

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Health  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Manila

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

NO. 134 s. 1970

SUBJECT: Regulation Prescribing the Standard of Identity and Quality  
of Vinegar (B-4.9 Condiments, Sauces, Seasonings)

B-4.9-05 Vinegar

I. Identity

- a) Vinegar is the liquid produced by alcoholic and/or acetous fermentations of one or more of the following: malt, spirit, wine, cider, alcoholic liquors, fruits, grain, vegetables, honey, glucose, sugar (including unrefined crystal sugar and refinery syrups) or molasses.
  1. Sugar vinegar is the product made by the alcoholic and subsequent acetous fermentations of sugar cane juice, sucrose, molasses or refiner's sugar.
  2. Malt vinegar is the product made by the alcoholic and subsequent acetous fermentations of barley malt, or cereals whose starch has been converted to malt.
  3. Coco vinegar is the product made from the alcoholic and subsequent acetous fermentations of the sap of coconut palm.
  4. Pineapple vinegar is the product made by the alcoholic and subsequent acetous fermentations of pineapple juice.
  5. Nipa-Sap vinegar (sucang puti, native vinegar) is the product made by alcoholic and subsequent acetous fermentations of the sap of nipa palm (*Nipa fruticans* Worm).
- b) Distilled vinegar is the liquid produced by acetous fermentation of dilute distilled alcohol or by the distillation of vinegar.

2. Optional ingredients

- a) Caramel may be used as a coloring in any variety of vinegar without declaration on the label.
- b) Flavoring may be used in any variety of vinegar, provided its nature is declared on the label.

3. Standard of Quality

- a) All vinegar shall have an acidity of not less than 4% by weight of absolute acetic acid except nipa-sap vinegar which shall have an acidity of not less than 3%.
- b) All vinegar shall contain not less than 1.5% w/v of total solids and 0.18% of ash, except nipa-sap vinegar which shall contain not less than 2.2% of solids and not less than 0.4% of ash.
- c) All vinegar shall contain foreign substances, drugs, sulfuric acid or other mineral acids.
- d) All vinegar shall contain not more than 18 parts per million of lead, 66 parts per million of copper and 1.5 parts per million of arsenic.
- e) Malt vinegar shall have at least 0.05% of phosphorous pentoxide ( $P_2O_5$ ) and 0.04% of nitrogen.
- f) Vinegar containing any artificial matter such as synthetic acetic acid, or cloudifying agent shall be deemed to be adulterated and its sale is thereby prohibited.

(SGD)

AMADEO H. CRUZ, M.D., CPH  
Secretary of Health