

1979 No. 1146

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE

**The Alcoholic Liquors (Amendment of Units and Methods of
Measurement) Regulations 1979**

Made - - - - 13th September 1979

Laid before Parliament 21st September 1979

Coming into Operation 1st January 1980

The Commissioners of Customs and Excise in exercise of the powers conferred on them by sections 2, 3, 8, 13, 15, 16, 19, 22, 28, 31, 33, 45, 46, 49, 56, 60, 62, 63, 77 and 82 of the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979(a), section 93 of the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979(b) and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, hereby make the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Alcoholic Liquors (Amendment of Units and Methods of Measurement) Regulations 1979 and shall come into operation on 1st January 1980.

2. In the Spirits Regulations 1952(c) the following amendments shall be made, that is to say—

(1) in Regulation 11(3), for the word “inches” (in both places) substitute the word “centimetres” and omit the word “dry”;

(2) in Regulation 18(2), in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) respectively, for the words “sixty degrees Fahrenheit” substitute the words “twenty degrees Celsius”;

(3) in Regulation 20(3), for the words “spirits computed at proof”, substitute the word “alcohol”;

(4) in Regulation 24—

(a) in paragraph (3), for the words “nine gallons” substitute the words “forty litres” and for the words “one hundred and fifty gallons” substitute the words “seven hundred litres”;

(b) for paragraph (4)(a)(iv), substitute the following—
“(iv) the number of litres the cask is capable of containing, and”;

(5) in Regulation 25—

(a) in paragraph (1), for the words “nine bulk gallons” substitute the words “forty litres”;

(b) in paragraph (2), for the words “four and one half bulk gallons” substitute the words “twenty litres”, for the words “one imperial quart” substitute the words “one litre” and for the words “two bulk gallons” substitute the words “nine litres”;

(a) 1979 c. 4.

(b) 1979 c. 2.

(c) S.I. 1952/2229.

- (6) in Regulation 34, for the word “gallons” substitute the word “litres”, and omit the words “and, if that number” to the end;
- (7) in Regulation 48, for the word “gallons” substitute the word “litres”;
- (8) in Regulation 49—
- (a) for paragraph (1), substitute the following paragraph—
- “(1) The strength of spirits may be ascertained—
- (a) by means of a deposited hydrometer, a deposited thermometer and the deposited table entitled “The Practical Alcohol Tables Volume 2”; or
- (b) by the following means:—
- (i) the density of the spirits in air at twenty degrees Celsius shall be determined, and the strength of the spirits shall be taken to be the percentage of alcohol by volume corresponding to that density in the deposited table entitled “Laboratory Alcohol Table”;
- (ii) where the density of any spirits determined as aforesaid falls between any two consecutive numbers in the deposited table referred to in paragraph 1(b)(i) of this Regulation the strength shall be determined by linear interpolation.”;
- (b) in paragraph (2), omit (in both places) the word “ethyl”;
- (9) for Regulation 50(2), substitute the following paragraph—
- “(2) Where the Commissioners under paragraph (1) of this Regulation direct ascertainment by weighing, the volume shall be calculated by means of a deposited hydrometer and the deposited table entitled “Contents by Weight Table”.”;
- (10) for Regulation 51, substitute the following Regulation—
- “51. This Part of these Regulations shall apply to spirits, methylated spirits and any fermented liquor other than wash.”;
- (11) in Regulation 52(5), for the words “two bulk gallons” substitute the words “nine litres”;
- (12) in Regulation 57—
- (a) in paragraph (2)—
- (i) in sub-paragraph (a), for the words “nine gallons” substitute the words “forty litres”;
- (ii) for sub-paragraph (b) substitute the following sub-paragraph—
- “(b) in litre or half-litre bottles or in bottles containing less than one half-litre but not less than five centilitres packed in cases each containing one or more complete dozen bottles of uniform size filled to capacity with spirits of uniform strength in an aggregate quantity of not less than 7.2 litres, or”;
- (b) in paragraph (3)—
- (i) in sub-paragraph (a), for the words “nine gallons” substitute the words “forty litres”;
- (ii) in sub-paragraph (b), for the words “four and a half bulk gallons” substitute the words “twenty litres”, for the words “one imperial

