

## WHAT IS LEGAL ON MY LABEL

The new Honey Standards Regulations were promulgated on 25 August 2000 by Government Notice Number R835.

These Regulations have an impact on the Bee Industry by virtue of their considerable difference to the previous regulations.

Amongst others, a number of new requirements have been incorporated in these Regulations, that have been implemented by the Department of Health.

The compilation of the new Regulations have attempted to improve the quality of presentation and to reduce the incidence of undesirable or misleading labelling.

What appears on any label attached to bee products may be divided up into four categories:

On what must the label appear?  
What **MUST** appear on a label?  
What **MAY** appear on a label?  
What **MAY NOT** appear on a label?

### A. On what must the label appear?

The regulations are adamant that any labeling is to be clean and neat and securely pasted on the containers.

Labels are allowed to be pasted over other labels as long as they refer to the same product in the same container. In other words a logo or a floral source sticker is allowed to be pasted on separately and even over your main label.

## WAT IS WETIG OP MY ETTIKET?

Die nuwe Heuning Standaard Regulasies is op 25 Augustus 2000 uitgevaardig deur Kennisgewing nommer R835.

Hierdie Regulasies het 'n groot impak op die Byebedryf aangesien hulle grootliks verskil van die vorige regulasies.

Onder andere is 'n aantal nuwe verpligtinge ingesluit met die uitreiking van die nuwe wetgewing deur die Departement Gesondheid.

Die nuwe Regulasies probeer om 'n verbetering teweeg te bring in die gehalte van aanbieder en om die teenwoordigheid van ongewenste of misleidende etiketering te verminder.

Wat op die etतिकet verskyn wat aan bye produkte geheg word kan in vier kategorie verdeel word:

Waarop moet die etतिकet verskyn?  
Wat **MOET** op die etतिकet verskyn?  
Wat **MAG** op die etतिकet verskyn?  
Wat **MAG NIE** op die etतिकet verskyn nie?

### A. Waarop moet die etतिकet verskyn?

Die regulasies is streng daarop dat enige etikettering skoon en netjies moet wees en behoorlik vasgeplak moet wees op die houer.

Ettikette mag oor ander etतिकette geplak word indien hulle na dieselfde houer verwys. Met ander woorde 'n logo of 'n nektarbron oorsprong plakker mag apart op die houer of selfs op die hoof etतिकet geplak word.

Prepared and published for the Western Cape Bee Industry Association in the interest of progress.  
Vir die Wes-Kaapse Byebedryfsvereniging voorberei en uitgegee in die belang van vooruitgang

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Any container, containing honey or mixtures of bee products such as pollen, propolis, beeswax or royal jelly, are subject to the regulations.

Such containers must be made from any suitable material. This means, for example that mild-steel or aluminium containers are unacceptable, as they will leach metal into the honey.

Such containers must protect the contents. In other words, they should, amongst others, be properly closed.

Such containers are not to contaminate the contents. Second hand containers, especially those having previously contained non-food products, would normally not be suitable because of this.

Such containers are to be strong enough that they will not get broken during storage or handling.

Such containers are to be intact. Obviously damaged or broken containers also provide no protection for the product.

Such containers are to be properly closed as their design allows.

## **B. What MUST appear on a label?**

The name of the product must appear on the label. In other words the consumer needs to know that it is, for example, 'Chunk Honey' or 'Sunflower Honey' or 'Honey from White River' or 'Honey from the Mountains'. Any such true description is allowed. The letters of the words must be at least 4mm high.

The name and business address of the person or organisation that packed or sold or produced the product. The business address is the physical locality address of the responsible person.

The country of origin of the contents. This is a new requirement and is very **important**.

Enige houers wat heuning of mengsels van bye produkte bevat soos stuifmeel, bywerk, byewas of koninginjellie, is onderhewig aan die regulasies.

