

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: February 22, 2023

Report Number: IN2023-0017

Report Name: India's FSSAI Revises the 2021 Sample Testing Fees for Domestic and Imported Food Products

Country: India

Post: New Delhi

Report Category: FAIRS Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

On February 8, 2023, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare/Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) notified on its website the Corrigendum 12014/01/2020-QA (January 19, 2022). This corrigendum modifies the earlier FSSAI Order No. 12014/01/2020-QA (November 3, 2021). FAS New Delhi (Post) interprets the revised FSSAI order as impacting mainly testing fees for fruits and vegetable products and cereal and cereal products.

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this report was retrieved from the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India's (FSSAI) website <http://www.fssai.gov.in>. The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Office of Agricultural Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, USDA, and/or the U.S. government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity. The Government of India has not officially endorsed this report. Import approval for any product is subject to local rules and regulations as interpreted by Indian officials at the time of product entry. [Note: Use Google Chrome to access the links that do not open in Internet Explorer. Indian host sites will geo-block site access on a rolling basis].

GENERAL INFORMATION

On February 8, 2023, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare/Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) notified on its website the **Corrigendum 12014/01/2020-QA** (January 19, 2022) (see, Appendix D). This corrigendum modifies the earlier FSSAI **Order No. 12014/01/2020-QA** (November 3, 2021).

FAS New Delhi (Post) interprets the revised FSSAI order as impacting mainly testing fees for fruits and vegetable products and cereal and cereal products. Key revisions made are as follows:

“4. In case of Cereals and Cereal products including atta and maida and Vitamin-Mineral Premix for preparation of fortified food, additional Rs. 2000 may be added when fortified with iron, folic acid and Vit. B12. In addition, Rs. 2000 may be added if such products are also fortified with Zinc, Vit A, Thiamine, Riboflavin, Niacin and Pyridoxine, if declared on label.”

2. Further, the following note shall be inserted after Note 7 under Table 2: Testing Charges for Fruit & Vegetable products and Cereals & Cereal products:

“8. In case of microbiological testing of food grain products, additional Rs. 500 may be added for each pathogen as applicable for that food grain product.”

3. The rest part of the office order of even number dated 03.11.2021 shall remain unchanged.

Background:

On November 3, 2021, the FSSAI published **Order No. 12014/01/2020-QA** listing the testing fees for samples of various categories of food products. The FSSAI published testing fees are applied uniformly to both domestic and imported food products. The order was implemented on December 1, 2021 (see, [GAIN-INDIA | IN2021-0134 | India's FSSAI Publishes Sample Testing Fees for Domestic and Imported Food Products](#)).

The full text of the FSSAI published corrigendum, which also includes the **Order No. 12014/01/2020-QA**, is accessible on the website of FSSAI and located at:

https://fssai.gov.in/upload/advisories/2023/02/63e35319dbe38Testing_Fee.pdf.

APPENDIX I: FSSAI CORRIGENDUM ON SAMPLE TESTING FEES FOR DOMESTIC AND IMPORTED FOOD PRODUCTS

File No. 12014/01/2020-QA

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A statutory Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act,2006)
(Quality Assurance Division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002

Dated, the 19th January 2023

Corrigendum to the order dated 03.11.2021

In partial modification of the order no. 12014/01/2020 dated 03.11.2021, the following sentence shall substitute Note 4 under Table 2: Testing Charges for Fruit & Vegetable products and Cereals & Cereal products:

“4. In case of Cereals and Cereal products including atta and maida and Vitamin-Mineral Premix for preparation of fortified food, additional Rs. 2000 may be added when fortified with iron, folic acid and Vit. B12. In addition, Rs. 2000 may be added if such products are also fortified with Zinc, Vit A, Thiamine, Riboflavin, Niacin and Pyridoxine, if declared on label.”

2. Further, the following note shall be inserted after Note 7 under Table 2: Testing Charges for Fruit & Vegetable products and Cereals & Cereal products:

“8. In case of microbiological testing of food grain products, additional Rs. 500 may be added for each pathogen as applicable for that food grain product.”

3. The rest part of the office order of even number dated 03.11.2021 shall remain unchanged.

4. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Digitally Signed by
Harinder Singh Oberoi
Date: 19-01-2023 18:28:43
Reason: Approved
(Dr. Harinder Singh Oberoi)
Advisor (QA)

File No.12014/01/2020-QA

File No. 12014/01/2020-QA

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

(A statutory Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act,2006)

(Quality Assurance Division)

FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002

Dated, the 3rd November, 2021

ORDER

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-clause (3) of clause 2.3.1 of the Food Safety and Standards (Laboratory and Sample Analysis) Regulation, 2011 as amended from time to time; and, in supersession of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India's order no. 10/QA/Lab costing/FSSAI/2016 dated 10.06.2016 and 07.07.2017, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such supersession, the Food Safety And Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) hereby prescribes the testing fees as per Annexure which shall be uniformly applicable for both domestic and import samples drawn by Food Safety Officer, Authorized Officers, etc. and tested by laboratories notified by FSSAI under section 43 of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

2. GST on these rates shall be applicable as per the orders of the Central Government, as amended from time to time.
3. These revised testing fees shall be effective from 1st December 2021.
4. This issues with the approval of the Food Authority.