- quart" substitute the words "one litre" and for the words "two bulk gallons" substitute the words "nine litres";
- (c) in paragraph (4), for the words "nine bulk gallons" substitute the words "forty litres";
- (d) in paragraph (5), for the words "one or two gallons" substitute the words "five or ten litres";
- (e) for paragraph (8) substitute the following paragraph—
 "(8) The capacity in litres of each cask, drum or other approved vessel shall be marked thereon by cutting, branding or painting in oil paint.";
- (13) in Regulation 60 for the words "sixty degrees over proof" (in both places) substitute the words "ninety per cent.";
- (14) in Regulation 64—
 (a) in paragraph (1), for the word "gallons" substitute the word "litres";
 (b) in paragraph (2), for the words "Sikes's hydrometer" substitute the words "a deposited hydrometer";
- (15) in Regulation 77—
 (a) in the definition of "absolute alcohol" for the words "seventy-four degrees over proof" substitute the words "ninety-nine per cent.";
 (b) at the appropriate places in alphabetical order insert the following definitions:
 "deposited hydrometer" and "deposited thermometer" mean respectively a hydrometer and a thermometer of which a specimen, bearing a label signed by the Chairman of the Commissioners and identifying the instrument as being one to which these Regulations relate, has been deposited in the office of the Queen's Remembrancer at the Royal Courts of Justice;
 "deposited table" means a table, a copy of which, signed by the Chairman of the Commissioners and identifying the table as being one to which these Regulations relate, has been deposited as aforesaid;
- (c) the definitions of "deposited Tables (Series One)", "deposited Tables (Series Two)", "deposited Tables (Series Three)", "Sikes's hydrometer", "Sikes's 'A' hydrometer", "Sikes's 'B' hydrometer" and "specific gravity at 80°/80° Fahrenheit", shall be omitted;
- (16) for the Schedule, substitute the Schedule set out in Schedule 1 to these Regulations.

3. In the Methylated Spirits Regulations 1952(a) the following amendments shall be made, that is to say—

- (1) for Regulation 1(1), substitute the following paragraph—
 "(1) The substances to be mixed with spirits for the purposes of making methylated spirits shall be as follows:—
 In the case of mineralised methylated spirits, to every ninety parts by volume of spirits nine and one-half parts by volume of wood naphtha and one-half of one part of crude pyridine, and to every one thousand litres of the mixture 3.75 litres of mineral naphtha (petroleum

(a) S.I. 1952/2230.

oil) and not less than 1.5 grams of powdered aniline dye (methyl violet).

In the case of industrial methylated spirits, to every ninety-five parts by volume of spirits five parts by volume of wood naphtha.

In the case of industrial methylated spirits (pyridinised), to every ninety-five parts by volume of spirits five parts by volume of wood naphtha, and to every one hundred parts of the mixture one half of one part of crude pyridine.

In the case of industrial methylated spirits (Q grade) to every ninety-five parts by volume of spirits five parts by volume of pure methyl alcohol and to every litre of the mixture two millilitres of standardised quassin solution.

In the case of power methylated spirits, to every one hundred parts by volume of spirits two-and-a-half parts by volume of wood naphtha, one-half of one part of crude pyridine, and not less than five parts of petrol or benzol, and to such mixture there shall be added "Spirit Red III" dye in the proportion of 1.5 grams to every one thousand litres.";

(2) in Regulation 2(3), for the words "five hundred and fifty gallons" substitute the words "two thousand five hundred litres";

(3) in Regulation 13(1), for the words "four hundred and fifty gallons" substitute the words "two thousand litres";

(4) in Regulation 15, for the words "sixty degrees over proof" substitute the words "ninety per cent.";

(5) in Regulation 17(1), for the words "at proof" substitute the words "of alcohol contained in that bulk";

(6) in Regulation 18, for the words "five bulk gallons" substitute the words "twenty litres";

(7) in Regulation 19(1)(b), for the words "half a gallon" substitute the words "three litres";

(8) in Regulation 20, for the words "five gallons" substitute the words "twenty litres";

