

STATE OF NEW YORK
LIQUOR AUTHORITY

TO: All manufacturers licensed to produce cider

SUBJECT: Ingredient standards for New York state labelled cider and cider produced by Farm Cideries

The purpose of this Advisory is to provide guidance to: 1) manufacturers licensed to produce cider with respect to the statutory requirements to designate a product as a New York state labelled cider, and 2) farm cideries and farm breweries with respect to the production of any cider under their license.

New York state labelled cider

Section 3(20-e) of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law (“ABCL”) defines “New York state labelled cider” as cider made exclusively from apples of other pome fruits grown in New York State.

Cider Producers and Farm Wineries

Cider Producer and Farm Winery licensees are reminded that while they may import out-of-state cider and ingredients for manufacturing purposes, they may not represent any cider as “New York state labelled cider” unless that cider meets the standards set forth in ABCL Section 3(20-e). As part of the licensee’s obligation under ABCL Section 103(7) to maintain adequate books and records, cider producers and farm wineries should maintain documentation to demonstrate that any New York state labelled cider produced by the licensee conforms to the statutory standard.

Farm Cideries and Farm Breweries

Farm cidery and farm brewery licensees are reminded that they may only produce cider that meets the definition of “New York state labelled cider” absent a declaration from the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Markets permitting the use of out-of-state agricultural products because of a natural disaster, act of God or adverse weather conditions. The standards contained in that definition apply to each cider produced by the farm cidery or farm brewery, and not the licensee’s overall use of ingredients in all of its cider. As part of the licensee’s obligation under ABCL Section 103(7) to maintain adequate books and records, farm cideries and farm breweries should maintain documentation to demonstrate that any cider produced by the licensee conforms to the statutory standard.