



# Taiwan Food Safety Management System and Regulations for Food Labeling

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## Outline

- ◆ Taiwan Food Safety Management System
- ◆ Overview of Taiwan Food Industry
- ◆ Regulations for Food and Nutrition Labeling
- ◆ Opportunities and challenges in the food labeling faced by small and medium enterprises
- ◆ Examples of best practices and initiatives on labeling of food products
- ◆ Obstacles and opportunities faced by food regulators and the industry due to eco-labeling





## Where I come from?



Brief introduction to Taiwan



## Geography & Population



**Population:**  
23,261,747 people

**Area:**  
36,193 km<sup>2</sup>

**GDP:**  
US\$ 20,608



## Taiwan Food Safety Management System



## National Food Safety Management Authorities

Executive Yuan (Administrative)

Food Safety Committee

Council of Agriculture (COA)

Raw material production  
Pesticide registration  
Veterinary drug registration

Environment Protection Agency (EPA)

Environmental contamination relating to raw material production

Department of Health (DOH)

Policy development  
Standard setting  
Food import regulation  
All food on market

## Taiwan Food and Drug Administration

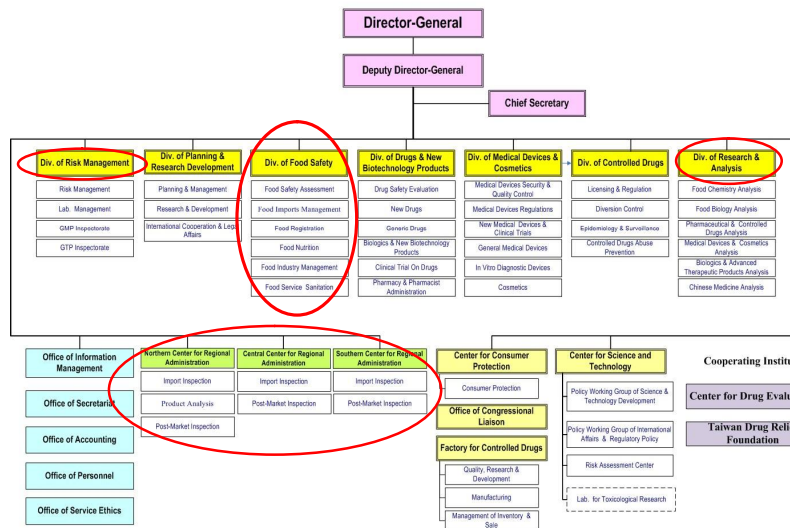
- ◆ TFDA was inaugurated on Jan. 1, 2010
- ◆ TFDA supersedes the following 4 bureaus of Department of Health :

- Bureau of Food Safety
- Bureau of Pharmaceutical Affairs
- Bureau of Food and Drug Analysis
- Bureau of Controlled Drugs



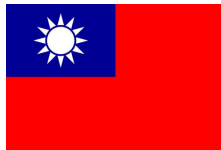
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### Food and Drug Administration Department of Health



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## Overview of Taiwan Food Industry



## Food Industry Structure

### Food Manufacturers



- 5,567 food & beverage factories
- 6,399 food companies with business registration
- ≥ 67,000 food industries  
most are~  
small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)  
family industries

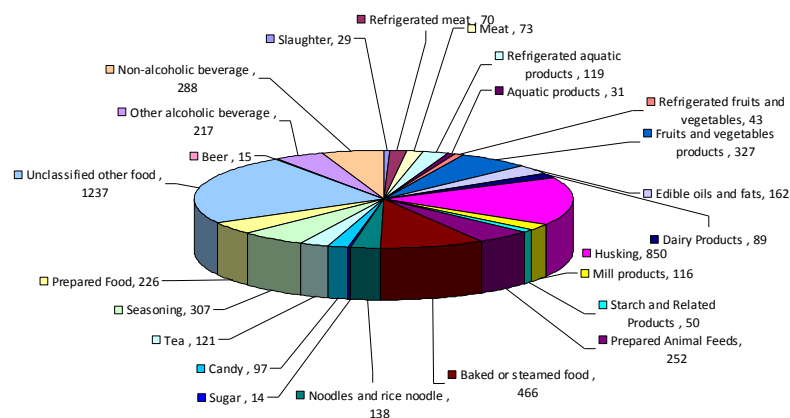
## The Important General Indicators of Food Industry in Taiwan