(9) in Regulation 27, for the words "eight ounces" (in both places) substitute the words "fifty grams", for the word "gallon" substitute the word "litre" and for the words "six ounces" substitute the words "thirty-seven grams";

(10) in Regulation 32—

(a) in paragraph (2), for the words "two hundred gallons" substitute the words "one thousand litres";

(b) in paragraph (3), for the words "four gallons" substitute the words "twenty litres";

(11) in Regulation 38(1)—

(a) in sub-paragraph (a), for the words "four gallons" substitute the words "twenty litres";

(b) in sub-paragraph (b), for the words "one-half of a gallon" substitute the words "three litres";

(c) in sub-paragraph (c), for the words "four gallons" substitute the words "twenty litres";

(12) in Regulation 41(1)—

(a) in sub-paragraph (a) for the words “fifty degrees over proof” substitute the words “eighty-five per cent.”;

(b) in sub-paragraph (b), for the words “twenty degrees over proof” substitute the words “sixty-eight per cent.”;

(13) in the second Schedule, under the headings, respectively, “Formula I”, “Formula II” and “Formula III”, for the words “60 degrees over proof” substitute the words “90 per cent.”;

(14) in the third Schedule, in paragraph 1 of Class D, for the words “six ounces” substitute the words “thirty-seven grams”, for the word “gallon” substitute the word “litre” and for the words “eight ounces” substitute the words “fifty grams”.

4. The Stills Regulations 1952(a) shall be amended by substituting in Regulation 1, for the words “50 gallons” the words “230 litres”.

5. The Wine and Made-wine Regulations 1975(b) shall be amended by substituting in Regulation 9, for the words “15 gallons of wine in 115 gallons” the words “15 litres of wine in 115 litres”.

6. The Cider and Perry Regulations 1976(c) shall be amended by substituting, in paragraph 4 of the Schedule, for the words “number of gallons” the word “quantity”.

7. In the Beer Regulations 1978(d) the following amendments shall be made, that is to say—

(1) in Regulation 11(1), in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) respectively, for the words “60 degrees Fahrenheit” substitute the words “20° Celsius”;

(2) in Regulation 16(1)(c), for the words “36 bulk gallons” substitute the words “100 litres”;

(3) in Regulation 27, for the words “36 gallons” substitute the words “100 litres”;

(4) in Regulation 28, for the words “1 gallon” (in both places) substitute the words “4.5 litres”;

(5) in Regulation 33, for the words “36 gallons” and “1 gallon” substitute the words “100 litres” and “4.5 litres” respectively;

(6) for Schedule 2, substitute the Schedule set out in Schedule 2 to these Regulations;

(7) in Schedule 3, for the words “36 gallons” and “36 galls” substitute in both places the words “100 litres”; and for the word “galls” (wherever else occurring in the said Schedule) substitute the word “litres”;

(8) in Schedule 5, for the word “gallons” (wherever occurring) substitute the word “litres” and for the word “lbs” substitute the word “kilograms”;

(9) in Schedule 6, for the word “gallons” (wherever occurring) substitute the word “litres”;

(a) S.I. 1952/2231.

(b) S.I. 1975/1790.

(c) S.I. 1976/1207

(d) S.I. 1978/893, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations

(10) in Schedule 7, for the word “gallons” (wherever occurring) substitute the word “litres” and for the words “to a gallon” (in paragraph (d)) substitute the words “according to each size of bottle”;

(11) in Schedule 8, for the word “gallons” (in paragraph (f)) substitute the word “litres”.

8. In the Excise Duty (Relief on Alcoholic Ingredients) Regulations 1978(a) the following amendments shall be made, that is to say—

(1) in Regulation 4(a)—

(a) in sub-paragraph (i) for the words “2° of proof” substitute the words “1.2 per cent.”;

(b) in sub-paragraph (ii) for the words “0.2 proof gallons for every 100 pounds” substitute the words “1.15 litres of alcohol for every 100 kilograms”;

(2) in Schedule 1 delete, wherever occurring, the word “gallons”.

