with the safety requirements of produce under:
 - (1) Food Regulations 1985 [P. U. (A) 437/1985];
 - (2) Plant Quarantine Regulations 1981 [P. U. (A) 74/1981]; and
 - (3) Pesticides Act 1974 [Act 149].
 - 5.1.2 All produce shall comply with the requirement of maximum residue level (MRLs) in respect of pesticide residue under regulation 41 of the Malaysia Food Regulations 1985.
 - 5.1.3 The provisions in respect of prohibited packaging materials are provided in Part VI (regulations 27 through 33A) of the Malaysia Food Regulations 1985.

5.2 Packaging material and usage

Guidelines on packaging material and use of packaging are as follows:-

- 5.2.1 The following packaging materials are prohibited:-
 - (a) if the packaging material yields or could yields to its contents, any toxic, injurious or tainting substance, or which contributes to the deterioration of produce;
 - (b) packaging material made of polyvinyl chloride which contains more than 1mg/kg of vinyl chloride monomer;
 - (c) package that had been used or intended to be used for any non-food product; and

- (d) package that had been used for fish or fish product or other foods.
- 5.2.2 Package that has previously been used for vegetable may be used for fruit and vice-versa.

5.3 Responsibility of retailer

- 5.3.1 Retailer shall be responsible :-
 - (1) to ensure that every produce purchased from wholesaler, collector or supplier, is accompanied with invoice or delivery document which contains the following particulars:
 - (i) grade standard for the produce;
 - (ii) if the produce is imported, the country of origin of such produce; and
 - (iii) if the produce is grown or produced locally, the place of origin of such produce.
 - (2) if the retailer is also a grower who sells his own produce at farmer's market or night market, to grade such produce in accordance with grade standards specified under the Regulations.
- 5.3.2 Retailers shall mark or print the price of any produce for exhibits or offers for sale, in accordance with the provisions provided in the Price Control (The Marking of Price by Retailer) Order 1993 [P. U. (A) 137/93].

5.4 Responsibility of supplier

Supplier of produce shall be responsible to include the following particulars in the delivery document in respect of any produce delivered to the recipient of such produce:-

- (1) grade standard and size for each type of produce;
- (2) country of origin, if such produce is imported; and

(3) place of origin, if such produce is grown or produced locally.

5.5 Responsibility of public market operator

The operator of public market (local authority) shall be responsible to undertake the following measures:

- (1) disseminate the requirements under the Regulation to the stall holders or tenants;
- (2) include the relevant requirements under the Regulations as conditions of a licence or tenancy;
- (3) take necessary measures, including enforcement action, to ensure any wholesaling and retailing of produce conducted in the public market, comply with the requirements of the Regulations.

5.6 Responsibility of exporter

Exporter shall be responsible to furnish grade standard document from importing country before the process of Conformity Inspection, if the grade standard of any produce is not prescribed by FAMA under column 3 of the Second Schedule.

5.7 Responsibility of importer

Importer shall be responsible to furnish grade standard from the country of origin of the produce, if the grade standards are not prescribed under <u>column 3</u> of the <u>Second Schedule</u> or FAMA.

5.8 Grade standards which are not prescribed by country of origin of produce or FAMA.

If a grade standard is not prescribed by the exporting country, or FAMA, FAMA may at its discretion use a Fair and Average Quality guidelines or evaluation based on the physical attributes of produce in respect of the quality of produce or if prescribed by Codex Alimentarius, adopt the standard prescribed by Codex Alimentarius.

5.9 Responsibility of grower producer

Producer or grower is encouraged, for the purpose of wholesale, to grade, package and label such produce in compliance with the requirements of the Regulations at or within the production area.

5.10 Labelling of place of origin for wholesale or retail

If a produce is intended for wholesale or retail, is grown locally, wholesaler and retailer are encouraged to label the place of origin of such produce as follows:

"Country of Origin of Produce: Malaysia - Cameron Highlands".

5.11 Tag to label package of produce

If any label or particulars of any label for package of produce, is unable to be affixied or printed on such package, a tag which contains particulars of labeling as requires under the Regulations, shall be tied up at a suitable place of such package.

5.12 Bar Code and RFID

Box or crate of any produce is allowed to be printed or placed with bar code or accompanied with RFID (radio frequency identification).

