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BSI Standards Publication

Essential oils — General rules for labelling and marking of containers

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National foreword

This Published Document is the UK implementation of ISO/TS 211:2014. It supersedes PD ISO/TR 211:1999 which is withdrawn.

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A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

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**Essential oils — General rules for
labelling and marking of containers**

*Huiles essentielles — Règles générales d'étiquetage et de marquage
des récipients*



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Foreword

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The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 54, *Essential oils*.

This first edition of ISO/TS 211 cancels and replaces ISO/TR 211:1999 which has been technically revised.

Essential oils — General rules for labelling and marking of containers

1 Scope

This Technical Specification specifies the general rules for labelling and marking of containers for essential oils to enable the identification of the contents.

2 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

2.1 labelling

process that permits the identification and characterization of the contents of a container by means of a label, a necklace, an inscription, etc., which does not form part of the container

2.2 marking

process that permits the identification and characterization of the contents of a container by means of a mark, a stamp, a picture, which forms part of the container

3 General

Because the labels may be totally or partially destroyed, marking is preferred, particularly for large volume containers, e.g. barrels, tins.

However, labels may be convenient for small containers which are used to contain reference samples or test samples.

Material from which the labels are manufactured shall be sufficiently durable to withstand the transport conditions.

The labels shall be fixed by means of a process which renders their replacement impossible, as well as prevent their subsequent use for other purposes.

The marking shall be affixed directly on the container by a process which makes it durable and indelible.

4 Requirements

Labelling and/or marking shall

- be easily understandable,
- figure in a visible location, and
- be clearly legible and indelible.

Labelling and/or marking shall not

- be dissimulated by any other lettering or pictures,
- be likely to mislead the purchaser regarding the properties, nature, identity, quality, composition, shelf-life, source, provenance, method of manufacture, or requirements, and

- display effects or properties which the essential oil does not have.

5 Items to be labelled or marked

Labelling and/or marking shall bear the following statements:

- a) the commercial name of the essential oil, botanical name (Latin name including the botanical authority) of the plant, and part of the plant from which it is obtained;^[4]
- b) the name or trade name and the address of the manufacturer or the distributor;
- c) the production process or any particular treatment: distillation, fractionation, expression, etc.;
- d) the percentage of the main constituent if the commercial value of the essential oil depends on it;
- e) the gross weight, tare, and net weight;
- f) the specific conditions of preservation (such as storage temperature), whether the essential oil has been decanted and the instructions for use;
- g) the batch number or the manufacturing date which provides all information about the origin and the method of production of the essential oil, in case of dispute or non-conformity with the specifications;
- h) the country of origin or the provenance;
- i) the symbols and the indications of hazards relating to the substance and the indications of the particular risks (following the national or international regulations in force in the countries);^{[1][2]}
- j) the flash point for storage, if any, in a place reserved for flammable products;
- k) for essential oils for human consumption:
 - the shelf-life date up until which the essential oil retains all its properties;^[3]
 - if need be, the component or component group content, the addition of which is quantitatively limited in food products, following regulations in force in the countries, or any other indication allowing the purchaser to comply with these regulations.

Bibliography

- [1] Council directive of 7 June 1988 on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous preparations (88/379/EEC)
- [2] Food and Drugs Administration — 21 CFR — Part 1 (701) relating to labelling of cosmetic products
- [3] Decree 91-366 dated 11 April 1991 relating to the aromas intended for use in foodstuffs, published in the Official Journal dated 17 April 1991, modified by the decree 92-814 dated 17 August 1992, published in the Official Journal dated 22 August 1992
- [4] ISO 4720:1992, *Essential oils — Nomenclature*

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