Unit: US\$

Project	Unit	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of firms	Number	5,194	5,258	5,364	5,513	5,567
Production value	Hundred million	158	175	176	186	196
Import value	Hundred million	44	49	47	58	64
Export value	Hundred million	19	22	19	23	26
Value-added	Million	3,697	3,829	4,163	4,240	4,392
Value-added rate	%	23.3	21.77	23.59	22.79	22.29
Contribution to GDP	%	0.86	0.91	1.00	0.93	0.95
Research funding	Thousand	49,341	55,185	55,826	57,977	59,547
Employment	People	96,031	95,729	98,509	102,476	115,020

Source: Food Industry Research and Development Institute ITIS Plan (2012/04)  
 Number of firms: only food & beverage factories with factory registration by the Ministry of Economic Affairs in Taiwan  
 Note: Secondary industrial projects Covered by Products Industry  
 Food manufacturing: Frozen foods, Edible oils and fats, Prepared Food, Health food and other 15 class products.  
 Beverage industry: Non-alcoholic beverages, Beer and other alcoholic products.

## Factory Classification and Quantity



Note: The number of firms (5,567) of this pie chart is only the food & beverage factories with factory registration by the Ministry of Economic Affairs in Taiwan



## Regulations for Food and Nutrition Labeling



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## Food Labeling

Prepackaged foods or food additives shall conspicuously indicate the following material facts on the container or packaging:

1. **Product name**
2. Name, weight, volume or quantity of the **content**
3. Name of **food additive**
4. Name, telephone number and address of the **company**
5. **Expiry date**

ACT GOVERNING FOOD SANITATION Article 17

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## Food Labeling

- ✚ Article 9: product names
- ✚ Article 10: labeling for the contents
- ✚ Article 11: food additives
- ✚ Article 12: expiry date
- ✚ Article 13: labeling typeface and languages specifications.



Enforcement Rules of the Act Governing Food Sanitation

## Food Labeling

- ✚ Other material facts designated by the central competent authority in a public notice.

ACT GOVERNING FOOD SANITATION Article 17

Date of Implementation	Announcement
2007.06.01	Label of <b>Content</b> for Packed Fruit Juice and Vegetable Juice
2008.07.01	Requirements for Labeling <b>Content of Caffeine</b> on Pre-packaged Beverages under the Act Governing Food Sanitation



Cranberry 15%

Cranberry juice blend

20% juice content



Asparagus juice



Café Milk

Caffeine content: 42mg/100ml



## Food Labeling

- Other material facts designated by the central competent authority in a public notice.

ACT GOVERNING FOOD SANITATION Article 17

Date of Implementation	Announcement
2009.07.01	Vegetable Food Labeling Regulations of Packed Food
2010.11.14	Regulations of Labeling for Vacuum Packed Food
2011.03.01	Regulations of Labeling for Blended Oil



Vacuum-Packed Food Logo

Vacuum-Packed Dried Tofu



Blended Oil

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## Food Labeling

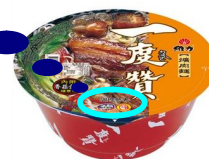
- Other material facts designated by the central competent authority in a public notice.

ACT GOVERNING FOOD SANITATION Article 17

Date of Implementation	Announcement
2011.07.01	Regulations of Labeling for Instant Noodles



Cuisine reference



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## Food Labeling

- Other material facts designated by the central competent authority in a public notice.

Date of Implementation	Announcement
2012.11.01	Regulations of Labeling for <b>Reduced Sodium Salt</b>
2014.02.09	Regulations of Labeling Requirement for Food Containing <b>Cordyceps Mycelium</b>

ACT GOVERNING FOOD SANITATION Article 17

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## Food Labeling

- Country of origin labeling

Date of Implementation	Announcement
2012.09.12	Regulations Governing the Labeling of Bulk Foods (amended in 2010)
2012.09.12	Regulations Governing the Labeling of Country of Origin of Beef and Edible Cattle Offals for Food Vending Locations
2012.09.20	Regulations Governing the Label of Country of Origin for Prepackaged Foods (promulgated in 2007 and amended in 2010,2012)

ACT GOVERNING FOOD SANITATION Article 17 20

## Food Labeling

### Country of origin labeling

- Regulations Governing the Label of **Country of Origin** for Prepackaged Foods
  - Prepackaged foods shall conspicuously indicate its **country of origin**
  - The prepackaged foods containing beef and cattle edible offals shall also indicate **country of origin of the beef and cattle edible offals**

Country of Origin:  
New Zealand



New Zealand  
beef

ACT GOVERNING FOOD SANITATION Article 17 21

## Food Labeling- Food Vending Locations

### Country of origin labeling

- All food meals that contain beef and edible cattle offals shall be labeled **with country of origin of the beef or edible cattle offals**



This store uses  
OOO beef.

