

SFA Export Library Market Reports on Food Import Regulations and Standards

Country of Origin	Singapore (SG)
Country of Destination	European Union (EU) – EU countries are Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden
Food Product Category	Fruits & Vegetables & Their Products
Product Code	CN Codes: 0701 – 0714, 0801 – 0814, 2001 – 2009

The information in this document has been compiled and provided by the Singapore Food Agency (SFA). SFA emphasises that importers and exporters have the responsibility to find out the import requirements of destination countries/regions/markets. Exporters are advised to confirm with their importers on the import requirements and eligibility of their product before exporting.

SN	Sub-header	Details
1	Product eligibility / ineligibility	Fruits and Vegetables are eligible for export from Singapore to the EU.
2	Importing country authority	<p>The European Council, the Council of the European Union, the European Parliament, and the European Commission are main institutions involved in developing policies and passing legislation that applies throughout the EU. The European Council defines the EU's overall political direction and priorities. It is not one of the EU's legislating institutions. The main priority of the Council of the European Union is to pass legislation based on proposals presented by the European Commission, in most cases jointly with the European Parliament. The European Parliament is to pass EU laws, together with the Council of the European Union, based on European Commission proposals. The European Commission is the sole EU institution tabling laws for adoption by the Parliament and the Council, and monitors the Member States' application and implementation of EU legislation.</p> <p>As an independent department, the EU Food Safety Authority (EFSA) mainly provides scientific opinions and suggestions on food safety to the European Commission. DG SANTE is the department in the European Commission (EC) responsible for EU policy on food safety and health laws within EU. It is mainly responsible for drafting relevant laws and regulations in the field of food safety, cooperating with member states to ensure EU food safety, supervising the implementation of laws and regulations of member state, and being responsible</p>

		for fast early warning of food safety risks and handling of emergencies, etc. The border control post under the DG SANTE inspects food products entering the EU.
3	Pre-export approvals by the importing country	<p>Establishments No establishment listing is required for fruits and vegetables exported from Singapore to the EU.</p> <p>Importers Importers should be aware of the inspection measures carried out by authorities at the place of destination.</p> <p>Regulation (EU) 2023/2783 lays down the methods of sampling and analysis for the control of the levels of plant toxins (such as pyrrolizidine alkaloids, tropane alkaloids, opium alkaloids) in food (such as dried product, liquid product, cereal and cereal product, herbal infusions, bakery products).</p> <p>Regulation (EU) 2021/608 amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 provides the list of certain foods of non-animal origin from specific country of origin that are subject to increased level of official controls at the EU Border Control Post (BCP). In particular, Annex I lists the general food while Annex II lists the specific food subject to special conditions due to contamination risk by mycotoxins and due to microbiological contamination.</p> <p>Regulation (EU) 2019/2130 states that plants and plant products entering the EU are inspected at an EU Border Control Post (BCP) and subject to documentary checks, identity checks and physical checks. The checks include a) documentary check on the official certificates to ascertain the use to which are applicable; b) identity check to verify that the consignment corresponds to the information provided in the official certificates; c) physical check to verify that the consignment is free from harmful organisms and comply with the relevant EU rules.</p>
4	Export certificates for food	<p>Phytosanitary Certificate A Phytosanitary Certificate issued by the National Parks Board (NParks) is required for each consignment of fresh fruits and vegetables. For exports that require a Phytosanitary Certificate, you may forward the import permit / conditions to NParks here.</p>

		<p>Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 stipulates the protective measures against pests of plants. In particular, Chapter VI Section 1 states that the phytosanitary certificate required for the introduction of plants, plant products and other objects into the EU shall be a document, issued by a third country, which fulfils the necessary conditions and certifies specific requirements.</p> <p>Regulation (EU) 2023/1787 amend Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 which stipulates the protective measures on EU quarantine pests, protected zone quarantine pests, and EU regulated non-quarantine pests. It also provides the list of plants and plant products originating from third countries whose introduction into the EU do not require phytosanitary certificate (as listed in Annex XI) or require phytosanitary certificate (as listed in Annex XII). The accompanying phytosanitary certificate must guarantee that such plants and plant products are a) properly inspected; b) free from quarantine pests, within the requirements for regulated non-quarantine pests and practically free from other pests; and c) in line with the plant health requirements. In addition, Annex XI Part C provides the list of fruits (namely pineapple, banana, coconut, durian, and dates) which do not require phytosanitary certificate.</p> <p>Regulation (EU) 2018/2019 establishes a list of high risk plants, plant products and other objects within the meaning of Article 42(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031.</p>
5	Regulations and standards	<p>Interested exporters who wish to export fruits and vegetables to the EU must meet all their regulations and standards. The following links are provided as a guide:</p> <p>(1)General Principles</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 lays down the general principles and requirements of food law governing food and feed in general, and food and feed safety in particular. It also lays down procedures for matters with a direct or indirect impact on food and feed safety.</p> <p>Regulation (EU) 2017/625 lays down rules for the performance of EU official controls and other official activities by the competent authorities of the Member States. For more information on the legislation on official controls, please click here.</p>

