

Beauty Without Cruelty

I N D I A

An International Educational Charitable Trust for Animal Rights

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Suggestions submitted to FSSAI by BWC along with supporting information

1. The definition of Non-Vegetarian Food for affixing brown symbol should include *chandi-ka-varkh* if made in-between ox-gut, *choona*/lime from shells, and insects like honey bees and lac.

Reasons for adding them can be read on the following links:

- (i) <http://www.bwcindia.org/Web/Awareness/LearnAbout/SilverandGoldLeafVarkh.html>
- (ii) <http://www.bwcindia.org/Web/Awareness/LearnAbout/LimeorChoona.html>
- (iii) <http://www.bwcindia.org/Web/Awareness/LearnAbout/HoneyandotherBeeProducts.html>
- (iv) <http://www.bwcindia.org/Web/Awareness/LearnAbout/Shellac.html>

2. All ingredients, substances, industrial derivatives, etc. like gelatine, concentrates, additives, acidulants, antioxidants, flavours, flavour enhancers, colours, emulsifiers, enzymes, humectants, fortifiers, vitamins, preservatives, solvents, stabilisers, synergists, sweeteners, anti-caking, anti-foaming, clarifying, firming, gelling, glazing, thickening, leavening, sequestering, texture, fining, deodorising, filtering and improving agents, etc. utilised should have on their packing the green/brown symbol affixed even if E Numbers are used for them. Many such ingredients are of dual origin, i.e. they can be either animal or non-animal, e.g. lecithin can be derived from egg and soya beans. Some ingredients are by-products, e.g. glycerine is produced during soap manufacture.

Please see the following links regarding origins of E Numbers:

- (v) <http://www.bwcindia.org/Web/Awareness/LearnAbout/ENumberswithAnimalOrigins.html>
- (vi) <http://www.bwcindia.org/Web/Awareness/LearnAbout/Enumbersandvegans.html>

3. All ingredients (however minute in quantity), catalysts, processing aids, etc. should be listed on labels and finished products be categorised accordingly when affixing green/brown symbol on products, e.g. *chandi-ka-varkh* can be made in-between ox-gut; sugar can be manufactured using bone char; and, in the process of making sea salt, fish and many small marine creatures die.

4. All liquid and solid dietary, nutritional, food supplements, vitamins, energy products, tonics, etc. that are consumed for health reasons should be marked with the green/brown symbol. Cochineal is not permitted as an ingredient in foods, but the colour is permitted to be used by the pharmaceutical industry.

See (vii) <http://www.bwcindia.org/Web/Awareness/LearnAbout/Cochineal.html>

5. Items such as toothpastes, toothpowder, mouth washes, lipstick, lip gloss, lip balm, chewing gum, tobacco, *paan* and similar items, etc. that are put into the mouth, or touch/applied on lips must display the green/brown symbol.
6. Food and drink products, whether packaged or not, but displayed for sale, must also have the green/brown symbol affixed on them, e.g. bakery items.
7. The green/brown symbol should always be prominently displayed on every advertisement of packaged foods and drinks including liquids like soft drinks, colas, alcoholic beverages, etc. and against individual items on menu cards of restaurants.
8. Imported ingredients (including concentrates) and packaged foods and drinks must conform to Indian labelling standards. This is basically because egg is categorised as vegetarian abroad; and if whey is an ingredient, it could have been produced with calf rennet. The affixing of green/brown symbol must be done by foreign manufacturers as per Indian labelling laws and definitions of vegetarian and non-vegetarian products, not by the importers in India. For further information on this subject please see:
(viii) <http://www.bwcindia.org/Web/Awareness/LearnAbout/ImportedPackagedFoodswronglymarkedVegetarian.html>
9. If particular ingredients such as animal/calf rennet are not permitted to be manufactured or allowed to be imported, then finished products such as cheese containing animal/calf rennet should not be permitted to be imported and sold in India either.
10. Manufacturers who do not abide by the law and mark non-vegetarian products, vegetarian, need to not only be penalised severely, but they should not be allowed to continue producing those food products.