File No. 11023/53/2018-QA
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(A statutory Authority established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006)
(Quality Assurance Division)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi – 110002

Dated, the 6th June, 2020

Subject: Removal of Specific Marker for Rice Syrup (SMR) in Honey from the direction issued by FSSAI dated 29th October, 2019 - reg.

As you are aware that the parameter in Honey viz Specific Marker for Rice Syrup (SMR) was kept in abeyance vide FSSAI direction dated 22nd January, 2019 and 29th October, 2019 under section 16(5) of FSS Act, 2006 from the enforcement point of view till such time the validated and fit for purpose methods are available.

2. In view of above, this is to inform that the Food Authority in its 30th meeting held on 29th May, 2020 vide Supplementary Agenda Item No. 30(IV)(6) has approved the Method for Detection of 2-Acetylfuran-3-Glucopyranoside (2-AFGP)/3-O-α-D-Glucosyl Isomaltol the Specific marker for Rice Syrup (SMR) by LC-MS/MS. This method has been uploaded on the website of FSSAI.

3. Accordingly, the Regulatory Compliance Division is requested to kindly remove this parameter from the FSSAI direction dated 29th October, 2019.

(Kumar Anil)
Advisor (QA)

To:

(i) Executive Director (Regulatory Compliance), FSSAI
(ii) Advisor (Standards), FSSAI
(iii) Head (Regulations), FSSAI

Copy To:

(i) PS to CEO, FSSAI
Subject: Direction under Section 18(2)(d) read with Section 16 (5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 regarding operationalization of the Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additive) Amendment Regulations, 2019.

Standards for honey were notified vide gazette notification no. Stds/CPL/CP/ Draft Notification/FSSAI-2017 dated 31st July, 2018. Subsequently a direction vide even number dated 29.10.2019 was issued for revision of the parameter pollen count and deletion of parameters viz., specific marker for Rice Syrup (SMR), Trace marker for Rice Syrup (TMR) and Foreign oligosaccharides.

2. However, a direction vide even number dated 05.06.2020 was issued to reinstate the parameter specific marker for Rice Syrup (SMR) based on the approval of Food Authority on the method of detection of 2-Acetylfuran-3-Glucopyranoside (2-AFGP)/3-O-Alpha-D-Glucosyl Isomaltol, the specific marker for Rice Syrup (SMR), LC-MS.

3. Further, The Scientific Panel on Methods of Sampling and analysis in its 28th Meeting held on 18th June, 2020 has recommended the method for determination of Foreign Oligosaccharides in Honey. Hence, it has been decided to reinstate the parameter Foreign Oligosaccharides also in the standards of Honey.

4. The amendment regulations in this regard and also including some other revisions of the standards of Honey are in the process of being notified and the process of draft notification, considerations of comments, if any that may be received thereon and the finalization of these regulations are likely to take some time. Meanwhile, in order to address the trade issue particularly on adulteration, it has been decided to operationalise these amendment regulations, as enclosed.

5. This direction will supersede the earlier directions issued vide even number dated 29.10.2019 and 05.06.2020 as mentioned above and will come into force with immediate effect. However, in respect of the provisions, other than the parameters and limit thereof as prescribed under the item (V) of enclosed amendment regulations, the compliance shall commence after six months from the date of issuance of this direction.

6. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority in exercise of the power vested with Food Authority under Section 18(2)(d) read with Section 16 (5) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

To

1. All Food Safety Commissioner
2. All Authorised Officer, FSSAI
3. All Central Designated Offices of FSSAI

[Signature]
Advisor (Science & Standards)