ACT GOVERNING FOOD SANITATION Article 17 22



## Food Labeling- Bulk Food

### Country of origin labeling

- Food retailers **with** company registration or business registration:
  - Bulk foods such as material **other than beef or edible cattle offals** must be labeled with **product name** and **country of origin**
  - Bulk foods such as material for **beef or edible cattle offals** must be labeled with **product name**, **country of origin** and **country of origin of the beef or edible cattle offals**
- Food retailers **without** company registration or business registration:
  - Bulk foods such as material for beef or edible cattle offals must be labeled with **country of origin of the beef or edible cattle offals**



Product name: beef  
Country of origin: Australia



Australia Beef

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ACT GOVERNING FOOD SANITATION Article 17



## Food Labeling

### GMO labeling:

- Food products containing ingredient of genetically modified soybean or corn which is more than five percent (5%) by weight of finished product shall be labeled with the words “Genetically Modified” (GM) or “Containing Genetically Modified”.
- Food products made of non-GM soybean or corn may be labeled with the words “Non-GM” or “Not GM”.
- Soy sauce, soybean oil (salad oil), corn oil, corn syrup, and corn starch etc. made of GM soybean or corn are exempted from the GM labeling requirement.



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## Food Nutrition Labeling

- ✚ The nutrition labeling for a packaged food on the market shall provide the following information shown at a conspicuous place of the outer package or container of the product
- ✚ Items of labeling:
  - a) Title of the "Nutrition labeling"
  - b) Energy contents
  - c) Amount of protein, fat, saturated fat, trans fat, carbohydrate and sodium contained
  - d) Contents of other nutrients declared in the nutrition claim
  - e) Contents of other nutrients labeled by the manufacturer voluntarily



Nutrition Labeling(一)	
Nutrition Labeling	
Serving size	gm (ml)
This package contains	servings
Per serving	
Energy	Kcal
Protein	gm
Fat	gm
Saturated fat	gm
Trans fat	gm
Carbohydrate	gm
Sodium	mg
Content of other nutrient claimed	
Content of other nutrients	

Nutrition Labeling(二)	
Nutrition Labeling	
Per 100 gm(ml)	
Energy	Kcal
Protein	gm
Fat	gm
Saturated fat	gm
Trans fat	gm
Carbohydrate	gm
Sodium	mg
Content of other nutrient claimed	
Content of other nutrients	

Nutrition Labeling(三)	
Nutrition Labeling	
Serving size	gm (ml)
This package contains	servings
Per serving	
Per 100 gm(ml)	
Energy	Kcal
Protein	gm
Fat	gm
Saturated fat	gm
Trans fat	gm
Carbohydrate	gm
Sodium	mg
Content of other nutrient claimed	
Content of other nutrients	

Nutrition Labeling(四)	
Nutrition Labeling	
Serving size	gm (ml)
This package contains	servings
Per Serving	
Percentage of Daily Value of Nutrient Intake* provided by per serving	
Energy	Kcal
Protein	gm
Fat	gm
Saturated fat	gm
Trans fat	gm
Carbohydrate	gm
Sodium	mg
Content of other nutrient claimed	
Content of other nutrients	

Nutrition Labeling(五)	
Nutrition Labeling	
Per 100 gm(ml)	
Percentage of Daily Value of Nutrient Intake* provided by per 100 gm(ml)	
Energy	Kcal
Protein	gm
Fat	gm
Saturated fat	gm
Trans fat	gm
Carbohydrate	gm
Sodium	mg
Content of other nutrient claimed	
Content of other nutrients	

\*Daily Value of Nutrient Intake: 2000 Kcal of energy, 60 gram of protein, 55 gram of fat, 18 gram of saturated fat, 320 gram of carbohydrate, and 2400 mg of sodium.



## Nutrition Claim

### ✚ To show the amount of nutrients

- **appropriate intake needed:** calories, fat, saturated fatty acids, cholesterol, sodium and sugar
- **supplementary intake needed:** dietary fiber, Vitamin A, Vitamin B1, Vitamin B2, Vitamin C, Vitamin E, calcium and iron

### ✚ Health Food:

- Health Food Control Act
- 13 major certified "health care effects"



1. Regulating blood lipids
2. Regulating the gastrointestinal tract
3. Regulating the immune system
4. Preventing osteoporosis
5. Maintaining dental health
6. Regulating blood sugar
7. Protecting the liver
8. Postpone aging
9. Anti-weariness
10. Regulating blood pressure
11. Regulating allergic constitution
12. Enhancing ferrum absorption
13. Not easy to be transferred into body fat



