

GLOBAL STATEMENT

SHELF LIFE - MEANING OF BEST BEFORE DATE

On all Barry Callebaut products the best before date is labeled as required by regulations.

The best before date is defined as the “minimum durability” or “durable life”, the date until which a food product, when properly stored, retains its specific properties including, but not limited to freshness, flavor and nutrient profile. The best before date is not an indicator of the food safety of the product, neither before nor after the date printed.

The best before date of Barry Callebaut products is determined based on standardized tests that evaluate the quality from a sensorial and physicochemical perspective.

Once the packaging is opened and if the product is kept in recommended storage conditions and properly protected (original package well closed), the product will normally stay fit until the end of shelf life however we have not done testing and hence generally give maximum one month as secondary shelf life.

Further utilization beyond the best before date and further utilization once the packaging is opened (within the best before period) depends on the local storage conditions, the legal requirements and the risk assessment conducted by our customers. We always recommend a sensory evaluation (off-taste, oxidation etc.). We also advise to check if the products have been well stored and if the package is not damaged. If from a taste perspective and from an applications perspective all is conforming, a decision may be taken to continue using the product. The same rule also applies to the liquid product.

The minimum durability of our customers’ final products does not need to include the minimum durability of the used non-perishable ingredients, such as chocolate. We therefore suggest that the best before date for the final consumer products can be set independently of the best before date of our products.

Global Regulatory Affairs

Revision 2022.06.09

| Approved by Global Quality

| Validity 2024.06.09

This statement is provided for general information purposes upon request of Barry Callebaut customers. It does not constitute formal legal or other professional advice or an opinion of any kind. Customers are encouraged to seek specific advice from their own legal counsel regarding legal or regulatory matters related to this statement. Barry Callebaut does not warrant or guarantee the accuracy or completeness of any information contained herein.