Digitally Signed by
Harinder Singh Oberoi
Date: 03-11-2021 16:30:08
Reason: Approved
(Harinder Singh Oberoi)

Advisor (QA)

Annexure

Table 1: Testing Fee for Dairy Products & Analogues and Fats, Oils & Fat Emulsions

Regulation	Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulation, 2011							
Regulation No	2.1			2.2				
Product Category	Dairy Products & Analogues			Fats, Oils & Fat Emulsions				
Sub category ↓	Milk	Milk Products	Foods for infant nutrition	Oils	Edible Fats	Edible Fats with animal origin	Margarine and Fat Spread	Other (hydrogenated, interesterified)
Parameter Groups ↓								
Proximate analysis/ General Parameters	1500	1500	2500	4500	4500	4500	4500	4500
Adulterants	1000	1000	---	1500	1000	---	1000	1000
Heavy Metals	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500
Methyl mercury	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Crop contaminants & NOTS	1000 (M1)	1000 (M1)	1000 (M1)	1000	1000	---	1000	1000
Melamine	1000	1000	1000	---	---	---	---	---
Histamine, PCBs, PAHs	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Pesticide residues	3000	3000	3000	---	---	---	---	---
Additives	---	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500
Vitamins	---	---	4000	2000	---	---	---	2000
Minerals	---	---	1500	---	---	---	---	---
Microbiology	2500	2500	2500	---	---	---	---	---
Antibiotic residues	4000	---	---	---	---	4000	---	---
Final cost	16500	14000	19500	13000	10500	12500	10500	12500

Note:

1. In case of fortified milk, additional Rs. 2000 may be charged for Vit. A and Vit. D together.
2. In case of infant foods(milk cereal based complementary food, processed cereal based complementary food), Total Aflatoxin and Aflatoxin B1 is also to be considered. So, additional Rs. 1000 may be added.
3. In case of fats, oils and fat emulsions, Rs. 4500 for general parameters also includes fatty acid profiling and hexane residue
4. In case of oils(Cotton seed oil, Groundnut oil, Mustard oil, Coconut, Soyabean oil), the testing fee of Rs. 3000 for pesticide residues can be added, wherever applicable as per FSSR

Table 2: Testing Fee for Fruit &Vegetable products and Cereal & Cereal products

Regulation	Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulation, 2011					
Regulation No	2.3		2.4			
Product Category	Fruits & Vegetable Products		Cereals & Cereal Products			
Sub category	Fruits & vegetable products	Dried fruits & nuts	Flours	Food grains and pulses	Cereal Products	Malt and malt based foods
Parameter Groups						
Proximate analysis/ General Parameters	2000	2000	3000	3000	3000	3000
Adulterants	---	---	---	---	---	---
Heavy Metals	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500
Methyl mercury	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Crop contaminants & NOTS	---	1000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Melamine	---	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Histamine, PCBs, PAHs	---	---	---	---	---	---
Pesticide residues	4000	4000	3000	3000	---	---
Additives	1500	1500	---	---	---	---
Vitamins	---	---	---	---	---	---
Minerals	---	---	---	---	---	---
Microbiology	2500	2500	---	---	---	2500
Antibiotic residues	---	---	---	---	---	---
Final cost	12500	14500	11500	11500	8500	11000

Note:

1. In case of Apple juice or apple juice used as an ingredients in other beverages, additional Rs.1000 may be added for Patulin
2. In case of stone fruit juices or canned stone fruit, additional Rs.500 may be added for analysis of Hydrocyanic acid
3. In case of Food containing mushrooms, additional Rs.500 may be added for analysis of Agaric acid
4. In case of fortified atta and maida, additional Rs. 2000 may be added when fortified with iron, folic acid and Vit.B12. In addition, Rs. 2000 may be added if also fortified with zinc, Vit A, Thiamine, Riboflavin, Niacin, and Pyridoxine, if declared on level.