Part 6: Full text of the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (Grading, Packaging and Labelling of Agricultural Produce) 2008 [P. U (A) 274/2008]

P.U. (A) 274 / 18 August 2008

FEDERAL AGRICULTURAL MARKETING AUTHORITY ACT 1965 FEDERAL AGRICULTURAL MARKETING AUTHORITY (GRADING, PACKAGING AND LABELLING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE) REGULATIONS 2008

IN exercise of the powers conferred by sections 3 and 12 of the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority Act 1965 [Act 141], the Authority, with the approval of the Minister, makes the following regulations:

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (Grading, Packaging and Labelling of Agricultural Produce) Regulations 2008.

Application

2. Except for the purposes of regulations 13 and 14, these Regulations shall only apply to the agricultural produce specified in the First Schedule in its raw form.

Interpretation

- 3. In these Regulations
 - "Authority" means the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority established under the Act; .
 - "country of origin" means the country in which any agricultural produce is grown;
 - "grade standard" means the grade standard of any agricultural produce as provided in regulation 4.

PART II

GRADE STANDARD, PACKAGE AND LABEL

Grade standard of agricultural produce

- 4. Agricultural produce shall be graded
 - (a) in accordance with the grade standard specified in the Second Schedule:
 - (b) in respect of any agricultural produce the grade of which is not specified in the Second Schedule, in accordance with the grade standard specified by the country of origin of such agricultural produce; and
 - (c) in respect of any agricultural produce the grade of which is specified neither in the Second Schedule nor by the country of origin of such agricultural produce, in accordance with the grade standard prescribed by the Authority from time to time.

Package of agricultural produce

- 5. A package of agricultural produce -
 - (a) shall be of a size that provides a firm package for the quantity of agricultural produce packaged;
 - (b) shall contain agricultural produce of the same type and grade standard;
 - (c) shall not exceed thirty kilograms;
 - (d) shall meet the quality, hygiene and resistance characteristics so as to provide maximum protection from any damage to the agricultural produce during its handling and transporting; and
 - (e) shall be manufactured from a material that shall not cause damage to the shape and quality of the agricultural produce.

Label of agricultural produce

- 6. (1) A label to be applied on a package of agricultural produce or on any material attached to the package of agricultural produce -
 - (a) shall be of a size which is not less than 11 centimetres by 7 centimetres:
 - (b) shall be applied firmly and conspicuously on the top or side surface of the package; and
 - (c) shall contain the following particulars:
 - (i) name and business address of the importer, exporter, agent, producer or distributor, as the case may be, of the agricultural produce;
 - (ii) common name of the agricultural produce;
 - (iii) grade standard of the agricultural produce
 - (iv) size of the agricultural produce;
 - (v) country of origin of the agricultural produce;
 - (vi) weight of package of the agricultural produce; and
 - (vii) the words "Produce of Malaysia", if appropriate, if the agricultural produce is for export.
 - (2) The particulars referred to in paragraph (1)(c) shall be marked in the following manner to ensure its legibility and durability:
 - (a) in no smaller than 20 point lettering -
 - (i) shall be all capital letters or all lower case letters or lower case letters with an initial capital letter;
 - (ii) shall appear in a colour that contrasts strongly with its background; and
 - (iii) the type face shall be uniform in every word;

- (b) if the agricultural produce is for domestic market, in the national language and may include translation in any other language;
- (c) if the agricultural produce is for export, in the English language and may include translation in any other language; and
- (d) if the agricultural produce is imported, in the national language and may include translation in any other language.

PART III

EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE

Export of agricultural produce

- 7. Any exporter who intends to export any agricultural produce shall ensure that the agricultural produce -
 - (a) is graded in accordance with the requirements under regulation 4;
 - (b) is packaged in accordance with
 - (i) the requirements under regulation 5; and
 - (ii) any packaging requirements prescribed by the authority of the importing country, if any; and
 - (c) is labelled in accordance with the requirements under regulation 6.

Conformity inspection for agricultural produce for export

- 8. (1) No exporter shall export any agricultural produce prior to the Authority conducting a conformity inspection on the agricultural produce.
 - (2) A conformity inspection is conducted by the Authority on the agricultural produce to ensure that the agricultural produce complies with the grading, packaging and labelling requirements under these Regulations.

