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## TRADING STANDARDS SERVICE

### NOTES FOR GUIDANCE

Telephone: 01595 744887  
Fax: 01595 744804  
trading.standards@shetland.gov.uk  
www.shetland.gov.uk/tradingstandards

## Weight requirements for jam, marmalade and honey

### ***Do jam, marmalade and honey have to be produced to a certain weight?***

Yes, unless they are in packages of less than 50 g.

*NB Diabetic jam and marmalade, chunk honey and comb honey are exempted from this requirement.*

### ***What are the prescribed weights?***

The prescribed weights are 57 g, 113 g, 227 g, 340 g, 454 g, 680 g or a multiple of 454 g.

### ***Are these net or gross weights?***

These are net weights (the weight of the product without the packaging).

### ***Can I use the imperial equivalents to the prescribed metric weights?***

You can, but only as a supplementary indication which is no more prominent than the metric indication (see the section headed *What information must be marked on the package?* overleaf).

### ***Do packages need an e mark?***

The e mark is only relevant for packages which are intended for export to another European Union member state. If you are considering such exports, please contact us for further advice.

### ***Jam, marmalade and honey are regulated by the average system - what does this mean?***

The average system is an acceptance of the fact that automatic packing equipment cannot produce packages which will all contain exactly the same quantity.

*If your production and packing is all done by hand, then the simplest way to ensure compliance with the law is to make up each package using a suitable weighing machine (which must have been tested and marked to show that it is fit for use for trade) such that the actual quantity in each package is not less than the nominal quantity marked on the package.*

The law says that your production must meet the following three requirements, which are referred to as *the packer's rules*.

1. **On average**, the actual quantity in each package must not be less than the nominal quantity marked on the package.
2. **In at least 97.5% of the packages**, the actual quantity must not be less than a specified lower tolerance limit.
3. **In every package**, the actual quantity must not be less than a specified absolute lower tolerance limit.

### **What are the permitted tolerances?**

Examples of tolerances are shown in the table below.

<b>Product</b>	<b>Not more than 2.5 % of packages below</b>	<b>No packages below</b>
113 g jar of honey	110 g	106 g
454 g jar of jam	440 g	427 g
908 g tin of marmalade	881 g	854 g

### **What information must be marked on the package?**

The following information must be marked on the package (except unwrapped loaves)

- A statement of quantity in metric units, for example *454 grams* or *454 g*
- The name and address of the packer
- A list of ingredients, in descending weight order (this requirement is enforced by the Council's Environmental Health Service, who can be contacted at the above address for further information)

### **What checks are required regarding the weights of packages?**

You have a duty to ensure that your production meets the three rules set out on page two.

In essence, this means that you must operate a system for producing and checking your products which is sufficiently rigorous to ensure that the output from each production run will comply with these rules.

This will require you to use suitable weighing equipment for checking (and, where appropriate, making up) packages, and to keep adequate records of those checks.

Due to the individual nature of each particular business set-up it is impossible to set out in detail a standard system which will be suitable and sufficient for compliance, but we will be happy to assist you in developing a suitable system for your particular requirements.

## **Is special equipment required for carrying out checks?**

Weighing equipment used for carrying out checks must meet specified requirements laid down in the relevant legislation; again, we will be happy to advise you in detail with regard to your specific requirements.

*This is not an authoritative document on the law and is only intended for guidance.*

For a copy of this document on audio cassette, in large print or Braille, or if you require assistance in reading this, please contact the Council's Policy Unit.

Shetland Islands Council Policy Unit  
Town Hall, Hillhead, Lerwick, Shetland ZE1 0HB

Tel: 01595 744537

Email: policy@shetland.gov.uk

This document is also available at [www.shetland.gov.uk/tradingstandards](http://www.shetland.gov.uk/tradingstandards)

## **Do you require the services of an interpreter?**

If you do, please contact **01595 744537** for assistance.

We will provide an interpreter, or we can supply the document in your choice of language.

你是否需要傳譯服務?

如果需要，請致電 01595 744537 尋求幫助。

我們會適當地為你安排傳譯人員或者提供你需要文字的文件。

ਕੀ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਇੰਟਰਪਰੈਟਰ (ਤੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਆ) ਦੀਆਂ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ?

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਲਈ 01595 744537 ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

ਜਿਥੇ ਸੰਭਵ ਹੈ ਸਕਿਆ ਇੰਟਰਪਰੈਟਰ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਕਰਵਾਇਆ ਜਾਏਗਾ ਜਾਂ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਪਸੰਦ ਵਾਲੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਭੇਜਿਆ ਜਾਏਗਾ।

আপনি কি একজন দোভাষীর সাহায্য চান ?

যদি আপনার প্রয়োজন থাকে তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে যোগাযোগ করুন -01595 744537  
যেখানে সম্ভব সেখানে একজন দোভাষীর ব্যবস্থা করা হবে অথবা আপনি যে ভাষাতে চা  
দলীলটি অনুবাদ করে আপনাকে প্রদান করা হবে।

کیا آپ کو انٹریپرٹری کی ضرورت ہے؟

اگر ایسا ہے تو پھر (انٹریپرٹری) مدد حاصل کرنے کیلئے فون نمبر 01595 744537 پر بات کریں۔

جہاں ممکن ہو وہاں انٹریپرٹری کی سہولت فراہم کی جائے گی یا پھر (مطلوبہ) دستہ ویز کارترجمہ آپ کی

پسندیدہ زبان میں فراہم کیا جائے گا۔