

TRADUCCIÓN / TRANSLATION

Resolution adopted in the Board of Directors of INAVI dated February 14, 2019 (Minutes No. 005/2019)

ANALYSIS OF IMPORTED PRODUCTS

Having seen: the need to request analytical specifications related to exogenous water content in wine products that request entry into the country

Whereas:

- a. Act No. 8372 of October 25, 1928, establishes that imported wines are in general subject to the control regime established for domestic wines and any special regime determined for them by the Executive Power;
- b. Section 2 of Act 2856 of July 17, 1903 defines wine as the exclusive product of the fermentation of fresh grape juice, which has undergone during the fermentation of the must one of the adjustment methods determined by enology, with the exclusive purpose of improving the quality owing to special conditions of the harvest. The definition coincides with the OIV and MERCOSUR concept of wine (Mercosur Wine Regulation Chapter II 2.1);
- c. The presence of exogenous water in wine is illegal, as it contravenes sections 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the aforementioned Act 2856 of July 17, 1903, and consequently, the product with said contents is considered artificial in this country, being subject to the application of fines and seizure. In the laws there is no tolerance or admissibility percentage of exogenous water in the product;
- d. The presence of exogenous water in wine is established by means of the official method of determination of isotopic ratios of oxygen in wine water by mass spectrometry, which makes it possible to control the authenticity of the wine. Since 1996 this determination has been the basis of the Official Method of the OIV. Uruguay is a member of the OIV and for over five years this country has made said method official according to Act No. 18462 of January 2009;
- e. Section 2 of Decree No. 77/84 provides that the INAVI will issue the quality control and circulation tickets for imported wines, when the result of the physical, chemical and sensory analyzes of the samples duly extracted, demonstrate that they meet the characteristics established in the standards that regulate their commercialization in the country;
- f. Section 1 of Decree No. 349/012 of October 25, 2012 stipulates that the importer of wines and other grapes and wine products and by-products, as well as ciders, shall request the National Institute of Vitiviniculture (INAVI) to inspect them, and said Agency shall grant the selling authorization certificate for the sale of those products in the domestic market;
- g. The INAVI should require importers and wine products entering the country from regions whose laws admit the presence of exogenous water in their products, regardless of its percentage, a certificate of analysis issued by the country of origin stating that the product does not contain exogenous water in any percentage.

Therefore, the Board of Directors of INAVI resolves:

1. As of March 1, 2019, any wine product that requests an importation process shall prove through an authorized laboratory of the country of origin that said product does not contain exogenous water in any percentage.
 2. As of said date, certification will only be required to the products coming from countries whose legislations accept the presence of exogenous water, whatever its percentage.
 3. The Board of Directors shall establish in a timely manner the date on which the measure shall be applied in general terms to products coming from all the wine-growing regions.
 4. Be it communicated. Be it published.
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