PRODUCT SPECIFICATION		
Packer:	Steenbergs Limited	
Product:	Product: Mate [Yerba mate] (Ilex paraguariensis)	

Physical standards

Product description	Mate [Yerba mate] (<i>Ilex paraguariensis</i>)			
Appearance	Green leaves			
Flavour and aroma	Herbaceous aroma; taste that is bitter in taste	Herbaceous aroma; taste that is bitter in taste		
Size	3-5mm cut			
Percentage purity	Maximum of 2% other plant and non-plant materials; free from living insects and visible mould growth			
Organic	Yes / No			
Fairtrade	Yes / No			

Ingredients

Ingredients	E number	%	Country of origin	Function
Mate	n/a	100	Various	Herbal tea

Storage and shelf life

Storage	Ambient (8-20°C), dry (max Rh = 60%) conditions
Shelf life from packing	730 days
Shelf life once opened	365 days

Label and traceability

Legal Information	Mate
Traceability information	Batch code & best before placed on label in field of view
Country of origin	Various

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Chemical standards

Test	Units	Specification	Method
Aflatoxin B1	μg/kg	<5	Laboratory specific
Total (B1, B2, G1, G2)	μg/kg	<10	Laboratory specific
Ochratoxin A	μg/kg	<30	Laboratory specific
Pesticides ⁽ⁱ⁾	mg/kg	<0.01	Laboratory specific

Laboratory used	Eurofins, or equivalent
Accreditation status	UKAS 0342

⁽i) Organochlorine, organophosphate and pyrethroid pesticides, plus other pesticides per current laboratory test suite.

Limits set by certain EC countries are 0.01mg/kg but some can only be tested to 0.05mg/kg limits of quantification.

This is regarded as technical absence.

Microbiological standards

Test	Units	Specification	Method
Total viable count	cfu/g	<1 x 10 ⁷	Laboratory specific
E. coli	cfu/g	<1 x 10 ²	Laboratory specific
Salmonella	cfu/g	Absent in 25g	Laboratory specific
B. cereus	cfu/g	<1 x 10 ³	Laboratory specific
C. perfringens	cfu/g	<1 x 10 ³	Laboratory specific
Yeasts	cfu/g	<1 x 10 ⁵	Laboratory specific
Moulds	cfu/g	<1 x 10 ⁵	Laboratory specific

Laboratory used	Foodtest Laboratories, or equivalent
Accreditation status	UKAS 1819

Food safety information (Critical Control Point)

Metal detection	Test piece size (mm)	Position of metal detector/magnet	Frequency of check
Ferrous	2.5	Goods in	On intake
Non ferrous	3.5	Goods in	On intake
Stainless steel	6.0	Goods in	On intake

Contaminants	
Does the product conform to current EU/UK pesticide legislation	V
Does the product conform to current EU/UK heavy metal legislation	V
Does the product conform to current EU/UK organic legislation	x

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GMO information

GMO status	YES	NO	Comment
1(a) Does the product contain, or may have been produced with the aid of any genetically modified		٧	
organisms			
1 (b) Furthermore, has any processing aid used been produced with the aid of any genetically		٧	
modified organism (with particular reference to enzyme preparations).			
If the answer to 1(a) and/or 1(b) is YES, is the product labelled in accordance to Regulation EC			
1829/2003 and is traceable according to Regulation EC 1830/2003			

Allergen information

Allergen information	Does the product contain?		Present on site?		Cross contamination possible?		
	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	Comment
Cereals containing gluten (i.e. wheat, rye, barley, oats, spelt,		٧		٧		٧	
kamut or their hybridised strains) and products thereof							
Crustaceans and products thereof		٧		٧		٧	
Eggs and products thereof		٧		٧		٧	
Fish and products thereof		٧		٧		٧	
Peanuts and products thereof		٧		٧		٧	
Soybeans and products thereof		٧		٧		٧	
Milk and products thereof (including lactose)		٧		٧		٧	
Nuts i.e. almond (Amygdalus communis L.), hazelnut (Corylus avellana), walnut (Juglans regia), cashew (Anacardium occidentale), pecan nut (Carya illinoiesis (Wangenh.) K. Koch), Brazil nut (Bertholletia excelsa), pistachio nut (Pistacia vera), macadamia nut and Queensland nut (Macadamia ternifolia) and products thereof		٧		٧		٧	
Celery and products thereof		٧		٧		٧	
Mustard and products thereof		٧		٧		٧	
Sesame seeds and products thereof		٧		٧		٧	
Sulphur dioxide and sulphites at concentrations of more than 10mg/kg or 10mg/litre expressed as SO ₂		٧		٧		٧	
Lupin and products thereof		٧		٧		٧	
Mollusc and products thereof		٧		٧		٧	
Has the product been processed on any equipment where materials identified above are used		٧		٧		٧	
Has any processing aids used in preparation of the product, either contains, or has been produced with the aid of any materials identified above (example: fish gelatine used as an agent in juice clarification)		٧		٧		٧	
Has the product been subjected to any ionising irradiation		٧		٧		٧	
Have you made the necessary enquiries throughout the supply chain	٧		٧		٧		

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Intolerance information

Intolerance information	Does the product contain?		Present on site?		Cross contamination possible?		
	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	Comment
Animal products		٧		٧		٧	
Antioxidants – added		٧		٧		٧	
Aspartame		٧		٧		٧	
Benzoates/benzoic acid		٧		٧		٧	
Butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA) or B. hydroxytoluene (BHT)		٧		٧		٧	
Cocoa		٧		٧		٧	
Coconut/oils		٧		٧		٧	
Colours - added		٧		٧		٧	
Corn or derivatives there of		٧		٧		٧	
Flavours – added		٧		٧		٧	
Garlic		٧		٧		٧	
Gelatine		٧		٧		٧	
Glutamates		٧		٧		٧	
Honey		٧		٧		٧	
Hydrolysed vegetable protein/oil		٧		٧		٧	
Hydrocarbons mineral		٧		٧		٧	
Legumes – peas/beans		٧		٧		٧	
Maize or derivative there of		٧		٧		٧	
Polyols		٧		٧		٧	
Preservatives – added		٧		٧		٧	
Salt, added		٧		٧		٧	
Seeds – cotton seed/poppy		٧		٧		٧	
Seed oils		٧		٧		٧	
Sugar, added		٧		٧		٧	
Sweeteners - added		٧		٧		٧	
Yeast/yeast extract or derivatives there of		٧		٧		٧	

	Suita	Suitable		Certified	
Suitable/Certified for	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Halaal	٧			٧	
Kosher	٧		٧		
Vegetarians (in particular, gelatine is not used in processing)	٧			٧	
Ovo-lacto vegetarians	٧			٧	
Vegans (in particular, neither shellac nor beeswax has been used)	٧			٧	
Coeliacs	٧			٧	
Diabetics	٧			٧	

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Amendments

Changes	Date
New specification format	Mar 2016
New specification format Amended labs, allergens, kosher	May 2025