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17 December 2013 [shall come into force from 21 December 2013];
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If a whole or part of a paragraph has been amended, the date of the amending regulation appears in square brackets at the end of the paragraph. If a whole paragraph or sub-paragraph has been deleted, the date of the deletion appears in square brackets beside the deleted paragraph or sub-paragraph.

Republic of Latvia

Cabinet

Regulation No. 489

Adopted 10 July 2012

Regulations Regarding the Labelling of Meat, Minced Meat, Mechanically Separated Meat, Meat Preparations, and Meat Products Obtained in Latvia and to Be Distributed on the Domestic Market

*Issued pursuant to
Section 21, Paragraph one of the Consumer Rights Protection Law*

1. The Regulation prescribes the requirements for health mark, identification mark, and additional labelling for meat, minced meat, mechanically separated meat, meat preparations, and meat products obtained in Latvia and distributed on the domestic market.

2. The terms used in this Regulation correspond to the terms referred to in Chapter I, Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin (hereinafter – Regulation No 853/2004 of the Parliament and of the Council) and in Chapter I, Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption (hereinafter – Regulation No 854/2004 of the Parliament and of the Council).

3. [7 June 2016]

4. Minced meat which is obtained in conformity with the requirements laid down in Regulation No 853/2004 of the Parliament and of the Council but does not conform to the percentage of fat content, and connective tissue and meat protein ratio laid down in Part B of Annex VI to Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2011 on the provision of food information to consumers, amending Regulations (EC) No 1924/2006 and (EC) No 1925/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and repealing Commission Directive 87/250/EEC, Council Directive 90/496/EEC, Commission Directive 1999/10/EC, Directive 2000/13/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, Commission Directives 2002/67/EC and 2008/5/EC and Commission Regulation (EC) No 608/2004, shall be labelled with a square identification mark. The information on the mark shall be placed as follows:

4.1. in the upper part – name of the country or its abbreviation;

4.2. in the lower part – approval number of the food establishment.

[17 December 2013]

5. Meat of poultry and lagomorphs (in small quantities) that has been determined as fit for human consumption and obtained in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding veterinary requirements for handling of meat of poultry and lagomorphs in small quantities shall be labelled with an identification mark in the form of an equilateral triangle. The information on the mark shall be placed as follows:

- 5.1. in the upper part – name of the country or its abbreviation;
- 5.2. in the lower part – registration number of the food establishment.

6. Meat (in small quantities) that has been obtained from wild game, including mammals living in a demarcated area under conditions similar to those of wild game, and that has been determined as fit for human consumption and obtained in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding the procedures by which hunters supply small quantities of wild game or their meat to a final consumer, and the hygiene requirements for the handling of wild game and their meat shall be labelled with a health mark or identification mark in the form of a regular pentagon. The length of pentagon edges of the health mark shall be at least 3.5 centimetres. The information on the mark shall be placed as follows:

- 6.1. in the upper part – name of the country or its abbreviation;
- 6.2. in the lower part – registration number of the food establishment.

7. Meat of domestic ungulates and wild game the distribution of which in fresh form to a final consumer is prohibited and on the processing of which restrictions have been imposed shall be labelled with a health mark in accordance with the requirements of Section I, Chapter III of Annex I to Regulation No 854/2004 of the Parliament and of the Council. Such mark shall be crossed by two lines which, without affecting the perception of the information indicated, shall form four angles in the middle of the mark.

[7 June 2016]

8. Carcasses, half-carcasses, quarter-carcasses of ungulates, and half-carcasses cut into no more than three cuts and obtained from animals which have been slaughtered in accordance with the traditional methods for meat production of religious communities that have been laid down in the laws and regulations regarding the requirements for the protection of animals kept for farming purposes and intended for slaughter shall be additionally labelled with a special round mark in the centre of which full name of the slaughtering method used is indicated in capital Latin letters. The special mark shall be stamped on the outer surface of each cut, and the height of letters of the text of the mark shall be at least one centimetre.

9. The mark for fresh meat, minced meat, mechanically separated meat, meat preparations, and meat products obtained from animals which have been slaughtered in accordance with the traditional methods for meat production of religious communities that have been laid down in the laws and regulations regarding the requirements for the protection of animals kept for farming purposes and intended for slaughter may, on a voluntary basis, include an indication of the method used to slaughter the animals.

10. Using a stamp with clearly legible Arabic numerals of the height of at least two centimetres on the carcass, half-carcasses, quarter carcasses of animals (except for birds, rabbits, and small wild game) and carcasses that are cut in no more than three cuts, the date of slaughter and the slaughter number shall be indicated in the following order:

- 10.1. in the first row – the date of slaughter XxxD where X is the last number of the year, xx is the week of the year, and D is the day of the week;
- 10.2. in the second row – slaughter number.

11. The information referred to in Sub-paragraphs 10.1 and 10.2 of this Regulation may be indicated also on the labelling accompanying the carcass of the animal.

12. [17 December 2013]

13. Cabinet Regulation No. 156 of 27 February 2007, Regulations Regarding the Labelling of Meat, Minced Meat, Mechanically Separated Meat, Meat Preparations, and Meat Products (*Latvijas Vēstnesis*, 2007, No. 37; 2009, No. 172; 2010, No 69), is repealed.

Prime Minister

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