
Gin — Specification



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1 Scope

This African standard specifies requirements, sampling and test methods for gin.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ARS 53, *General principles of food hygiene — Code of practice*

ARS 56, *Pre-packaged foods — Labelling*

ARS 2229, *Alcoholic beverages — Methods of sampling and test*

CXG 66, *Guidelines for the use of flavourings*

CXS 192, *Codex general standard for food additives*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this standard, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

gin

juniper-flavoured spirit drink produced by flavouring ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin with juniper berries (*Juniperus communis* L.) or their extracts

3.2

flavoured gin

gin to which one or more permitted flavourings are added, with or without sugar and aromatics

4 Requirements

4.1 Essential ingredients

- a) Essential ingredients for gin shall include demineralized water or distilled water complying with relevant standards.
- b) Gin shall have juniper as predominant flavour.

4.2 Flavourings

Gin may contain other natural botanicals, flavours and aromatics for enhancement of the gin flavours, and if used shall conform with CXG 66.

4.3 General requirements

4.3.1 Gin shall

- a) be clear and free from turbidity.

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- b) have the characteristic taste associated with the gin; and
- c) be free from any ingredients injurious to health.

4.4 Specific requirements

The product shall comply with the specific quality requirements in Table 1 when tested in accordance with the test methods specified therein.

Table 1 — Specific requirements for gin

S/N	Characteristic	Requirement	Test method
i)	Ethanol content, % v/v, at 20 °C, min.	37.5	ARS 2229
ii)	Volatile acids as acetic acid, g/L of absolute alcohol, max.	Gin 0.05 Flavoured 2.5	
iii)	Esters as ethyl acetate, g/L of absolute alcohol, max.	Gin 1.0 Flavoured 2.0	
iv)	Higher alcohols as amyl alcohol, g/L of absolute alcohol, max.	Gin 0.05 Flavoured 0.3	
v)	Aldehydes as acetaldehyde, mg/L of absolute alcohol, max.	Gin 0.25 Flavoured 0.5	
vi)	Methanol, g/ L, max.	0.05	

5 Food additives

Food additives may be used in the preparation of the product in accordance with CXS 192.

6 Hygiene

The product shall be manufactured and handled in a hygienic manner in accordance with ARS 53.

7 Packaging

Gin shall be packaged in suitable food grade containers that safeguard its quality and safety.

8 Labelling

In addition to the requirements of ARS 56, the following specific labelling requirements shall apply and shall be legibly and indelibly marked:

- a) common name as 'Gin' or 'Flavoured gin';
- b) name and physical address of manufacturer/importer/bottler
- c) ethyl alcohol content, percent by volume;
- d) net content;
- e) batch identification number/code;
- f) country of origin; and
- g) statutory warnings.

9 Sampling

Sampling shall be done in accordance with ARS 2229.

Bibliography

EAS 145:2018, *Gin* — *Specification*

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