9. The Strength of Spirits Ascertainment Regulations 1954(b) are hereby revoked.

H. F. Christopherson.
Commissioner of Customs and
Excise.

13th September 1979.

King's Beam House,
Mark Lane,
London, EC3R 7HE.

(Regulation 2 (16))

SCHEDULE 1

(Regulation 18)

"SCHEDULE

TABLE FOR DETERMINING THE ORIGINAL GRAVITY
OF WORT OR WASH AT 20°C.

Spirit Indication	Degrees of Gravity	Spirit Indication	Degrees of Gravity	Spirit Indication	Degrees of Gravity	Spirit Indication	Degrees of Gravity
.1	0.3	4.1	15.5	8.1	33.9	12.1	54.0
.2	0.6	4.2	15.9	8.2	34.4	12.2	54.5
.3	0.9	4.3	16.3	8.3	34.9	12.3	55.0
.4	1.2	4.4	16.8	8.4	35.5	12.4	55.5
.5	1.5	4.5	17.2	8.5	36.0	12.5	56.0
.6	1.8	4.6	17.6	8.6	36.5	12.6	56.5
.7	2.1	4.7	18.1	8.7	37.1	12.7	57.0
.8	2.4	4.8	18.5	8.8	37.6	12.8	57.5
.9	2.7	4.9	18.9	8.9	38.1	12.9	58.0
1.0	3.0	5.0	19.4	9.0	38.6	13.0	58.4
1.1	3.4	5.1	19.8	9.1	39.2	13.1	58.9
1.2	3.7	5.2	20.3	9.2	39.7	13.2	59.4
1.3	4.1	5.3	20.7	9.3	40.2	13.3	60.0
1.4	4.4	5.4	21.2	9.4	40.7	13.4	60.5
1.5	4.8	5.5	21.6	9.5	41.2	13.5	61.0
1.6	5.1	5.6	22.1	9.6	41.7	13.6	61.5
1.7	5.5	5.7	22.6	9.7	42.2	13.7	62.1
1.8	5.9	5.8	23.0	9.8	42.7	13.8	62.6
1.9	6.2	5.9	23.5	9.9	43.2	13.9	63.1
2.0	6.6	6.0	23.9	10.0	43.7	14.0	63.6
2.1	7.0	6.1	24.4	10.1	44.1	14.1	64.1
2.2	7.4	6.2	24.8	10.2	44.6	14.2	64.7
2.3	7.8	6.3	25.3	10.3	45.1	14.3	65.2
2.4	8.2	6.4	25.8	10.4	45.5	14.4	65.8
2.5	8.6	6.5	26.2	10.5	46.0	14.5	66.3
2.6	9.0	6.6	26.7	10.6	46.5	14.6	66.9
2.7	9.4	6.7	27.2	10.7	47.0	14.7	67.4
2.8	9.8	6.8	27.6	10.8	47.4	14.8	68.0
2.9	10.2	6.9	28.1	10.9	47.9	14.9	68.5
3.0	10.7	7.0	28.6	11.0	48.4	15.0	69.1
3.1	11.1	7.1	29.0	11.1	48.8	15.1	69.6
3.2	11.5	7.2	29.5	11.2	49.3	15.2	70.2
3.3	12.0	7.3	30.0	11.3	49.9	15.3	70.7
3.4	12.4	7.4	30.5	11.4	50.4	15.4	71.3
3.5	12.8	7.5	31.0	11.5	50.9	15.5	71.9
3.6	13.3	7.6	31.4	11.6	51.4	15.6	72.5
3.7	13.7	7.7	31.9	11.7	51.9	15.7	73.0
3.8	14.1	7.8	32.4	11.8	52.4	15.8	73.6
3.9	14.6	7.9	32.9	11.9	53.0	15.9	74.2
4.0	15.0	8.0	33.4	12.0	53.5	16.0	74.8

SCHEDULE 2

(Regulation 7(6))

"SCHEDULE 2

(Regulation 11)

