

ISO

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION

ISO RECOMMENDATION R 211

ESSENTIAL OILS
LABELLING AND MARKING CONTAINERS

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BRIEF HISTORY

The ISO Recommendation R 211, *Essential Oils. Labelling and Marking Containers*, was drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 54, *Essential Oils*, the Secretariat of which is held by the Repartição de Normalização (IGPAI).

Work on this question by the Technical Committee began in 1952 and led in 1953 to the adoption of a Draft ISO Recommendation.

This first Draft ISO Recommendation (No. 55) was circulated to all the ISO Member Bodies for enquiry. As the results of this consultation were not considered satisfactory, the Technical Committee successively put forward a second and a third Draft ISO Recommendation, which were circulated in October 1957 and August 1959 respectively.

This third Draft was approved, subject to a few modifications of an editorial nature, by the following Member Bodies:

Belgium	Israel	Portugal
Burma	Italy	Romania
Canada	Japan	Spain
Chile	Mexico	Sweden
France	Netherlands	United Kingdom
Germany	New Zealand	U.S.S.R.
Greece	Pakistan	Yugoslavia
India	Poland	

No Member Body opposed the approval of the Draft.

The Draft ISO Recommendation was then submitted by correspondence to the ISO Council, which decided, in September 1961, to accept it as an ISO RECOMMENDATION.

ESSENTIAL OILS

LABELLING AND MARKING CONTAINERS

1. PURPOSE

Labelling and marking of the containers for essential oils should be standardized to ensure easy identification of the contents.

This ISO Recommendation lays down the general guide for labelling and marking containers for essential oils.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 *Labelling* a container. Process of distinguishing and specifying the contents of a container, by means of a label which, however, is not part of it.

2.2 *Marking* a container. Process of distinguishing and specifying the contents of a container, by means of a mark which is not dissociable from it.

3. LABELLING

All containers not bearing a marking, which are intended for packing essential oils, should have a label showing the following minimum information:

- (a) name and address of the manufacturer or exporter;
- (b) trade name of the essential oil, and, if possible, the part of the plant from which it is obtained and the method of production in those cases where the oil is produced either by distillation or by expression;
- (c) gross weight, tare and net weight;
- (d) the percentage of the principal constituent, if the commercial value of the essential oil is dependent upon it.

The labels should be affixed in such a manner that their substitution by other labels or their use for other purposes is impossible.

4. MARKING

Since labels may be totally or partially destroyed through lack of protection or for some other reason, marking of the containers for packing essential oils is preferable. The mark should be affixed on the container by a process which will render it durable and legible; it should bear at least the following information:

- (a) name and address of the manufacturer or exporter, or trade mark;
- (b) trade name of the essential oil;
- (c) gross weight, tare and net weight.