

Decree No. 2-25-270 of 15 Dhu al-Hijja 1446 (12 June 2025) on the quality and sanitary safety vinegars placed on the market.

(OG No 7414 of 19/06/2024, page 2125)

The Head of Government,

Having regard to Law No. 28-07 on the sanitary safety of food products, promulgated by Dahir No. 1-10-08 of 26 Safar 1431 (11 February 2010), in particular Articles 5 and 8 thereof;

Having regard to Law No. 13-83 on the repression of fraud relating to goods, promulgated by Dahir No. 1-83-108 of 9 Muharram 1405 (5 October 1984), in particular Article 16 thereof;

Having regard to Decree No. 2-10-473 of 7 Shawal 1432 (6 September 2011) implementing certain provisions of Law No. 28-07 on the sanitary safety of food products, in particular Articles 4, 5, 48, 53 and 75 thereof;

Having regard to Decree No. 2-12-389 of 11 Joumada II 1434 (22 April 2013) establishing the conditions and procedures for the labelling of food products, as amended and supplemented;

After deliberation by the Government Council at its meeting, held on 1 Dhu al-Hijjah 1446 (29 May 2025).

DECREES:

Article 1 - Pursuant to Articles 5 and 8 of the Law No. 28-07 on the sanitary safety of food products, this Decree lays down the conditions for ensuring the quality and sanitary safety of vinegars placed on the market.

Article 2 - For the purposes of this Decree, “**vinegar**” means the product obtained exclusively through the biological process of double alcoholic and acetic fermentation of products of agricultural origin, including liquids and their aqueous dilutions.

Article 3 - Vinegar shall be produced from the following products:

1. Agricultural products containing starch and/or sugars, including fruit, cereals, malted barley, whey, and honey;
2. Cider;
3. Wine, as defined by the regulations in force, and wines derived from other fruits;
4. Alcohol obtained by the distillation of products of agricultural origin.

Article 4 - Vinegars may be placed on the market only under the following designations:

1. “**Table vinegar**” or “**spirit vinegar**”: vinegar obtained from agricultural origin distilled alcohol by the biological process of acetic fermentation;
2. “**Cereal vinegar**”: vinegar obtained without distillation, by the biological process of alcoholic and acetic fermentation, from cereal grains after the conversion of starch into sugars by a process other than the diastases of malted barley;
3. “**Malt vinegar**”: vinegar obtained without distillation, by the biological process of alcoholic and acetic fermentation, from malted barley, with the possible addition of cereals after the conversion of starch into sugars solely by the diastases of malted barley;

4. **“Distilled malt vinegar”**: vinegar obtained by distillation under reduced pressure from malt vinegar; this vinegar contains only the volatile constituents of the malt vinegar used;
5. **“Fruit vinegar”**: vinegar obtained from fruit by the biological process of alcoholic and acetic fermentation;
6. **“Cider vinegar”**: vinegar obtained from cider by the biological process of acetic fermentation;
7. **“Wine vinegar”**: vinegar obtained from wine, as defined by the regulations in force, by the biological process of acetic fermentation;
8. **“Fruit wine vinegar”**: vinegar obtained from fruit wine by the biological process of acetic fermentation;
9. **“Whey vinegar”**: vinegar obtained by the biological process of alcoholic and acetic fermentation of whey, without intermediate distillation;
10. **“Honey vinegar”**: vinegar obtained by the biological process of alcoholic and acetic fermentation of honey, without intermediate distillation.

Article 5. - The acetic content of vinegars, expressed in acetic degree, shall be equal to their total acidity, expressed in grams of acetic acid per 100 ml of vinegar, measured at a temperature of 20°C.

This content shall be set as follows:

- a minimum of 4.5 grams of acetic acid per 100 ml for the vinegars referred to in paragraphs 1 to 6, and 9 and 10 of Article 4 above;
- a minimum of 6 grams of acetic acid per 100 ml for the vinegars referred to in paragraphs 7 and 8 of Article 4 above.

A tolerance of 0.2 grams less acetic acid per 100 ml of vinegar is allowed in the measurement of this content.