- (3) A conformity inspection under this regulation may be conducted by the Authority -
 - (a) at any premises managed by the Authority; or
 - (b) at an exporter's premises, on the request of the exporter.
- (4) The day and time for the conformity inspection shall be as specified in the Third Schedule.
- (5) If the Authority is satisfied that the exporter has complied with all the requirements under these Regulations, the Authority shall issue a certificate of conformity in the Fifth Schedule upon payment of the fees and other payment as specified in Part 1, 2 or 3 of the Fourth Schedule, as the case may be.
- (6) An exporter whose agricultural produce had undergone a conformity inspection at any premises managed by the Authority shall remove such agricultural produce from such premises within such time as the Authority may specify.
- (7) If the exporter fails to remove the agricultural produce within such time as specified, the Authority may destroy or dispose of or cause to be destroyed or disposed of such agricultural produce in any mariner as the Authority thinks appropriate and all expenses so incurred shall be reimbursed by the exporter.
- (8) Any exporter who exports any agricultural produce without a certificate of conformity commits an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand ringgit or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both.
- (9) Any exporter who commits an offence under subparagraph (8), whether or not any prosecution is instituted against him and whether or not he has been convicted, who does not comply with the requirements under paragraph 7(a), (b) or (c) commits an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand ringgit or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both.

PART IV

IMPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE

Import of agricultural produce

- 9. Any importer who intends to import any agricultural produce shall ensure that the agricultural produce -
 - (a) is graded in accordance with the requirements under regulation 4;
 - (b) is packaged in accordance with the requirements under regulation 5; and
 - (c) is labelled in accordance with the requirements under regulation 6.

Conformity inspection for import of agricultural produce

- 10. (1) No importer shall import any agricultural produce prior to the Authority conducting a conformity inspection on the agricultural produce.
 - (2) A conformity inspection is conducted by the Authority on the agricultural produce to ensure that the agricultural produce complies with the grading, packaging and labelling requirements under these Regulations.
 - (3) The Authority may conduct a conformity inspection under this regulation at any inland clearance depot, customs warehouse, licensed warehouse, or premises or any part of any premises managed by the Authority or any competent authority.
 - (4) The day and time for the conformity inspection shall be as specified in the Third Schedule.
 - (5) If the Authority is satisfied that the importer has complied with all the requirements under these Regulations, the Authority shall issue a certificate of conformity in the Fifth Schedule upon payment of the fees and other payment as specified in Part 1, 2 or 3 of the Fourth Schedule, as the case may be.

- (6) An importer whose agricultural produce had undergone a conformity inspection shall remove such agricultural produce from the inspection place within such time as the Authority may specify.
- (7) If the importer fails to remove the agricultural produce within such time as specified, the Authority may destroy or dispose of or cause to be destroyed or disposed of such agricultural produce in any manner as the Authority thinks appropriate and all expenses so incurred shall be reimbursed by the importer.
- (8) Any importer who imports any agricultural produce without a certificate of conformity commits an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand ringgit or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both.
- (9) Any importer who commits an offence under subparagraph (8), whether or not any prosecution is instituted against him and whether or not he has been convicted, who does not comply with the requirements under paragraph 9(a), (h) or (e) commits an offence and shall; on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand ringgit or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both.
- (10) For the purpose of subregulation (3), "inland clearance depot", "customs warehouse" and "licensed warehouse" shall have the same meaning as defined in section 2 of the Customs Act 1967 [Act 235].

PART V

SALE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE BY WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

Sale of agricultural produce by wholesale

- 11. (1) Any person who intends to sell any agricultural produce by wholesale shall ensure that the agricultural produce -
 - (a) is graded in accordance with the requirements under regulation 4;
 - (b) is packaged in accordance with the requirements under regulation5; and
 - (c) is labelled in accordance with the requirements under regulation 6.

(2) Any person who contravenes this regulation commits an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand ringgit or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both.

Sale of agricultural produce by retail

- 12. (1) Any person who intends to sell any agricultural produce by retail shall ensure that the agricultural produce -
 - (a) is graded in accordance with the requirements under regulation 4;
 - (b) is packaged in accordance with the requirements under regulation5: and
 - (c) is labelled in accordance with the requirements under regulation 6, except that the particulars marked on the label shall not be in smaller than 2 point lettering.
 - (2) Notwithstanding paragraphs (1)(b) and (1)(c), any agricultural produce may be displayed or offered for sale, without being packaged, and where any agricultural produce is displayed or offered for sale, without being packaged, the following particulars shall be displayed contiguous to the agricultural produce:
 - (a) common name of the agricultural produce;
 - (b) grade standard of the agricultural produce;
 - (c) size of the agricultural produce; and
 - (d) country of origin of the agricultural produce.
 - (3) Any person who contravenes this regulation commits an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand ringgit or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both.