## Other Quality Guarantee



### Certified Agricultural Standards (CAS)

- "Quality Agriculture" and "Safety Agriculture"
- Issued by Council of Agriculture (COA), Executive Yuan



### Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP)

- Focuses on the self-management system of product quality and hygiene practice during the manufacturing process
- Issued by Ministry of Economic Affairs, Executive Yuan



### Fresh Milk Logo

- Protect consumer rights and encourage manufacturers to produce pure domestic milk
- Issued by Council of Agriculture (COA), Executive Yuan

## Food Advertisement

### ✚ The labeling promotion or advertisement of foods, food additives or food cleansers:

- Shall not be false, exaggerated or misleading
- Shall not be so labeled, promoted or advertised as having medical efficacy

Article 19 of Act Governing Food Sanitation

### ✚ Positive List

### ✚ Negative List



## Opportunities and challenges in the food labeling faced by small and medium enterprises

- ✚ **No prior preview** for food labeling and advertising
- ✚ Truthfully label (**self-management**)
- ✚ Some SMEs are prone to **misunderstand** the food labeling regulations
- ✚ The deficiency products must be **recalled and corrections** made within a prescribed time period and pay the penalty.

The focus concern of the government	The focus concerns of the enterprise
Takes actions to promote and <b>amend</b> the <b>regulations</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The absorption of the <b>cost</b> of packaging materials</li> <li>2. the <b>buffer deadline</b> of the correction of packaging materials</li> <li>3. the <b>timeliness</b> for packaging materials extended</li> </ol>

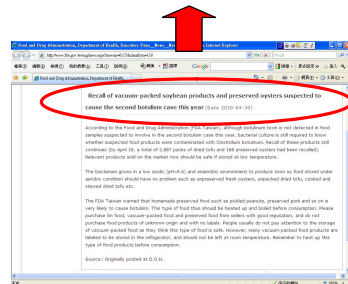


## Examples of best practices and initiatives on labeling of food products

### Regulations of Labeling for Vacuum Packed Food

Recall of vacuum-packed soybean products and preserved oysters suspected to cause the second botulism case on April 2010

TV news and newspaper:  
1 death, 1 coma



## Examples of best practices and initiatives on labeling of food products

### Regulations of Labeling for Vacuum Packed Food

In Taiwan, there were 8 incidents 11 cases of the *Clostridium Botulism* occurred in 2010, and 1 was death.

- Vacuum-packed soybean products (dried tofu)
- Most dried tofu products by SMEs or family industries
  - Poor environmental sanitation
  - Vacuum-packed ready-to-eat (RTE) food without commercial sterilization



Increasing in anaerobic environments → poisoning

- ♦ “Good Hygiene Practice for Vacuum Packed Food” (August 22, 2011)
- ♦ “The Regulations of Labeling for Vacuum Packed Food”
- ♦ “The Registration Requirement for Vacuum-packed RTE Soybean food”
- ♦ Industry education and training programs



Botulism poisoning ~ “It hasn’t happened again.”





## Obstacles and opportunities faced by food regulators and the industry due to eco-labeling

### + Carbon footprint label program

#### • Opportunities:

- Global trend for protecting environment
- Reducing pollution and managing waste
- Our central government requires the relevant competent authorities to budget and assist with the program.
- TFDA has been put into the program
- Make consumers to understand and priority in purchasing alternatives with lower carbon emissions
- The industry can understand the proportion of greenhouse gas during each life cycle stages according to the analysis of the product carbon footprint.



## Obstacles and opportunities faced by food regulators and the industry due to eco-labeling (cont.)

### + Carbon footprint label program

#### • Obstacles:

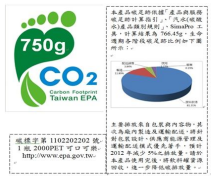
- The inter-ministerial coordination is difficult.
- The industry need to spend more extra cost to test and verify the carbon footprint.
- The certified carbon footprint foods are few, only 39 beverages and 19 processed foods .
- The consumers have limited recognition for carbon footprint.
- Currently, there is no international standard or carbon footprint labeling system.



FDA 食品藥物管理局  
Food and Drug Administration

<http://www.fda.gov.tw>

## Carbon footprint logo and certified products in Taiwan



FDA 食品藥物管理局  
Food and Drug Administration

<http://www.fda.gov.tw>

## Vision

Establishing transparent, science-based laws and regulations

Establishing preventive and precautionary food safety management system

Healthy Diet,  
Safe Food !

Establishing horizontal and vertical communication and cooperation channels

Establishing rapid alert system for food





Thank you for your attention!

**TAIWAN**  
*Touch Your Heart*

