



Bulletin 18-32 September 28, 2018

**CIAA Bulletin**

**An Exclusive CIAA Member  
Update**

## **FDA Seeks Comments on Use of the Names of Dairy Foods in the Labeling of Plant-Based Products**

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is requesting comments on the labeling of plant-based products with names that include the names of dairy foods such as "milk," "cultured milk," "yogurt," and "cheese." According to a [notice in today's Federal Register](#), the FDA wants to learn how consumers use these plant-based products and how they understand these terms when included in the names of plant-based products. FDA also wants to learn whether consumers are aware of and understand differences between the basic nature, characteristics, ingredients, and nutritional content of plant-based products and their dairy counterparts. We are taking this action to inform our development of an approach to the labeling of plant-based products that consumers may substitute for dairy foods.

In its background discussion, the FDA says that over the past several years there has been an emergence and expansion of plant-based products labeled with names that include the names of dairy foods such as "milk" (e.g., "soy milk," "almond milk"), "cultured milk" (e.g., "coconut kefir"), "yogurt" (e.g., "soy yogurt," "almond milk yogurt"), and "cheese" (e.g., "vegan mozzarella cheese"). FDA notes that these products are often packaged in the same kinds of cartons, tubs, or bottles as their dairy counterparts and sometimes are sold in or adjacent to the dairy display in stores. However, these plant-based products may not have the same basic nature, essential characteristics, and characterizing ingredients as their dairy counterparts and may differ in their performance characteristics (e.g., physical properties, flavor characteristics, functional properties, or shelf life) such that they are not suitable substitutes for certain uses. Some plant-based products also may contain less nutrients than their dairy counterparts and may not meet the recommendation for dairy food group intake in the "2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans."

FDA will accept comments for the next 60 days, concluding on November 27, 2018. Should you have any questions or observations to offer, please contact Roger Szemraj at [rszemraj@theciaa.org](mailto:rszemraj@theciaa.org) or (202) 789-1212.

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**October 1, 2018**

Last day to surrender 2018 license amounts

**October 15, 2018**

Last day of 2019 license applications

**October 20-24, 2018**

SIAL Trip to Paris, France

Click [here](#) to register

**October 31, 2018**

Deadline for exporting countries that are designating U.S. importers for calendar year 2019 must submit their designations to FAS

**November 9, 2018**

Member Meeting 9:30 am - 11:30 am Saddle Brook Marriott, Saddle Brook, NJ

**December 21, 2018 (approximately)**

FAS issues first notice of calendar year 2019 licenses to licensees.

**December 31, 2018**

Last day for licensees to make entries to fulfill the requirement to use 85% of their calendar year 2018 license amount. Last day for which calendar year 2018 licenses are valid.

**January 1, 2019**

First day of validity for calendar year 2019 licenses.

**January 13, 2019**

CIAA Fancy Food Show Reception

5:00 pm- 7:30 pm

Thirsty Bear Brewery

San Francisco, CA

**March 1, 2019 (approximately)**

FAS issues final notice of calendar year 2019 licenses to licensees

**March 15, 2019**

The license fee for each license issued is due and payable in full no later than March 15 of the year for which the license is issued. Licenses issued after March 15 of any quota year are payable in full no later than 10 days from the date of issuance. Fee payments are payable to the Treasurer of the United States and shall be made solely utilizing the electronic software designated for the purpose by the Licensing Authority.

**July 2, 2019**

Last day for an exporting country that is not designating importers for calendar year 2019 to notify FAS

**August 31, 2019**

Last day to enter dairy products into U.S. Customs territory that may be used to qualify and establish eligibility for a calendar year 2020 license.

\* If a deadline date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, the deadline will be the next business day (Section 6.36(a) of the Dairy Tariff-Rate Import Quota Licensing Regulation). This does not apply to dates of entry for eligibility.

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