PART VI

GENERAL

Reuse of package

- 13. (1) Any person who intends to reuse for any agricultural produce any package which has been marked on it, or has been attached on it any material containing, any label of any agricultural produce, shall erase or remove the label from the package before the package is reused.
 - (2) Any person who contravenes this regulation commits an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand ringgit or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both.

Offence in relation to place of origin

14. Any person who uses or applies a label which makes a representation that a particular agricultural produce originates from a particular place, or associates a particular agricultural produce with a particular place, which he knows or has reason to believe is false or misleading, commits an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand ringgit or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both.

Offence committed by body corporate

15. Any body corporate which commits an offence under these Regulations shall be punished under section 25 of the Act.

FIRST SCHEDULE (Regulation 2)

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE

Common Name	Botanical Name
Tumeric	Curcuma domestica Val.
Pumpkin	Cucurbita spp.
Capsicum/ Bell pepper	Capsicum annum L.
Galangale	Languas galanga
Leek	Allium apmeloprasum var, porrum
Carrot	Daucas carota L.
Radish	Raphanus.c sativus L,.
Cleome	Cleome gynandra L.
Water chestnut	Eleocharis dulcis
Morinda	Morinda citrifolia L.
Parsley	Petroselinum crispunt var tuberosunt
Indian pennywort	Centella asiatica L.
Bitter gourd	Momordica charantia L.
Twisted cluster bean	Parkia speciosa
Fern shoots	Athyriunt esculentum
mint	Mentha sp.
Bamboo shoot	Bantbusa spp.
Ceylon spinach	Basella alba L.
Head lettuce	Lactuca sativa L.
Mustards	Brassica sp.
Watercrest	Nasturtium officinale
Yam bean	Pachyrrhizus erosus (L) urban
Lemon grass	Cymbopogon citratus
Spinach (poh choy)	Spinacia oleracea L.
Bean sprouts	Phaseolus aureus
Lotus root	Nelumbo nucifera
Brinjal/Eggplant	Solanum melongena •
Cucumber	Cucumis sativus L,.
Tomato	Lycopersieum esculentum Mill.
Garland chrysanthemum	Leucanthentum coronariunt
Turnip	Brassica rapa Rapifera group
Beetroot	Beta vulgaris L.
Manihot	Manihot esculenta
Yam	Colocasia esculenta
Sweet potato	Ipontoea batatas
Potato	Solanunt tuberosum Linn
Ulam raja	Cosmos caudatus Kunth

FRESH FRUITS

Grape Vitis vinifera
Apricot Prunus armeniaca
Avocado Persea americana
Horse mango Mangifera foe tida
Starfruit Averrhoa carambola L.

Papaya Carica papaya

Papaya (exotica) Carica papaya L. var. Eksotika

Jujube Zizyphus mauritinia

Chempedak Artocarpus chempedan Spreng

Cherry Prunus avium Chiko Achras sapota Pomegranate Punica granatunt Dokong Lansium dontesticum Duku Lansium dontesticunt Duku langsat Lansiunt domesticunt Durian Durio zibetlvinus Murr. Soursop Annona muricata L.

Apple Malus pumila
Water apple Syzygium aqueum
Guava Psidium guajava L.

Common Name	Botanical Name
Malay apple	Syzygium malaccensis
Otaheite apple	Spondias cytherea
Raisins	Vitis vinifera
Kuini	Mangifera odorata
Plum mango	Bouea macrophylla
Dates	Phonex dactylifera
Litchi	Litchi chinensis Sonn.
Langsat	Lansium domesticum
Citrus	Citrus sp
Mandarin orange (domestic)	Citrus reticulata
Loquats	Eriobotry japonica
Mango	Mangifera indica Linn
Mangosteen	Garcinia mangostana
Passion fruit	Passiflora edulis
Cat's eyes	Dimocarpus longan
Jackfruit	Artocarpus heteroplvyllus Lam
Custard apple	Annona reticulata
Orange	Citrus sp
Nutmeg	Myristica fragrans
Pear	Pyrussp.
Peach	Prunus persica
Banana	Musa sapientum
Passimon	Diospyros kaki linn
Mas banana	Musa sapienturn cv. mas
Dragon fruit	Hylocereus undatus
Plum	Prunus dontestica
Pulasan	Nephelium ramboutan - ake
Common rambai	Baccaurea motleyana
Rambutan	Nephelium lappaceum
Strawberry	Fragaria x ananassa
Snake fruit	Salacca edulis
Bread fruit	Artocurpus communis
Watermelon	Citrullus vulgaris Schard
Musk-melon	Cucumis melo Linn
FRESH CUT FLOWERS	
Chrysanthemum (multi-floral)	Chrysanthemum morifolivana
Orchid (spray type)	Orchidacea family
Roses (unifloral)	Genus Rosa
Roses (multi-floral)	Genus Rosa
Carnation (unifloral)	Dianthus caryoplyyllus
Carnation (multi-floral	Dianthus caryophyllus
BEANS	
Groundnut kernels	Arachis hypogaea
Groundnut, fresh in-shell	Arachis hypogaea

