BASMATI RICE (EXPORT) GRADING AND MARKING RULES

Short title, commencement and application:
(a) These may be called the Basmati Rice (Export) Grading and Marking Rules, 1979.
(b) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the official Gazette.
(c) They shall apply to Basmati Rice produced in India.

Definitions: For the purposes of these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires:
(a) "Agricultural Marketing Adviser" means the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India;
(b) "Authorised Packer" means any person or body of persons who has been issued a certificate of authorisation by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser authorizing such person or body of persons to grade and mark Basmati Rice under Agmark;
(c) "Schedule" means a schedule appended to these rules.

Grade Designation: Grade designation to indicate the quality of Basmati Rice as set out in column I of the schedules II to IV.

Definition of quality: Each quality of Basmati Rice shall be as set out against each grade designation in Schedules II to IV.

Grade Designation mark: The grade designation mark shall consist of a label bearing design consisting of an outline map of India with the word "AGMARK" and the figure of the rising sun with the words "PRODUCE OF INDIA" and भारतीय उत्पाद resembling the one as set out in Schedule I and specifying the grade designation.

Method of Marking:
(1) The grade designation mark shall be securely affixed to each container in a manner approved by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser.
(2) In addition to the grade designation mark, each container shall be clearly marked with such particulars as may be specified by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser.

The following particulars shall also be clearly and indelibly marked on each container, namely:
(a) The serial number of the lot,
(b) Date of packing,
(c) Name of the packer,
(d) Place of packing,

(3) An authorized packer may, after obtaining the prior approval of the Agricultural Marketing Adviser, mark his private trade mark on a container in a manner approved by the said officer, provided that the private trade mark does not represent quality or grade of basmati rice different from that indicated by the grade designation mark affixed to the container in accordance with the rules.

7. Method of Packing:
(1) Only sound, clean and dry containers made of jute or any other material as may be approved by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser shall be used for packing. They shall be free from any insect infestation or fungal contamination and also free from any undesirable smell.
(2) The containers shall be securely closed and sealed in a manner approved by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser.
(3) Each package shall contain basmati rice of the one trade description and one grade designation only.

3. Special conditions of certificate of authorisation:
In addition to the conditions specified in Rule 4 of the General Grading and Marking Rules, 1937, the following shall be the conditions of every certificate of authorisation issued for the purpose of these rules namely:
(a) An authorised packer shall make such arrangements for testing basmati rice as may be prescribed by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser.
(b) An authorised packer shall provide all facilities as may be necessary for sampling, testing etc. to the inspecting officers duly authorised by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser, in this behalf.
**SCHEDULE-I** (See Rule 5)
Design for the Grade Designation Mark
{picture as depicted on page 14 (Schedule 1)}

**SCHEDULE-II**
(See rules 3 and 4)

Grade designation and definition of quality of Basmati Raw Milled Rice (For Export only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade designation</th>
<th>Special Characteristics (Maximum Limits of Tolerance percent by weight)</th>
<th>General characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Foreign matter</td>
<td>Brokens and fragments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*) Red grains shall not exceed 2 %

**DEFINITIONS:**

(i) **Foreign Matter**

Shall include dust, stone, lumps of earth, chaff, stem or straw and any other impurity.

(ii) **Brokens and Fragments**

Shall include pieces of rice kernels which are less than three fourth of a whole kernel. The pieces of kernels, smaller than one fourth of the whole kernels shall be treated as fragments.

(iii) **Other rice including red grains**

Shall consist of contrasting and/or inferior varieties, Red grains shall be the kernels whole or broken, which have 25 percent or more of their surface coated with red bran.

(iv) **Damaged, Discoloured and Chalky grains.**

Shall include rice kernels, broken, fragments or whole that are internally damaged or discoloured, materially affecting the quality. Chalky grains shall be the grains at least half of which is milky white in colour and brittle in nature.