5. In some flours (maida, Paushtik maida, Besan, Pearl barley, Whole meal barley powder, Soy flour, etc.), Food grains and pulses and cereal products additional Rs. 1500 for all additives (as mentioned on the label) can be added, wherever applicable
6. In case of solvent extracted flours (soy flour, sesame flour, coconut flour, groundnut flour & cotton seed flour, Rs. 1500 may be added for microbiological parameters (Total bacterial count, coliform count, Salmonella).
7. In case of Formulated supplement for children, additional Rs. 4000 for all vitamins, Rs. 1500 for all minerals and Rs. 1500 for all additives (as mentioned on the label) may be. The total testing fee of formulated supplement for children - Rs. 18000

Table 3: Testing Fee for Meat & Meat products, Fish & Fish products and Sweet & Confectionary

Regulation	Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulation, 2011				
Regulation No	2.5		2.6		2.7
Product Category	Meat & Meat Products		Fish & Fish Products		Sweets & Confectionery
Sub category	Fresh and frozen meat and eggs	Processed and preserved meat	Fresh	Processed and preserved	
Parameter Groups					
Proximate analysis/ General Parameters	1500	1500	1500	1500	2000
Adulterants	---	---	750 (formalin)	---	---
Heavy Metals	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500
Methyl mercury	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Crop contaminants & NOTS	500 (only saffrole)	500 (only saffrole)	500 (only saffrole)	500 (only saffrole)	500 (HCN)
Melamine	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Histamine, PCBs, PAHs	---	---	2000	2000	---
Pesticide residues	3000	3000	1000	---	---
Additives	---	1500	---	1500	1500
Vitamins	---	---	---	---	---
Minerals	---	---	---	---	---
Microbiology	2500	2500	3000	3000	---
Antibiotic residues	4000	4000	4000	4000	---
Final cost	15000	16500	16250	16000	7500

Note:

1. In case of Fish and fish product, additional Rs.2000 may be charged for biotoxins, wherever applicable as per FSSR

Table 4: Testing Fee for sweetening agents including honey, Salt, spices, condiments & related products and Beverages, (Other than Dairy and Fruits & Vegetables based)

Regulation	Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulation, 2011						
Regulation No	2.8		2.9		2.10		
Product Category	Sweetening Agents including Honey		Salt, spices, condiments and related products		Beverages, (Other than Dairy and Fruits & Vegetables based)		
Sub category	Sweetening Agents	Honey	Salt	Spices	Tea, Coffee, Beverages Non Alcoholic etc.	Packaged Drinking Water, Mineral Water	Alcoholic Beverages
Parameter Groups							
Proximate analysis/ General Parameters	2000	9500 (including analysis of authenticity parameters)	3000 (including all mineral to be tested)	2000	2000	2000	2000
Adulterants	---	---	---	500	---	---	---
Heavy Metals	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500
Methyl mercury	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Crop contaminants and NOTS	---	---	---	1000	500 (only saffrole)	---	2000 (4 NOTS)
Melamine	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Histamine, PCBs, PAHs	---	---	---	---	---	2000	---
Pesticide residues	---	---	---	3000	3000	4000	---
Additives	1500	---	1500	1500	1500	---	1500
Vitamins	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Minerals	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Microbiology	---	---	---	2500	---	2500	---
Antibiotic residues	---	3000	---	---	---	---	---
Final cost	6000	15000	7000	13000	9500	14500	8000

Note:

- 1. In case of Packaged drinking water, Mineral water etc., additional Rs.5000 for radioactivity testing (Alpha activity & beta activity)*
- 2. In case of Carbonated water and non carbonated water based beverages, additional Rs. 1000 for microbiological parameters (total plate count, coliform count and yeast & mould count)*
- 3. In case of Beer, microbiological parameters are to be tested; additional Rs.2500 may be added to the testing fee for all microbiological parameters.*

Table 5: Testing Fee for Other Food Products, Proprietary foods, Nutraceuticals and Organic foods

Regulation	Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulation, 2011		Food Safety and Standards (Health Supplements, Nutraceuticals, Food for Special Dietary Use, Food for Special Medical Purpose, Functional Food and Novel Food) Regulations, 2016	Food Safety and Standards (Organic Food) Regulation, 2017
Regulation No	2.11	2.12	---	---
Product Category	Other Food Products*	Proprietary foods	Products under this regulation	Organic Foods
Parameter Category	Rs. 6000 is fixed for the products under this category	The cost of nearest food category will be applicable.	Rs. 15000 fixed for nutraceuticals	The cost of standard food category will be applicable.

Note

**The products included are Baking Powder, Catechu, Gelatin, Silver leaf, Pan Masala, carob powder, Dietary Fibre, Special dietary food with low sodium content. Rs. 6000 includes general parameter, heavy metal, Methyl mercury, NOTS and Additives.*

Attachments:

No Attachments.