Article 6 – The maximum residual alcohol content in vinegars shall be set as follows:

- a maximum of 1% by volume for wine vinegar and fruit wine vinegar;
- a maximum of 0.5% by volume for other categories of vinegar.

Article 7 – Vinegars may contain the following ingredients:

- 1) Plants or parts of plants, spices, and fruits, fresh or dried, in pieces or in the form of extracts;
- 2) Sugars;
- 3) Salt;
- 4) Honey;
- 5) Whey;
- 6) Fruit juices.

Article 8 – The use of the following ingredients in the manufacture of vinegars shall not be considered a lawful operation, within the meaning of Article 16 of the aforementioned Law No. 13-83:

- 1) Flavors;
- 2) Grape seed oils;
- 3) Distillation residues, fermentation residues and products derived therefrom;

- 4) Marc extracts;
- 5) Acids, except for natural acids contained in the products and ingredients referred to in Articles 3 and 7 above.

Article 9 – In accordance with Articles 4 and 5 of the Decree No. 2-10-473, establishments and companies producing, processing, transforming, packaging, conditioning, distributing, transporting, storing, or preserving vinegars must obtain health approval. Operators of these establishments or companies shall ensure the traceability of their products in accordance with Article 75 of the same decree.

Article 10 – Importers of vinegars shall ensure that the products they import comply with the requirements of this Decree and with the provisions of Article 48 of the Decree No. 2-10-473.

Article 11 – Operators of vinegar production establishments and companies shall ensure that the levels of phytopharmaceutical residues and other contaminants in the products they place on the market comply with the regulations in force.

Article 12 – Only additives authorized under the regulations in force for the manufacture of vinegars may be used.

Article 13 – Vinegars must be packaged or conditioned in suitable, watertight, hermetically sealed, clean, and dry containers that preserve their quality and ensure their sanitary safety. These containers shall be made of materials that comply with the specifications and requirements set in accordance with Article 53 of the Decree No. 2-10-473.

Article 14 – The labeling of vinegars must comply with the provisions of the Decree No. 2-12-389. In addition, the labeling of these products shall meet the following requirements:

- 1) The name of the vinegars referred to in Article 4 above shall be followed by an indication of the name(s) of the product(s) used for their manufacture, listed in descending order of their proportion;
- 2) For vinegars containing one or more ingredients referred to in Article 7 above, the name shall be followed by the words “flavored...”, “spiced...”, or “with added...”, as appropriate, followed by the name(s) of the added ingredients;
- 3) For “table vinegar” or “spirit vinegar”, the name shall be supplemented as follows:
 - a) with the term “colored” if it contains food colorings authorized under the regulations in force;
 - b) with the term “white” if it contains no added food coloring.

The acetic content of vinegars, referred to in Article 5 above and expressed in acetic degrees, shall be indicated on the label by the words “...% acidity”.

Article 15 – Packaged table vinegars and spirit vinegars may be imported, held for sale, offered for sale, or sold only in packaging with the following nominal volumes, expressed in litres:

0.20	0.25	0.50	0.75	1	1.50	2.50	5	10
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These volumes may also be indicated in centilitres or millilitres.

Article 16 – The provisions of this Decree shall enter into force on the date of its publication in the Official Bulletin.

As of this date, Decree No. 2-10-385 of 23 Joumada II 1432 (27 May 2011) regulating the manufacture and trade of vinegars is repealed.

Vinegars manufactured prior to the date of entry into force of this Decree may continue to be marketed until existing stocks are exhausted.

Article 17 – The Minister of Agriculture, Maritime Fisheries, Rural Development and Water and Forests and the Minister of Industry and Commerce shall, each in their respective areas of competence, be responsible for the implementation of this Decree, which shall be published in the Official Gazette.

Done in Rabat, on 15 Dhu al-Hijja 1446 (12 June 2025)

The Head of Government, AZIZ AKHANNOUCH

FOR COUNTERSIGNATURE:

The Minister of Agriculture and Maritime Fisheries, Development and Water and Forests, AHMED EL BOUARI

Minister of Industry and Trade, RYAD MEZZOUR