*Foot note: As mentioned on page 15.*
**SCHEDULE-III**

*Grade designation and definition of quality of Basmati parboiled rice (For Export only)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Grade designation</th>
<th>Foreign Matter</th>
<th>Brokens and Fragments</th>
<th>Other rice including red grains*</th>
<th>Damaged discoloured and chalky grains.</th>
<th>Moisture</th>
<th>General characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Special</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>1. The grains shall be long slender creamy white, brownish or grayish colour and translucent.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2 | A. | 1.0 | 10.0 | 15.0 | 2.0 | 14.0 | 2. The Rice:—  
   (a) Shall be the dried matured kernels of Oryza sativa and have uniform size, shape and colour; |
| 3 | B. | 2.0* | 10.0 | 20.0 | 3.0 | 14.0 | (b) Shall possess a marked degree of natural fragrance characteristic of Basmati Rice both in the raw and cooked state.  
   (c) Shall not have been artificially colored and shall be free from polishing agents;  
   (d) May contain up to three percent of grains with an appreciable amount of bran thereon. |

*Red grains shall not exceed 2%*

**DEFINITIONS:**

(i) Foreign Matter

 Shall include dust, stone, lumps of earth, chaff, stem or straw and any other impurity.

(ii) Brokens and Fragments

 Shall include pieces of rice kernels which are less than three fourth of a whole kernel. The pieces of kernels, smaller than one fourth of the whole kernels shall be treated as fragments.

(iii) Other rice including red grains

 Shall consist of contrasting and/or inferior varieties of rice. Red grains shall be the kernels whole or broken, which have 25 percent or more of their surface coated with red bran.

(iv) Damaged, Discoloured and Chalky grains.

 Shall include rice kernels, broken, fragments or whole that are internally damaged or discoloured, materially affecting the quality. Chalky grains shall be the grains at least half of which is milky white in colour and brittle in nature.

*Foot note: - As mentioned on page 15.*
SCHEDULE-IV
(See rules 3 and 4)

Grade designation and definition of quality of Basmati unpolished/dehusked rice (For Export only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade designation</th>
<th>Foreign matter</th>
<th>Brokens and fragments</th>
<th>Other rice grains</th>
<th>Green grains</th>
<th>Red grains</th>
<th>Damaged discoloured and chalky grains</th>
<th>Moisture</th>
<th>General characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>1. The grains shall be long slender to light brown colour and having vitreous lustre (glossy in appearance).</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2. The Rice: -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>(a) Shall be the dried matured kernels of Oryza sativa, from which the hulls have been removed and have not been subjected to further milling and shall have uniform size, shape and colour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>1.5*</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>30.0</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>(b) shall possess a marked degree of natural fragrance characteristic of Basmati Rice both in the raw and cooked state.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(c) shall not have been artificially coloured and shall be free from polishing agents;</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(d) Shall be free from musty or obnoxious odour and shall carry no sign of mould or containing webs and dead or live weevils;</td>
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<td>(e) Shall have length 6.0 mm and above and length/breadth ratio of 3.0 and above.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(f) Shall be in sound merchantable condition.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DEFINITIONS:**

1. Foreign matter shall include dust, stones, lumps of earth, chaff, stem or straw and any other impurity.
2. Brokens and fragments shall include pieces, of rice, kernels, which are less than three-fourth of a whole.
3. Other rice shall consist of contrasting and/or inferior varieties of rice.
4. Green grains shall be the kernels, whole or broken, which are greenish in colour.
5. Red grains shall be the kernels, whole or broken which have their surface coated with red bran.
6. Damaged, discoloured and chalky grains shall include rice kernels, broken, fragments or whole, that are internally damaged or discoloured, materially affecting the quality. Chalky grains, shall be the grains at least half of which is milky white in colour and brittle in nature.

*Foot note: As mentioned on page 15.

**Note:**

1) The principal rules were published vide No. S.O. 451 dated 30th January, 1979 in the Gazette of India, Part II, Section 3 Sub Section (ii) dated 3/2/1979.