Manufactured Foods Label Guide

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Labeling vocabulary

- **Food label**
  - Any printed, written, or graphic matter that appears on a food product's container or is attached to it, providing information about the product
- **Dual weight**
  - The weight must be listed in standard (ounces, pounds, fluid ounces) and metric (milliliters, liters, grams, kilograms).
- **Sub-ingredients**
  - Sub-ingredients are the individual components that make up a larger ingredient in a product label or ingredient list.
  - Example: Butter (cream, salt, natural flavoring)
- **Common name**
  - The name that is generally recognized and understood by consumers when referring to that specific food

Required components of a food label

- **Common name** of the food product
  - This is the usual name or descriptive name.
- **Ingredients**
  - Ingredients should be listed in descending order by weight.
  - This includes **sub-ingredients**.
- **Dual weight** in standard and metric or a **piece count**
  - The weight should be listed in standard and metric.
  - The piece count states how many units per package.
    - Example: 6 buns, 12 cookies, 18 tortillas
- **Manufacturer's name**
- **Manufacturer's full address**
  - Street address, city, state, zip code
  - This cannot be a website or an email address.

See TDA's website for full rules and regulations

Acidified Foods Label

Ingredients, including sub-ingredients.

Common name

Facility name and address

Dual weight

Identifying lot code*

*The FDA requires an identifying lot code. See 21 CFR 114.80(4)(b) for more details.

Common labels

Labeling notes

- A “contains statement” is not required as long as all allergens are clearly stated in the ingredients list.
- A “may contains” statement does not alleviate the facility of any liability for allergen mislabeling.
- See FDA’s website for more information about allergen labeling.
- See the FDA’s labeling guide for more information about general labeling requirements.