NUTS Coconut	Cocos nucifera
GRAINS Coffee bean	Coffea arabica L.
OTHERS Sugar cane stem	Sacclaarum L.

SECOND SCHEDULE (Regulation 4)

GRADE STANDARD OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE

Agricultural Produce		
Common name	Botanical name	Grade standard
(1)	(2)	(3)
FRESH VEGETABLES Lady's finger	Hibiscus esculentus L.	MS 1230:1991
Chillies	Capsicum annuum	MS 894:1984
Sweet pepper	Capsicum annuum L. var. grossum	MS 1124:1996
Ginger	Zingiber officinale Roscoe	MS 1306: 2005
French bean	Phaseolus vulgaris L.	MS 1252:1992
Long bean	Vigna sesquipedalis L.	MS 951: 2003
Chinese kale	Brassica alboglabra Bailey	MS 1324:1993
Cabbage	Brassica oleracea var. capitata	MS 892: 2004
Chinese cabbage	Brassica campestris L. ssp pekinensis (Lour) Olsson	MS 1393: 1996 .
Bitter gourd	Mantordica charantia L.	MS 1146:1989
Head lettuce	Lactuca sativa L.	MS 1361: 1944
Mustard	Brassica sp.	MS 1323:1993
Spinach (poh choy)	Spinacia oleracea L.	MS 1362:1994
Cucumber	Cucumis sativus L.	MS 956: 2003
Tomato	Lycopersicum esculentuna Mill.	MS 893:2003
FRESH FRUITS Starfruit	Averrhoa carambola L.	MS 1127:2002
Papaya	Carica papaya	MS 1040:1486 I
Papaya (exotica)	Carica papaya L. var.	MS 1145:2003
Guava	Psidium g <u>u</u> ajava L.	MS 1149:1989
Mandarin orange (domestic)	Citrus reticulata	MS 232:1974
Mango	Mangifera indica Linn	MS 885:1984
Mangosteen	Garcinia mangostana	MS 1128:1989
Jackfruit	Artocarpus heterophyllus Lam	MS 1055:1986
Banana	Musa sapientum	MS 459:1976

Mas banana	Musa sapientunt cv. mas	MS 1075: 1987
Watermelon	Citrullus vulgaris Schard	MS 1028: 1986
Musk-Melon	Cucumis naelo Linn	MS 1325: 1993
FRESH CUT FLOWERS Chrysanthemum (multi- floral)	Chrysanthernum nrorifolium	MS 1354: 1993
Orchid (spray type)	Orchidacea fanaily	MS 1280: 1992
Roses (unifloral)	Genus Rosa	MS 1233: 1991
Roses (multi-floral)	Genus Rosa	MS 1355: 1994
Carnation (unifloral)	Dianthus caryophyllus	MS 1281: 1992
Carnation (multi-floral)	Dianthus canjophyllus	MS 1353: 1994
BEANS Groundnut kernels	Arachis lvypogao	MS 457:1976
Groundnut, fresh in- shell	Arachis hypogao	MS 458: 1976

THIRD SCHEDULE (Regulations 8 and 10) PLACE, DAY AND TIME OF CONFORMITY INSPECTION

	Place of inspection	Day	Time
	(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	At the premises managed by the Authority	(i) Working day of the Authority(ii) Weekly and public holidays	(i) 9.00 a.m. to 11.00 p.m. (ii) 11.00 a.m. to 11.00 p.m.
2.	At the exporter's premises	Working day of the Authority	9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.
3.	At any place mentioned in subregulation 10(3) other than premises managed by the Authority or any competent Authority	(i) Working day of the Authority(ii) Weekly or public holidays	(i) 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. (ii) 11.00 a.m. to 11.00

FOURTH SCHEDULE (Regulations 8 and 10)

CONFORMITY INSPECTION FEE AND OTHER PAYMENT

Part 1

Notice given to the Authority by the exporter or importer not less than twenty-four (24) hours before the time scheduled for conformity inspection.

