EVALUATION OF LABELS OF UHT AND PASTEURIZED MILK PRODUCED IN THE STATE OF MATO GROSSO, BRAZIL


The label of a food is a valuable tool for consumers to know the nutritional composition, ingredients, information on industry, manufacturing date, expiry date, among others. In this context, it is essential that the information be clear and that would assist in selecting the foods to be daily consumed by the population. Milk is a popular food and is consumed by individuals from different ages, being of fundamental importance in the diet. In view of the above, this study aimed to evaluate the information presented on the labels of pasteurized and UHT milks produced the State of Mato Grosso, Brazil, with standards established by the Brazilian Legislation. Twelve milk samples were evaluated from a checklist based on the normative n°22/2005 of Ministry of Agriculture and Food Supply and Resolution RDC n°. 360/2003 of National Health Surveillance Agency. The results indicate nonconformities in all the marks tested. Among these can highlight errors of units of measurement and calorific value, absence of information such as expiry date, manufacturing date, batch number, reference daily intake, record in the Federal Inspection Services and no description of the type pasteurization. These erroneous informations may harm the consumer in choosing the appropriate food. The inspection of the labeling by competent organs and the adaptation of the dairy of the State of Mato Grosso the Brazilian legislation norms is of relevance in order to ensure quality and food safety of the consumers.