TABLE FOR DETERMINING THE ORIGINAL GRAVITY OF WORTS OF BEER

Spirit Indication	Degrees of Gravity	Spirit Indication	Degrees of Gravity	Spirit Indication	Degrees of Gravity	Spirit Indication	Degrees of Gravity
0.0	0.00	4.0	17.22	8.0	35.31	12.0	54.06
0.1	0.42	4.1	17.67	8.1	35.77	12.1	54.55
0.2	0.85	4.2	18.11	8.2	36.22	12.2	55.04
0.3	1.27	4.3	18.56	8.3	36.68	12.3	55.53
0.4	1.70	4.4	19.00	8.4	37.14	12.4	56.03
0.5	2.12	4.5	19.45	8.5	37.59	12.5	56.52
0.6	2.54	4.6	19.90	8.6	38.05	12.6	57.01
0.7	2.97	4.7	20.35	8.7	38.51	12.7	57.51
0.8	3.39	4.8	20.80	8.8	38.97	12.8	58.00
0.9	3.81	4.9	21.25	8.9	39.43	12.9	58.50
1.0	4.24	5.0	21.70	9.0	39.88	13.0	58.99
1.1	4.66	5.1	22.16	9.1	40.34	13.1	59.48
1.2	5.08	5.2	22.61	9.2	40.80	13.2	59.98
1.3	5.51	5.3	23.06	9.3	41.26	13.3	60.47
1.4	5.93	5.4	23.51	9.4	41.72	13.4	60.97
1.5	6.35	5.5	23.96	9.5	42.18	13.5	61.46
1.6	6.78	5.6	24.42	9.6	42.64	13.6	61.96
1.7	7.20	5.7	24.87	9.7	43.10	13.7	62.45
1.8	7.62	5.8	25.31	9.8	43.56	13.8	62.94
1.9	8.05	5.9	25.76	9.9	44.02	13.9	63.44
2.0	8.47	6.0	26.21	10.0	44.48	14.0	63.97
2.1	8.91	6.1	26.66	10.1	44.94	14.1	64.47
2.2	9.35	6.2	27.11	10.2	45.41	14.2	64.96
2.3	9.79	6.3	27.57	10.3	45.88	14.3	65.46
2.4	10.23	6.4	28.02	10.4	46.35	14.4	65.96
2.5	10.66	6.5	28.48	10.5	46.82	14.5	66.46
2.6	11.10	6.6	28.93	10.6	47.29	14.6	66.96
2.7	11.53	6.7	29.39	10.7	47.77	14.7	67.47
2.8	11.97	6.8	29.84	10.8	48.24	14.8	67.97
2.9	12.40	6.9	30.29	10.9	48.72	14.9	68.47
3.0	12.84	7.0	30.75	11.0	49.20	15.0	68.97
3.1	13.27	7.1	31.20	11.1	49.68	15.1	69.48
3.2	13.71	7.2	31.66	11.2	50.16	15.2	69.98
3.3	14.15	7.3	32.12	11.3	50.65	15.3	70.49
3.4	14.58	7.4	32.57	11.4	51.13	15.4	70.99
3.5	15.02	7.5	33.03	11.5	51.62	15.5	71.50
3.6	15.46	7.6	33.48	11.6	52.10	15.6	72.01
3.7	15.90	7.7	33.94	11.7	52.59	15.7	72.51
3.8	16.34	7.8	34.40	11.8	53.08	15.8	73.02
3.9	16.78	7.9	34.85	11.9	53.57	15.9	73.53
						16.0	74.04

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations revoke the Strength of Spirits (Ascertainment) Regulations 1954 and amend the Spirits Regulations 1952, the Stills Regulations 1952, the Methylated Spirits Regulations 1952, the Wine and Made-wine Regulations 1975, the Cider and Perry Regulations 1976, the Beer Regulations 1978 and the Excise Duty (Relief on Alcoholic Ingredients) Regulations 1978 so as to replace for the purpose of such Regulations reference to the proof system of ascertaining the alcoholic strength of spirits and other liquid by the OIML (International Organisation of Legal Metrology) system of measurement by reference to percentages of alcohol by volume. The Fahrenheit scale of temperature measurement is replaced by the Celsius scale and any units of measurement expressed in Imperial terms by metric units of measurement.

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