		<p>(2)Food Hygiene Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 lays down general rules for food business operators on the hygiene of foodstuffs. This Regulation shall apply to all stages of production, processing, and distribution of food. In particular, Chapter IV Article 10 states the requirements that are relevant to imported food.</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 lays down specific rules on the hygiene of foodstuffs of animal origin for food business operators. They shall apply to unprocessed and processed products of animal origin. In particular, Chapter II Article 6 states the obligations of food business operators concerning imported food on products of animal origin. Such products must be imported from third country of dispatch listed and approved by the EU.</p> <p>(3)Microbiological Criteria Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 lays down the microbiological criteria for certain microorganisms and the implementing rules to be complied with by food business operators when implementing the general and specific hygiene measures referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004.</p> <p>(4)Contaminants Regulation (EU) 2023/915 lays down the maximum limits for certain contaminants in foodstuffs. Food with levels of contaminants higher than those specified in the Annex to this Regulation shall not be sold in the market. The maximum levels shall apply to the edible part of food concerned.</p> <p>(5)Veterinary Drug Residues Not Applicable</p> <p>(6)Pesticide Residues Regulation (EU) 2023/1719 and Regulation (EU) 2023/1536 amend Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 that establishes the maximum levels of pesticide residues (MRL) in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin or parts. The EU Pesticides Database allows users to search for information on active substances used in plant protection products, Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) in food products, and emergency authorisations of plant protection products in Member States.</p>
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	<p>(7)Food Additives</p> <p>Regulation (EU) 2024/238 amends Regulation (EC) No 1334/2008 that lays down rules on flavouring and food ingredients with flavouring properties for use in and on foods. In particular, Chapter III Article 9 establishes flavouring and source material for which an approval is required. The Food Flavourings Database allows user to search for information on the flavouring substances approved for use in food and their conditions of use.</p> <p>Regulation (EU) 2023/2108 and Regulation (EU) 2023/2086 amend Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 that lays down rules on food additives used in foods. It also provides the Community lists of approved food additives as set out in Annexes II and III, conditions of use of food additives in foods, and rules on the labelling of food additives sold as such. This Regulation shall not apply to processing aids, substances used for the protection of plants and plant products relating to plant health, substances added to foods as nutrients, substances used for the treatment of water for human consumption, flavourings, and food enzymes.</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No 1332/2008 lays down rules on food enzymes used in foods, including such enzymes used as processing aids. In particular, Chapter IV Article 14 states that for food enzymes which are not included in the risk assessment of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), the producer of that food enzyme, before marketing the food enzyme, shall submit to the Commission the necessary data.</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No 2065/2003 lays down a Community procedure for the evaluation and authorisation of primary smoke condensates and primary tar flavourings for use as such in or on foods or in the production of derived smoke flavourings for use in or on foods; and a Community procedure for the establishment of a list of primary smoke condensates and primary tar flavourings authorised to the exclusion of all others in the Community and their conditions of use in or on foods.</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No 1925/2006 establishes the harmonized requirements on the addition of vitamins and minerals and of certain other substances to foods. In particular, Chapter II Article 3 states that only vitamins and/or minerals listed in Annex I, in the forms listed in Annex II, may be added to foods, subject to the rules laid down in this Regulation.</p>
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6	<p>Labelling, packaging and marking requirements</p>	<p>(1) Labelling</p> <p>Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 establishes food labelling requirements. Chapter IV Section 1 Article 9 states the list of mandatory particulars to be included in the food label. Article 13 states the presentation of mandatory particulars which include font size. Section 2 Article 26 states that the country of origin or place of provenance must be indicated for meat falling within the Combined Nomenclature codes as listed in Annex XI. Section 3 Article 30 states the content of the mandatory nutrition declaration to be included in the food label.</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006 establishes the harmonized requirements on use of nutrition and health claims on foods. Regulation (EU) No 432/2012 establishes a list of permitted health claims made on foods. The EU Register of Nutrition and Health Claims allows user to check for information only on (i) permitted nutrition claims and their conditions of use, (ii) authorised health claims and their conditions of use and applicable restrictions if any, and (iii) non-authorised health claims and the reasons for their non-authorisation.</p> <p>(2) Packaging Materials</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No 1935/2004 stipulates the requirements for materials and articles, including active and intelligent food contact materials, which in their finished state are intended to be or already in contact with food. In particular, Article 5 states that specific measures may be adopted or amended for the groups of materials and articles listed in Annex I. Such specific measures include but not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regulation (EU) 2023/1627 and Regulation (EU) 2023/1442 amend Regulation (EU) No 10/2011 on plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food, - Regulation (EU) 2022/1616 on recycled plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with foods, - Regulation (EC) No 1895/2005 on the restriction of use of certain epoxy derivatives in materials and articles intended to come into contact with food,

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Directive 2007/42/EC of relating to materials and articles made of regenerated cellulose film intended to come into contact with foodstuffs, - Directive 94/62/EC lays down measures aimed at preventing the production of packaging waste and as additional fundamental principles at recovering packaging waste, and - Directive 84/500/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to ceramic articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs.
7	Other information	<p>(1) Control System More information on imports to EU (including sanitary and phytosanitary requirements) are also available on DG SANTE website EU entry conditions and DG Trade portal Access2Markets.</p> <p>Competent authorities in EU Member States are responsible for carrying out official controls and enforcement systems to verify business compliance. All business operators must ensure compliance. Imported products can be inspected at the time of import or at all further stages of distribution and marketing. Information on the infringements of EU food and feed legislation (such as identified and detected health risks and hazards) and risk treatment measures are notified and shared through the Rapid Alert System on Food and Feeds (RASFF).</p> <p>For plants, there are materials on genetically modified organisms, plant health and biosecurity, and pesticides.</p> <p>(2) Import Procedures Guide for import of goods outlines the general steps to import products to EU. Trade in plants & plant products from non-EU countries that highlights the provisions in the phytosanitary certificate where it is required. Inspection of imported plants and plant products that lists the compulsory plant health checks. EU multi-annual control programme that takes enforcement actions concerning the maximum residue level (MRL) of pesticides.</p> <p>(3) WTO Import Licensing Procedures European Union’s legislation and notifications</p>

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