

DECREE NO. 12,709/2025: UNIFIED REGULATION FOR THE INSPECTION OF PLANT-BASED PRODUCTS

On October 31, 2025, Decree No. 12,709 was published, establishing the new regulation for the inspection of plant-based products in Brazil. The regulation consolidates and updates legal provisions related to the inspection and control of these products, further regulating provisions of Laws No. 7,678/1988, No. 8,171/1991, No. 8,918/1994, No. 9,972/2000, and No. 14,515/2022, and repealing nine previous Decrees that addressed beverages, wines, and other plant-based products in a fragmented manner.

The new regulation expands the normative scope and now covers the entire production chain under a single provision. Article 5, item VI, defines plant-based products as: processed plants; plant-based beverages; plant-based products analogous to animal-origin products; algae and fungi; plant raw materials and ingredients intended for animal feed; and agricultural products of economic interest.

Among the main innovations, aligned with new inspection trends adopted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAPA) under Law No. 14,515/2022, is the mandatory implementation of self-control programs, which must include documented procedures for traceability, risk analysis and management, internal audits, and product recalls in cases of non-compliance.

Companies must maintain systematic and auditable records of all stages of production and commercialization, as well as register with the competent authorities. The regulation also refers to the Compliance Incentive Program for Agricultural Defense, regulated by Law No. 14,515/2022.

The Decree also mentions alignment with *Codex Alimentarius* guidelines when there is no specific national regulation.

Another relevant aspect is the strengthening of the Brazilian System for the Inspection of Plant-Based Products (SISBI-POV), part of the Unified System for Agricultural Health Care (SUASA), aimed at ensuring identity, quality, compliance, and hygienic-sanitary and technological safety of plant-based products.

SISBI-POV will be implemented in accordance with national agricultural policy, through shared responsibilities among the Federal Government, States, Federal District, Municipalities, and public consortia, with voluntary adherence and adoption of equivalent inspection regimes, ensuring uniformity and integration in the inspection of plant-based products.

Precautionary measures may be applied by MAPA regarding plant-based products and establishments, as well as infractions, their classification, and corresponding penalties.

The Decree came into effect on the date of its publication, but Articles 107 and 110, related to labeling and e-commerce, will take effect after 90 days. Provisions requiring adjustments to beverage registration information due to name changes will take effect only after 730 days. All other provisions apply immediately.

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