



Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
Saudi Food & Drug Authority

**Controls and requirements  
that must be followed when  
importing honey and bee  
products into the Kingdom  
of Saudi Arabia**

## Introduction

Based on the conditions and requirements for importing food from countries willing to export to the Kingdom, and the procedures regulated by Article 7 of the Food Law in the Kingdom, which stipulates that "imported food shall not be released without the approval of the Authority in accordance with the procedures specified by the regulations. The Authority issues regulations governing the procedures for granting permission to release imported food into the Kingdom," these regulations and requirements clarify the procedures that must be followed when importing honey and bee products into the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

## Scope

Honey produced by bees and bee products cover all forms of honey and bee products intended for human consumption.

## Regulations and Requirements:

### First: Conditions and Requirements for Importing Food into the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:

The regulatory framework for the conditions and requirements for importing food from countries willing to export to the Kingdom and the procedures regulated by Article 7 of the Food Law in the Kingdom, which stipulates that imported food shall not be released without the approval of the Authority in accordance with the procedures specified by the regulations. The Authority issues regulations governing the procedures for granting permission to release imported food into the Kingdom. Also, according to the fourth paragraph of Article 3 of the Executive Regulations of the Food Law, which states that "countries from which imports are made must comply with the conditions and requirements issued by the Authority and published on the Authority's website (in Arabic here and in English here) and at the following link:

[<https://www.sfda.gov.sa/sites/default/files/2020-10/ff27102020aa1e.pdf>]

### Second: Health Certificate:

Shipments of honey and bee products must be accompanied by a health certificate according to the approved template by the Saudi Food and Drug Authority, published here or at the following link:

[[10/ff27102020aa1a.pdf](https://www.sfda.gov.sa/sites/default/files/2020/10/ff27102020aa1a.pdf)-<https://www.sfda.gov.sa/sites/default/files/2020>]

### Fourth: General Requirements for Importing Honey and Bee Products:

1. Importing honey and bee products from areas or countries designated by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) or the World Health Organization (WHO), or any other organizations, or where a decision to ban or suspend has been issued by the Saudi Food and Drug Authority, is prohibited

2. Importing honey and bee products is only allowed from countries and establishments approved by the Saudi Food and Drug Authority and published on the Authority's website in the list of honey-exporting countries to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia here or at the following link: [[https://www.sfda.gov.sa/ar/list\\_countries](https://www.sfda.gov.sa/ar/list_countries)]

3. It is advisable to consider what is mentioned in the Customs Declaration form available (here) or at the following link: [link provided]

4. The presence of a licensed warehouse according to the requirements of the Authority (with the exception of local factories importing raw materials and involved in the manufacturing process, as well as importers whose number of shipments in the calendar year does not exceed 5 shipments and their total weight does not exceed 2000 kg), provided that the importer signs the commitment form and sends it to the Authority via email at LMRD.FOOD@SFDA.GOV.SA

5. The quantity of honey and bee products as final products prepared for human consumption should not exceed 2 kilograms, except for products intended for manufacturing and repackaging in local factories

6. Re-exporting honey and bee products to the Kingdom in quantities exceeding 2 kilograms is not allowed, provided that the honey source is from countries with establishments approved by the Saudi Food and Drug Authority and compliant with the regulations and requirements mentioned in this document

General mandatory documents for the clearance of honey and its products that must be submitted to the Authority at the point of entry:

SN	Document	Note
1.	Bill of Entry	Apply via the Fasah platform via the link (here)
2.	Origin Certificate	Document from the country of shipment or manufacturing
3.	Commercial Invoice	Document from the exporting company
4.	Packing List	Document listing the contents of the shipment
5.	Bill of Lading	Document from the transporting company
6.	Health Certificate	Original certificate attached in the requirements
7.	Export Validity Certificate (Gulf)	Certificate for Gulf food products
8.	Certificate of Compliance	Mandatory for some countries (optional for others)