Sulke houers moet gemaak wees van enige geskikte materiaal. Dit beteken, byvoorbeeld dat gewone staal of aluminium houers onaanvaarbaar is aangesien hulle metaal aan die heuning sal uitloog.

Sulke houers moet die inhoud beskerm. Met ander woorde hulle moet, onder andere behoorlik toemaak.

Sulke houers moet nie die inhoud besoedel nie. Tweedehandse houers, veral sulke houers wat vroër nie-voedsel produkte bevat het nie, sal as gevolg hiervan normaalweg nie geskik wees daarvoor nie.

Sulke houers moet sterk genoeg wees dat hulle nie sal breek tydens opberging, vervoer of hantering nie.

Sulke houers moet heel wees. Ooglopend gebreke of beskadigde houers bied ook geen beskerming vir die produk nie.

Sulke houers moet behoorlik toe wees soos hulle ontwerp toelaat.

## **B. Wat MOET op die etiket verskyn?**

Die naam van die produk moet op die etiket verskyn. Met ander woorde die verbruiker moet weet wat dit is, byvoorbeeld, 'Koekheuning' of 'Sonneblom Heuning' of 'Heuning van Witrivier' of 'Bergheuning'. Enige sulke ware beskrywing is toelaatbaar. Die letters moet ten minste 4mm hoog wees.

Die naam en besigheidsaddress van die persoon of organisasie wat die produk verpak of verkoop of vervaardig. Die besigheidsaddress is die fiesiese address van die verantwoordelike persoon.

Die land van herkoms van die inhoud. Hierdie is 'n nuwe behoefte en is uiters **belangrik**. U is nou verplig om die klieënt te vertel van watter

You will now have to tell the customer from what country your honey comes. Please note that a South African Honey logo is available for use. It is acceptable to add such a logo to your label.

The grade of the content must be on the label in letters of at least 2mm high. Depending on what product you have and what quality the product has, will determine what grade you are to put down.

If you sell your product into a raw honey niche market, then the words "raw" or "unprocessed" must appear on the label in letters of 2mm high.

Sugar cane honey has to be expressly labelled that way.

If you produce products that are mixtures of bee products such as pollen and honey or honey and royal jelly, then you have to tell the buyer what the percentages of the various components in your product are.

Another new requirement is the date of packaging. This is a requirement from the Department of Health and has the same function as the sell-by date. It also assists in product tracking and auditing. The application of the date to your product might require some innovative technical planning, but technology is in place to do this with a minimum of fuss.

The Department of Health has also brought in a lot identification number as compulsory requirement. We are fortunate in that we have a right to use the date of packaging as the lot number if this is applicable.

If your honey or part thereof has been radurised, then this has to be stated in letters of not less than 3mm high. Imported honey must be marked as such irrespective of how little or much thereof is mixed in with local honey.

As per normal, the net mass has to appear, as per the Trade Metrology Act. This Act is

land u heuning afkomstig is. Neem asseblief kennis dat 'n Suid Afrikaanse heuning logo beskikbaar is. Dit is aanvaarbaar om so 'n logo by u etiket te voeg.

Die graad van die inhoud moet op die etiket verskyn in letters ten minste 2mm hoog. Afhangend van die tipe produk wat u het en die gehalte van die produk, sal bepaal watter graad u produk moet wees.

Indien u u produk in 'n rou heuning mark verkoop, moet die produk die woorde "rou" of "onverwerk" of soortgelyk op die etiket vertoon in letters ten minste 2mm hoog.

Suikerrietheuning moet duidelik as sulks gemerk word.

Indien u produkte vervaardig wat mengsels is van bye produkte soos stuifmeel en heuning, of heuning en koninginjellie, dan moet u die koper vertel wat die verhoudings van die verskillende bestandele in u produk is.

