THE BESAN (GRAM FLOUR) GRADING AND MARKING RULES

1. Short title and application :-
1. These rules may be called the Besan (Gram Flour) Grading and Marking Rules, 1975.
2. They shall apply to Besan produced in India.

2. Definitions - In 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 a person or a body of persons who has been granted a certificate of authorisation to grade and mark the commodity in accordance with the provisions of these rules;
d) "Schedule" means a schedule appended to these rules.

3. Grade designation :- Grade designation to indicate the quality of Besan shall be as specified in column I of Schedule I.

4. Definition of quality :- The quality indicated by the grade designation shall be as specified against such designation in columns 2 to 3 of Schedule I.

5. Grade designation mark - The grade designation mark shall consist of :-
1) Label specifying the name of the commodity, grade designation and bearing a design consisting of an outlines map of India with the word "AGMARK" and the figure of rising sun resembling the one as set out in the schedule II or
2) Agmark replica consisting of design with incorporation of the number of certificate of authorisation, the word "AGMARK" name of the commodity, grade designation resembling the one as specified in Schedule II-A.

Provided that use of Agmark replica in lieu of Agmark labels may be allowed only to such authorised packer who has obtained the written permission of the Agricultural Marketing Advisor or an officer duly authorised by him in the Central Government in this regard.

6. Method of packing :-
1. Only sound, clean and dry containers made of Jute or cloth or paper and lined polythene (200 gauge) or any such other material as may be approved by the Agricultural Marketing Advisor or an officer duly authorised by him in this behalf, shall be used for packing.
2. The container shall be free from any insect infestation, fungus contamination or any obnoxious and undesirable smell.
3. The container shall not be composed, wholly or in part, with any poisonous or deleterious substance, which renders the container injurious to health.
4. Each container shall be securely closed and sealed in the manner as may be prescribed by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser.
5. The Besan shall be packed in net weight of 100 gms, 200 gms, 500 gms, 1 kg, 2 kgs, 5 kgs, and multiples thereof.
6. Each container shall contain Besan of same grade designation only.

7. Method of Marking :-
1. A label of grade designation mark shall be affixed to the container in such a manner that it is rendered unusable once the container is opened or a replica with grade designation mark shall be printed on the container with a serial number allotted by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser or any other officer duly authorised by him in this behalf.
2. In addition to the grade designation mark the following particulars shall also be clearly and indelibly marked on each container, namely :-
a) Name and address of the packer.
b) Place of packing.
c) Date of packing* month and year,
d) Lot/Batch No.,
e) Net Weight,
f) Date of expiry* month and year.

8. Special Containers of certificate of authorisation :-
In addition to conditions specified in sub-rule (8) of rule 3 of the General Grading and Marking Rules, 1988, the conditions set out in schedule III shall be observed by the authorised packer to the satisfaction of the Agricultural Marketing Adviser.

*NB - The date of packing shall be the date on which the analysis of the sample is completed. Date of packing and expiry shall not be indicated in code words.
**SCHEME-I**
(See rule 3 and 4)

Grade designation and definition of quality of Besan (Gram Flour)

| Grade designation | Moisture percent by weight (Maximum) | Total ash percent by weight (on dry basis) (Maximum) | Acid Insoluble ash percent by weight (on dry basis) (Maximum) | Alcoholic Acidity (as \( \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \)) 90 percent alcohol by weight (Maximum) | Crude protein (N x 6.25) percent minimum (on dry basis) | Description | General Requirements |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Grade-I           | 12.0                                | 3.0                                                  | 0.25                                                          | 0.12                                                       | 21.0                                                     | Besan shall be the product obtained by milling sound clean and dried decuticled gram (Cicer arietinum) only. It shall be yellowish in colour and shall possess characteristic taste and smell. | 1. The product shall be marked "Fine" when 99.3 percent of it passes through 500 micron I.S. Sieve and it shall be marked "Coarse" when 98 percent passes through 1000 micron I.S. Sieve. |
| Grade-II          | 12.5                                | 3.5                                                  | 0.35                                                          | 0.18                                                       | 21.0                                                     | 2. The product shall be free from contamination with Khesri Dal (Lathyrus-sativus), peas, maize flour and added starch. |
|                   |                                     |                                                      |                                                                |                                                            |                                                          | 3. The product shall be free from insect and fungus infestation, pathogenic organism like salmonella, added colouring matter, grit and preservatives. |
|                   |                                     |                                                      |                                                                |                                                            |                                                          | 4. It shall be free from adulterants impurities and from other extraneous matter including rodent hair and rodent excreta. |
|                   |                                     |                                                      |                                                                |                                                            |                                                          | 5. On microscopic examination, the product shall exhibit the specified characteristic appearance of cellular structure. |
|                   |                                     |                                                      |                                                                |                                                            |                                                          | 6. It shall conform to the provisions of the rule 65 of Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 for restriction on the use of insecticides. |
|                   |                                     |                                                      |                                                                |                                                            |                                                          | 7. It shall conform to the provisions of rule 57A and 57B of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Mycotoxins including Affatoxin. |
|                   |                                     |                                                      |                                                                |                                                            |                                                          | 8. It shall not have Uric acid content more than 100 microgram/kg. |
|                   |                                     |                                                      |                                                                |                                                            |                                                          | 9. It shall be in sound merchantable condition and fit in all respects for human consumption. |
SCHEDULE-II [See Rule 5 (1)]
Grade designation mark
DESIGN OF AGMARK LABEL
{picture as depicted on page 14 (Schedule 1)}

(SCHEDULE-II A)
[See rule 5 (2)]
DESIGN OF AGMARK REPLICA

NAME OF COMMODITY ............................................
GRADE .................................................................

SCHEDULE-III
(See rule 8)

Special conditions of certificate of authorisation:

a) The authorised packer shall own or have access
to a suitable premises located in a clean hygiene
environment for handling or storage or for both
and packing of Besan approved by the
Agricultural Marketing Adviser.

b) The authorised packer shall make such
arrangements for testing Besan as may be
specified by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser
and samples of Besan shall be forwarded to such
control laboratories as may be specified by him
from time to time.

c) The authorised packer shall provide all such
facilities as may be necessary to the inspecting
officers duly authorised by the Agricultural
Marketing Advisor in this behalf.

d) All instructions regarding the methods of
sampling, analysis and packing which may be
issued by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser
shall be strictly observed.

e) The operatives shall be in sound health and shall
be clean and free from any contagious
communicable diseases.

NOTE:
1. The principal rules were published vide No. S.O. 1618 dated the 24th May, 1975.
2. The first amendment was published vide No. S.O. 1101 dated the 31st March, 1979.
3. The second amendment was published vide G.S.R. 309 dated 1/7/1996 in the Gazette of India, Part II, section 3, sub-
section (i) dated 20-7-96.