

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: New Labeling Requirements for Gluten-Free products

Country: Chile

Post: Santiago

Report Category: Agricultural Situation, Food Processing Ingredients

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Report Highlights:

On September 17, 2025, the Ministry of Health published Decree No. 49 in the Official Gazette of Chile. Decree No. 49 amends Decree No. 977/96, the Sanitary Regulations of Foods (Reglamento Sanitario de los Alimentos, or RSA) by updating the definition and the labeling requirements for gluten-free products. Decree No. 49 also adds the technical specifications that require the primary product label to show the “Gluten-Free” legend and the symbol. Decree No. 49 will enter into force on March 18, 2027.

Disclaimer: The original language of Decree 49 is Spanish and contains additional requirements for domestic manufacturing not described here. English translations provided herein are for convenience only and are not official. Readers are advised to consult the official Spanish-language document for authoritative reference.

Executive Summary

Pursuant to the provisions of Law No. 21,362, which establishes requirements regarding the labeling and conditions of sale of food products labeled “Gluten-Free,” Chile’s Ministry of Health published [Decree No. 49](#) in the Official Gazette on September 17, 2025. The Decree updates the definition of gluten-free products and provides the technical specifications for implementing the new labeling requirements.

The remainder of this report consists of an unofficial translation of the changes to the RSA as implemented in Decree No.49:

Definition

Article 516 of the RSA defines a gluten-free food as one that has been specially processed to remove or maintain the absence of gluten and that does not contain prolamins from wheat, rye, barley, or oats when they contain gluten. Manufacturers that label products “Gluten-Free” must comply with the applicable gluten limit and implement Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) to prevent cross-contamination throughout the production process, from receipt of raw materials through final commercialization. The Ministry of Health will establish the specific GMP requirements through an official resolution.

Labeling Specifications

Article 518 of the RSA: The term “Gluten-Free” and the crossed-out grain symbol may only be used when a laboratory analysis findings do not exceed five milligrams of gluten (from the cereals referred to in Article 516) per kilogram of the product ready for delivery to the final consumer, in accordance with the analytical techniques established for these purposes by the Chilean Public Health Institute (ISP).

The expression “Gluten-Free,” must have a minimum letter height of 1.2 millimeters, measured based on the height of a capital H, using the following typeface families: Arial, Dax, Futura, Helvetica, Myriad, Swiss, and Univers, or other equivalent typeface families having the same weight and visual consistency, with straight cuts and profiles, without serifs, and including standardized bold and condensed versions. The expression must be displayed next to or within the crossed-out grain symbol.

Likewise, the expression “Gluten-Free” and the crossed-out grain symbol must be placed on the front-facing panel of the product packaging.

The graphic characteristics of the “crossed-out grain” symbol shall correspond to representations of one or more wheat ears crossed by an oblique line, such as displayed in the following diagram:



The colors used in the combination of the background and the crossed-out grain symbol shall have the maximum possible contrast with each other. For this purpose, solid or uniform colors shall be used, without color gradients or patterns.

The dimensions of the crossed-out grain symbol referred to above shall be determined according to the area of the label located on the front-facing panel of the package, as indicated in the following table:

Front-facing label area of the package	Minimum dimensions of the crossed-out wheat symbol	Maximum dimensions of the crossed-out wheat symbol
Less than 30 cm ²	Labeling on the larger package/container that contains them	Labeling on the larger package/container that contains them
Between 30 cm ² and 100 cm ²	1 x 1 cm ²	2 x 2 cm ²
Greater than 100 cm ²	2 x 2 cm ²	3 x 3 cm ²

In the case of packaged foods whose label area is less than 30 cm², the crossed-out grain symbol shall be displayed on the larger package containing the product.

When the information specified in this article was not included in the original graphic design of the labeling, it may be indelibly affixed to the package, in accordance with the size, placement, and other specifications established in these regulations.

Transitional Provisions

This decree will enter into force on March 18, 2027. The health authority may, by means of a duly justified resolution, authorize the marketing of domestic and/or imported food products that do not comply with the provisions of this Supreme Decree concerning the labeling of the statement “Gluten-Free”, either to exhaust existing stocks of labels or to market products already in stock, for a maximum

additional period of 12 months following the date on which this decree enters into force, provided that the request for an extension is submitted to the corresponding SEREMI of Health before the expiration of the aforementioned 18-month period. The additional 12-month period may not be extended.

Compliance with the provisions of this decree shall be required for all products manufactured or imported as of the date this decree enters into force, including returnable packaging.

Attachments:

No Attachments.