## Regulations and Requirements:

1. Imported food must comply with the requirements of the regulations, instructions, and technical regulations approved by the Authority.
2. Compliance with the circulars issued by the Authority and published on the website.
3. Compliance with the General Requirements Guide for the Transport of Food Materials to the Kingdom. (Link provided here.)
4. Provides a temperature reading indicator during transportation (Guide for Transporting Refrigerated and Frozen Foods).
5. Original Halal Certificate: For food products containing animal-origin ingredients, for any food item labeled or identified with the word or symbol "Halal" from those items that do not require a Halal certificate.
6. A certificate validating any claim placed on the food product's card, based on what is stated in the Saudi Gulf Technical Regulation SFDA FD. GSO 9 "Packaged Food Cards", in item 3.4 when using any Halal logo or quality marks or organic product, etc. Evidence supporting this claim must be provided.
7. According to the Food Law and its executive regulations issued by the Board of Directors of the Saudi Food and Drug Authority Decision No. (03-16-1439) dated 9/4/1439 AH, and based on what is stated in Article 27 "The Authority has the right to take samples of food without charge; to verify their compliance with the provisions of this Law and its regulations, and to analyze them if necessary in its laboratories or in registered laboratories." And Article 43 "The Authority may resort to any other governmental entity or private sector to carry out any task assigned to it under this Law and its regulations." To verify compliance of food with the Authority's requirements, samples may be taken from the imported shipment and referred to laboratories designated by the Authority according to the regulations for the appointment of conformity assessment bodies and specialized laboratories, for the purpose of analysis and ensuring compliance with the Authority's requirements. The importer shall bear the costs of analyzing and examining the samples.

## Technical Regulations and Standards:

\*These regulations are constantly updated, and it is necessary to check for updates before importing food items

## General Specifications Applied at the Clearance Stage:

Specification Number	Specification Name in Arabic
SFDA.FD/GSO 9	Packaged Food Cards
SFDA.FD 150-1	Shelf Life of Food Products - Part 1: Mandatory Shelf Life
SFDA.FD 2500	Permitted Food Additives
SFDA.FD 2233	Nutritional Labeling Requirements on the Card
SFDA.FD 2333	Nutritional and Health Claim Requirements
SFDA.FD/GSO 1016	Microbiological Standards for Goods and Food Materials
SFDA.FD 382	Maximum Residue Limits of Pesticides in Agricultural and Food Products
SFDA.FD/GSO 2055-1	Halal Food Part 1: General Requirements for Halal Food
SFDA.FD 2481	Maximum Permitted Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Food
SFDA.FD/GSO 2359	Extraction Solvents and Maximum Permitted Limits Used in Food Production and Its Components
SFDA.FD GSO 193	Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed
SFDA.FD/GSO 1366	General Requirements for the Trade of Food Used for Special Medical Purposes
SFDA.FD GSO 839	Food Packaging Part 1: General Requirements
SFDA.FD GSO 1863	Food Packaging – Part 2: Plastic Packaging – General Requirements
SFDA.FD GSO 21	Health Conditions in Food Factories and Workers
SFDA.FD GSO 1694	General Rules for Food Health

<p><b>Honey and bee products:</b></p>	<p>Honey, bee pollen, royal jelly, propolis, beeswax</p>	<p>SFDA.FD GSO 147: "Bee Honey"          FDA.FD/GSO 122: "Testing Methods for Bee Honey"          SFDA.FD/GSO 2290: "Bee Honey Used in Manufacturing" (Baker's Honey)          SFDA.FD/GSO 2097: "Bee Royal Jelly Food"</p>	<p>A health certificate is required.          A quality certificate is required if a quality logo is found on the product card.          An organic production certificate for organic products.          A certificate verifying that the produced honey in New Zealand complies with the allowed limits for tutin substance.</p>
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**Supplementary references:**

	Reference
1.	Food System
2.	List of Countries
3.	Decisions on Bans and Lifts
4.	List of Verification, Compliance Offices, and Laboratories designated by the Authority
5.	Halal Center
6.	Conditions and Requirements for Importing Food into the Kingdom
7.	Guide for Transporting Chilled and Frozen Foods
8.	Authority Circular on Document Retention
9.	Mechanism for Producing and Importing Ready-to-Consume Foods
10.	Guide for Registering Special Foods and Energy Drinks
11.	Access to Saudi Gulf Technical Regulations and Standards
12.	Electronic Classification System (PCS)



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