

Summary

Expiration dates refer to quality and freshness of food, most expiration dates are used as guidelines based on normal and expected handling and exposure to temperature. "Sell by date" is a less ambiguous term for what is often referred to as an "expiration date". To reduce food wastage, cut cost to companies and consumer's expiry date can be very useful. India does not have regulations on expiry dates of packaged food like developed countries, the packaged food products do not have to print an expiry date on the labels except pharmaceutical products. The existing rules mandate that the manufacturers only need to print a "Best before Use" on the label for selling in the retail market. By printing Best before Use on the label, manufacturers of the food products cannot be held responsible if the products sold after date become unusable.