Nog 'n nuwe ontwikkeling is die datum van verpakking. Hierdie is 'n behoefte van die Departement van Gesondheid en het dieselfde funksie as 'n verkoop-teen datum. Dit help ook in die opspoor en audit van produkte. Die aanwending van die datum op u produk mag dalk innoverende tegniese beplanning verg, maar tegnologie bestaan reeds om dit reg te kry met die minimum moeite.

Die Departement Gesondheid het ook die verpligte aanwending van 'n lot identifikasie nommer ingebring. Ons is bevoorreg dat ons toegelaat word om die verpakkingsdatum te gebruik as lot nommer waar van toepassing.

Indien u heuning of 'n gedeelte daarvan bestraal is dan moet dit duidelik so gestel word in letters nie minder as 3mm hoog nie. Ingevoerde heuning moet so gemerk word ongeag hoeveel of hoe min daarmee met plaaslike heuning versny is.

Die netto massa word ook benodig as gevolg van die Handelsmetrologiewet. Hierdie Wet

also in the process of revision and will soon allow more freedom of packaging sizes.

Bulk packaging (such as 220 l or 100 l or even 5 l containers) are exempt from the above labeling if they are accompanied by documentation with all this information on it except that the name and address of the owner, the lot, the radiation particulars and the country of origin are still to be on the container.

If such honey has not been graded, this may be omitted from the documentation.

### **C. What MAY appear on my label?**

The regulations allow for a short list of items that may appear on the product and these are:

A trade name, the radura symbol, a picture, a logo, or registered mark, all the compulsory requirements, requirements by the Department of Health (lot and date), the Agricultural Pest Act (radiation), information on crystallization, liquifaction, chemical or nutritive content may all appear on the product.

### **D. What MAY NOT appear on my label?**

Nothing may appear on the label that may be a misrepresentation of the contents in any way.

Except for the details allowed in C, above, nothing else may appear in any way on a label, on the lid, on a neck-tie or any other way unless it can be proved to be factually and scientifically correct.

The word HONEY may only appear on the ingredient list on honey-substitutes if it contains any honey, but such a spread may not imply that it is or could be honey.

Except for honey or other mixtures of bee products, nothing on such a product may imply that the main ingredient is honey.

word hersien en sal binnekort meer vryheid toelaat ten opsigte van verpakkings mates.

Grootmaatverpakking (soos 220 l, 100 l or selfs 5 l houers) word van al die bogenoemde uitgesluit indien hulle vergesel word van die toepaslike dokumente wat al hierdie inligting bevat behalwe dat die naam en address van die eienaar, die lot, bestralings besonderhede en die land van herkoms steeds op die houer moet verskyn.

Indien sulke heuning nie gegradeer is nie, mag dit van die houer weggelaat word.

### **C. Wat MAG op my etiket verskyn?**

Die regulasies laat 'n kort lysie toe van items wat op die produk mag verskyn as volg:

'n Handelsnaam, die radura simbool, 'n prentjie, 'n logo of geregistreerde merk, al die verpligte behoeftes, behoeftes ten opsigte van die Departement Gesondheid (lot en datum), die Landbou Plae Wet (bestraling), inligting ten opsigte van kristaliserings, vervloeïing, chemiese of voedingswaarde mag almal op die produk verskyn.

### **D. Wat MAG NIE op my etiket verskyn nie?**

Niks mag op die etiket verskyn wat enigsinds misleidend van die inhoud is nie.

Behalwe vir die besonderhede in C, mag niks anders in enige vorm verskyn op die etiket, die deksel, enige pamflet of hoegenaamd anders verskyn nie behalwe as dit feitlik en wetenskaplik bewysbaar is.

Die woord HEUNING mag slegs verskyn in die bestandelelys van surrogaatheuning indien dit heuning bevat, maar so 'n smeer mag nie impliseer dat dit heuning is of kan wees nie.

Behalwe vir heuning of ander mengsels van bye produkte, mag niks op so 'n produk impliseer dat die hoofbestanddeel heuning is nie.