

New Zealand (Bee Product Warning Statements - Dietary Supplements) Food Standards 2002

The Minister of Food Safety, under section 11C of the Food Act 1981, issues the following food standards:

1. Title

These standards are the New Zealand (Bee Product Warning Statements - Dietary Supplements) Food Standards 2002.

2. Commencement

These standards come into force on 20 December 2002.

3. Interpretation

In these standards, unless the context otherwise requires, the term “dietary supplement” has the same meaning as in the Dietary Supplements Regulations 1985.

4. Warning Statements

(1) In relation to royal jelly, there must be a label on or attached to a dietary supplement containing royal jelly, which must include, in a prominent position so that it can be easily seen by the consumer when purchasing the product, in a standard type of not less than 3 mm, the statement -

(a) In the case of a product that is comprised solely of royal jelly -

‘WARNING - THIS PRODUCT IS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR ASTHMA AND ALLERGY SUFFERERS AS IT CAN CAUSE SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTIONS’;

(b) In the case of a product that contains royal jelly (but is not solely comprised of royal jelly) -

‘WARNING - THIS PRODUCT CONTAINS ROYAL JELLY AND IS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR ASTHMA AND ALLERGY SUFFERERS AS IT CAN CAUSE SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTIONS’;

(c) Instead of the statements in clauses 3(1)(a), in the case of a product which consists wholly of royal jelly, and 3(1)(b), in the case of a product that contains royal jelly (but is not solely comprised of royal jelly), the following statement may be displayed -

‘WARNING - THIS PRODUCT CONTAINS ROYAL JELLY WHICH HAS BEEN REPORTED TO CAUSE ALLERGIC REACTIONS AND IN RARE CASES, FATALITIES, ESPECIALLY IN ASTHMA AND ALLERGY SUFFERERS’.

(2) In relation to bee pollen, there must be a label on or attached to a dietary supplement containing bee pollen, which must include, in a prominent position

so that it can be easily seen by the consumer when purchasing the product, in a standard type of 3 mm, the statement -

‘THIS PRODUCT MAY CAUSE SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTIONS’.

- (3) In relation to propolis, there must be a label on or attached to a dietary supplement containing propolis, which must include, in a prominent position so that it can be easily seen by the consumer when purchasing the product, in a standard type of 3 mm, the statement -

‘PROPOLIS MAY CAUSE SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTIONS’.

- (4) If the size of package of any product referred to in clauses 3(1), 3(2) or 3(3) is so small as to prevent the use of letters in 3 mm type, a reduced type height may be used, but no letter may have a letter height of less than 1.5 mm.

4. Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997

Nothing in clauses 3(1), 3(2) or 3(3) shall apply to any product comprised of or containing royal jelly or bee pollen, to which section 10 of the Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997 applies.

Issued at Wellington this 18th day of November 2002

Signed

Hon Annette King
Minister for Food Safety

Explanatory Note

This note is not part of the standards and has been included to explain their general effect.

The New Zealand (Bee Product Warning Statements - Dietary Supplements) Food Standards 2002 continue the requirements that existed as mandatory standards in the New Zealand Food Standard 2001 for warning statements for products containing royal jelly, bee pollen and propolis when sold as dietary supplements.

The New Zealand (Bee Product Warning Statements - Dietary Supplements) Food Standards 2002 were notified in the New Zealand *Gazette* on 21 November 2002 and come into effect on 20 December 2002.

For products containing royal jelly, bee pollen and propolis when sold as food, the same warnings are required from 20 December 2002 by Standard 1.1A.4, a transitional standard of the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.

Food standards subject to Regulations (Disallowance) Act 1989

Food standards are subject to the Regulations (Disallowance) Act 1989. Any person has the right to make a complaint about a food standard to the Regulations Review Committee.

Availability of food law

An outline of New Zealand food law, including copies of New Zealand Food Standards, can be viewed on the New Zealand Food Safety Authority (“NZFSA”) web site: <http://www.nzfsa.govt.nz> or can be obtained from the NZFSA, Policy and Standards Group, PO Box 2835, Wellington.

Copies of all New Zealand food law, including food standards, can be viewed free of charge at NZFSA, 86 Jervois Quay, Wellington, or purchased from:

- Bennetts, Commerce House, 360 Queen Street, Auckland Ph (09) 377 3496, Fax (09) 377 3497
- Whitcoulls, Shop 42 Centre Place, PO Box 928, Hamilton Ph (07) 839 6305, Fax (07) 834 3520
- Bennetts on Broadway, PO Box 138, Palmerston North Ph (06) 358 3009, Fax (06) 358 2836
- Bennetts Government Bookshop, PO Box 5334, Wellington Ph (04) 499 3433, Fax (04) 499 3375
- Whitcoulls Cashel Street, Private Bag, Christchurch Ph (03) 379 7142, Fax (03) 377 2529
- Whitcoulls George St, PO Box 1104, Dunedin Ph (03) 477 8294, Fax (03) 477 7869.