Type of agricultural produce	Quantity of agricultural produce	Fee for conformity inspection conducted during working days of the Authority	Fee for conformity inspection conducted during weekly or public holiday
Fresh vegetables	First 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM 1.00	RMI2.00
	Every additional 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM 0.50	RM 1.00
Fresh fruits	First 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM 2.00	RM 4.00
	Every additional 1000 kilograms kilograms or part thereof	RM1.00	RM2.00
Fresh cut flowers	First 500 stalks or art thereof	RM2.00	RM4.00
	Every additional 500 stalks or art thereof	RM1.00	RM2.00
Groundnut	First 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM1.00	RM2.00
	Every additional 1000 or part thereof	RM0.50	RM1.00
Coconut	First 1000 nuts or part thereof	RM2.00	RM4.00
	Every additional 1000 nuts or part thereof	RM1.00	RM2.00
Coffee bean	First 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM2.00	RM4.00
	Every additional 1000 Kilograms or part thereof	RM1.00	RM12.00

Sugarcane stem	First 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM1.00	RM2.00
	Every additional 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM0.50	RM1.00

Part 2
Notice given to the Authority by the exporter or importer less than twenty-four (24) hours before the time scheduled for conformity inspection.

Type of agricultural produce	Quantity of agricultural produce	Fee for conformity inspection conducted during working days of the Authority	Fee for conformity inspection conducted during weekly or public holiday
Fresh vegetables	First 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM 2.00	RM 4.00
	Every additional 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM 1.00	RM 2.00
Fresh fruits	First 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM 4.00	RM 8.00
	Every additional 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM 2.00	RM 4.00
Fresh cut flowers	First 500 stalks or part	RM 4.00	RM 8.00
	Every additional 300 stalks or part therof	RM 2.00	RM 4.00
Groundnut	First 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM2.00	RM4.00
	Every additional 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM1.00	RM2.00
Coconut	First 1000 nuts or part or thereof	RM4.00	RM8.00
	Every additional 1000 nuts part thereof	RM2.00	RM4.00
Coffee bean	First 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM4.00	RM8.00
	Every additional 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM2.00	RM4.00
Sugarcane stem	First 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM2.00	RM 4.00
	Every additional 1000 kilograms or part thereof	RM1.00	RM2.00

Part 3
Other Payment

Particulars	Fee
Additional fee for conformity inspection during non-working hours	RM 5.00 per hour or part thereof for every authorized officer involved
Transportation charge to premises of exporter for conformity inspection: (a) minimum transportation charge for first 100 km from the main or any branch office of the Authority (b) transportation charge after 101 km	(a) RM 100.00 (b) RM 0.70 per kilometer
Deposit for conformity inspection to be paid upon submission of Notice for conformity inspection, which shall be refundable if the exporter or importer is present at the time scheduled for the conformity inspection and which shall be forfeited if the exporter or importer is absent during the time scheduled for the conformity inspection:	
(a) during working days(b) during weekly or public holidays	(a) RM 50.00 (b) RM 100.00

FIFTH SCHEDULE

(Regulations 8 and 10)

FEDERAL AGRICULTURAL MARKETING AUTHORITY (GRADING, PACKAGING AND LABELLING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE) REGULATIONS 2008

CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMITY OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE FOR EXPORT/ IMPORT

PARTICULARS OF EXPORTER/ IMPORTER				
Name:		Addres	s:	
Registration No. / Corporation No.:		Licence No.: Permit No.:		
Teleph	one No.:	Fax No	.:	
PARTICULARS OF EXPORT /IMPORT'				
Agricultural produce:		Country of origin:		
Packer:		Export point/ Import point *:		
Mode of transport: Air* Sea* Road*		Destination*:		
GRADE CERTIFICATION				
Lot	No. of Boxes	Grade	Approximate	

We certify that the agricultural produce specified above have been graded, packaged and labelled in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (Grading, Packaging and Labelling of Agricultural Produce) Regulations 2008.

Issued by the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority of Malaysia.

Date and place of issue : Name of authorized officer : Signature :

^{*} Delete where inapplicable