

# A Guide to Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Registration and Licensing

*Disclaimer: The English version is a translation of the original in Arabic for information purposes only. In case of a discrepancy, the Arabic original will prevail.*

The Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA), seeking to enhance food safety and protect consumer's health, has developed this guide to show the process for registering fruit and vegetable establishments and thereof products, after having regard to:

- Article (9) of the Saudi Food Law (established by RD No. (M/1) on Nov 9, 2014) which states that " Food Business Operators shall register their products with SFDA in line with the registration process, procedures and exemptions set forth in the Regulation"
- Article (16) which lists the situations in which handling food is prohibited, including failure to register with SFDA,
- Article (10) of Regulation (promulgated by SFDA Board Decision No 1439 on 27 Nov 2017) stipulating that "food producers, manufacturers, and importers shall register their locally produced and imported food products with SFDA"

## Online Registration Steps:

To register fresh fruit and vegetables in the SFDA on-line registration system, you must take the following steps:

### 1- Creating an Account

Local and foreign FBOs can set up an online account in SFDA as shown in the following:

- Go to SFDA website ► Electronic Services ► Electronic Services of Controlling Imported Food ► Link to Service ► Electronic Services ► Create a New Account ► Link to Service ► Fill out the Form ► Attach a Commercial Register which clearly defines the business undertaken by the establishment (e.g: importation, distribution, or sale of fresh fruits and vegetables) ► Attach an Authorization letter in the format set out in the following link: [Authorization Format](#)

## 2- Applying for Product Registration:

To apply for a product registration, you can go to [SFDA FOOD REGISTRATION](#) homepage, click on the Product icon to select the product you wish to register. However, prior to registration, you should take a look at the application requirements and the 27 particulars you need to fill out in the product registration form as shown in the following:

### Application Requirements and Registration details:

- Fill out the application form and make sure the information in the form and those declared on the label are identical. You must download a photographic image of the label and the final product, ensuring that the type of product packing is clearly discernable.
- Use the word (fresh) next to item's name.
- Read the Declaration carefully and make sure you understand all the legal aspects before signing and submitting your application. After submission, you will receive a message containing a reference number and an indication that your request is under process. Use this reference number to follow up on the progress of your registration.

### • Main Labeling Information:

- 1- Items' name (not description).
- 2- Total weight according to the product condition.
- 3- Components in Arabic (and English if applicable).
- 4- Country of origin, production and packaging.
- 5- Name of the manufacturing/farming company.
- 6- Barcode number if applicable, otherwise type in (0) in barcode field.
- 7- Method used.
- 8- Experts in SFDA shall register fruits and vegetables products. The importer or producer responsible shall conform to the technical regulation and approved standards.

- **Registration Status After the application process is completed:**

- 1- Approved.
- 2- Not Completed.
- 3- Declined.

- **Necessary Permits:**

Permits for local fresh fruits and vegetables apply in the following cases:

- When distributed directly after harvesting, fresh fruit and vegetables are only required to be registered in SFDA.
- When undergoing packing and packaging, the products can only be registered in SFDA if a food manufacturing license is made available.
- When storing, the products can only be registered in SFDA if a license is made available.

### **Imported Fresh Fruits and Vegetables:**

- A warehouse license is required to store imported fresh fruit and vegetable except for shipments of no greater than five consignment a year and a maximum total weight of 2000 kg.