

Import Requirements for the Importation of Noodle and Pasta Products into Fiji for Commercial and Personal Purposes

Warning:

Biosecurity is your responsibility. Heavy penalties apply if you breach biosecurity import requirements. If in doubt about import requirements, please contact the Biosecurity Authority of Fiji.

The Biosecurity Authority of Fiji (BAF) would like to officially notify all stakeholders of the review of requirements for the Importation of noodles and pasta including spaghetti products with artificial and natural flavorings of animal ingredients (chicken, egg, pork, beef, lamb, and other animal ingredients) into Fiji.

Based on the added flavoring and the content, the noodle and pasta products will be categorized into three distinct types as highlighted below.

1. Noodle and pasta products with **Artificial Flavoring**

Artificial flavors are simply chemical mixtures that mimic a natural flavor in some way. These mixtures are formulated to give a food product a unique flavor and to maintain flavor consistency to that of a naturally occurring product.

2. Noodle and pasta products with **Natural Flavoring**

These flavoring substances are obtained from plant or animal raw materials, by physical, microbiological, or enzymatic processes. They can be either used in their natural state or processed for human consumption.

3. Noodles and pasta made with **Animal Ingredients** (not limited to flavoring)

Some types of noodle and pasta products contain animal-derived ingredients mixed with other ingredients. For example, egg noodles are made with eggs. Some other noodle types may contain seafood, chicken, dairy, or other animal products. This is separate from animal ingredients in the flavoring.

Importations of noodle and pasta products with artificial and natural flavorings of animal ingredients (chicken, dairy, egg, pork, beef, lamb, and other animal ingredients), as well as noodle and pasta products containing animal ingredients, will require the following.

Import Requirements

A. For Personal Importation of Noodle and Pasta Products

1. **The products contain Artificial flavorings without any natural animal ingredients**
 - a. An import permit is not required when importing from any country.
 - b. the products must be commercially processed, should be shelf-stable, and must meet the general requirements stated below (*section C*).
2. **The products contain Natural Flavorings**
 - a. An import permit is not required for up to 2 kg, providing the following conditions are met.
 - i. The product must contain only dairy and egg ingredients up to 10% in dry weight.
 - ii. Other animal (bovine, porcine, ovine, and caprine) ingredients up to 5% in dry weight and must originate from a country that is free from foot and mouth disease (FMD), lumpy skin disease (LSD), and African swine fever (ASF) for the respective animal species.
 - iii. The product must **NOT** contain any **discernible meat or pieces of meat**.
 - iv. The products should be commercially processed, should be shelf-stable, and must meet the general requirements stated below (*section C*).

B. For Commercial Importation of Noodle and Pasta Products

1. **The products contain Artificial Flavorings without any natural animal ingredients**
 - a. An import permit is not required when importing products from any country.
 - b. At the time of border clearance, the importer must provide a manufacturer's declaration clearly stating that;
 - i. the ingredients may provide their percentages in the finished product, and
 - ii. there are no natural animal ingredients in the final product.
 - c. The importer must produce the manufacturer's declaration to relevant regulatory authorities, including BAF for their verification and approval before commencing any trade of the product covered under this section.
 - d. The products must be commercially processed, should be shelf-stable, and must meet the general requirements stated below (*section C*).
2. **Noodles contain natural flavoring of dairy and/or egg products up to 10% (dry weight) in the finished product**
 - a. An import permit is required from BAF when importing products from any country meeting the import requirements.

- b. A detailed manufacturer's declaration issued by the manufacturer with the company's official letterhead stating that;
 - i. the ingredient list with percentage (%) of animal ingredients in the finished product,
 - ii. the type of processing (heat treatment with duration) that all the ingredients have been processed as per the import permit requirements, and
 - iii. the country of origin of products.
 - c. The importer must produce the manufacturer's declaration to relevant regulatory authorities, including BAF for their verification and approval before commencing any trade of the product covered under this section.
 - d. the products must be commercially processed, should be shelf-stable, and must meet the general requirements stated below (*section C*).
- 3. Noodles products containing less than 5% (dry weight) animal ingredients (poultry, bovine, porcine, ovine, and caprine)**
- a. An import permit is required to import products from any country meeting the import requirements.
 - b. The animal ingredients in the finished products must originate from a country that is free from foot and mouth disease (FMD), lumpy skin disease (LSD), and African swine fever (ASF) for the respective animal species.
 - c. A detailed manufacturer's declaration issued by the manufacturer with the company's official letterhead stating that;
 - i. the ingredient list with percentage (%) of animal ingredients in the finished product,
 - ii. the type of processing (heat treatment with duration) that all the ingredients have been processed as per the import permit requirements, and
 - iii. the country of origin of products.
 - d. The product must **NOT** contain any **discernible meat or pieces of meat**.
 - e. The importer must produce the manufacturer's declaration to relevant regulatory authorities, including BAF for their verification and approval before commencing any trade of the product covered under this section.
 - f. the products must be commercially processed, should be shelf-stable, and must meet the general requirements stated below (*section C*).
- 4. Precooked shelf-stable pasta products contain less than 30% (dry weight) egg and dairy concentrate in the finished product**
- a. An import permit is required to import products from any country meeting the import requirements.
 - b. A detailed manufacturer's declaration issued by the manufacturer with the company's official letterhead stating that;
 - i. the ingredient list with percentage (%) of animal ingredients in the finished product,

- ii. the type of processing (heat treatment with duration) that all the ingredients have been processed as per the import permit requirements, and
- iii. the country of origin of products.
- c. The importer must produce the manufacturer's declaration to relevant regulatory authorities, including BAF for their verification and approval before commencing any trade of the product covered under this section.
- d. the products must be commercially processed, should be shelf-stable, and must meet the general requirements stated below (*section C*)

C. General Import Requirements

The products must be;

1. shelf-stable and should not require refrigeration or freezing,
2. commercially prepared and packaged,
3. imported only for human consumption and must not be for other purposes including but not limited to, animal consumption,
4. in its original packaging on arrival,
5. for instant use and intended to be a single-serving,
6. presented with original retail receipts or commercial invoices when importing the products for personal and commercial use respectively,
7. labeled in legible English language, stating the product name, manufacturer, ingredient list, and country of origin, and must be able to clearly identify the product,
8. comply with all other requirements under the regulations of respective regulatory authorities, not limited to food safety requirements in Fiji before the importation, and
9. **declared** upon arrival in Fiji and consignments or the products are subject to inspection at the port of entry, the border, and post-border for biosecurity purposes.

It is the importer's responsibility to comply with BAF's import requirements and other regulations related to importing food products into Fiji. If you intend to import any other products not covered in this notice, you must contact the BAF permit team at animalimports@baf.com.fj.

The requirements highlighted in this biosecurity notice will be implemented and enforced from the date of issue of this notice.

For further clarifications do not hesitate to contact the BAF Animal Permits team at BAF Headquarters at 3312512 Ext 124 or by email: info@baf.com.fj and animalimports@com.fj.

The Notice is issued on 31 January 2024 at BAF Headquarters, Suva.

