

Overview of Revisions to the Quality Labelling Standard for Vinegar

Prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan

I. Objective for revisions

To accommodate the current manufacturing practices of Dressing and Dressing Type Seasoning and to provide consumers with more appropriate information of the products for their choices.

II. Major points of revisions

(Article 2)

1. The definition of “brewed vinegar” is changed:
 - to accommodate vegetables, honey and other agricultural products such as sugar canes to the list of permitted ingredients; and
 - to define the conversion condition of fixed acid, total sugar and total nitrogen contained in products as “content percentage as converted with four percent acid degree”.

(Article 4)

2. Those made from a single ingredient among vegetables, other agricultural products or honey above a certain amount, may be labelled as ‘brewed vinegar (XX vinegar)’. (XX is the name of ingredient.)
Those made from no less than two kinds of vegetables or vegetable vinegar, may be labelled as ‘brewed vinegar’ or ‘vegetable vinegar’ if one of the vegetables is used above a certain amount.

(Article 4)

3. Labelling of ingredients should follow the Quality Labelling Standard for Processed Foods (Notification No.513 of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of 31 March 2000) other than labelling of glacial acetic acid and acetic acid used in synthesized vinegar.

(Article 6)

4. Those labelled as “brewed vinegar” (XX vinegar) may carry the names of ingredients XX in their product names.

III . Document subject to revisions

The document below is subject to revisions, which is provided by the Law Concerning Standardization and Proper Labelling of Agricultural and Forestry products (Law No.175 of 1950):

- The Quality Labelling Standard for Dressing and Dressing Type Seasoning (Notification No. 1667 of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of 19 December 2000)