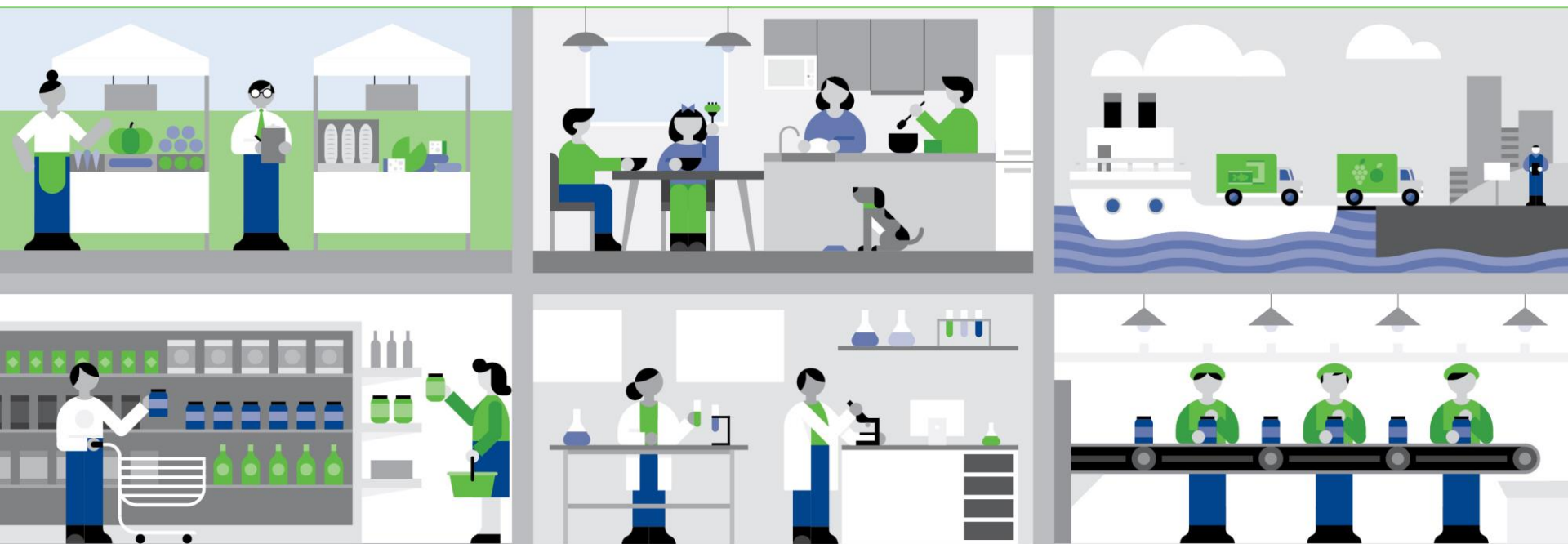


Allergen information requirements for foods sold loose in other Member States

Elaine Madden

11th of July 2019



National measures for non-prepacked food

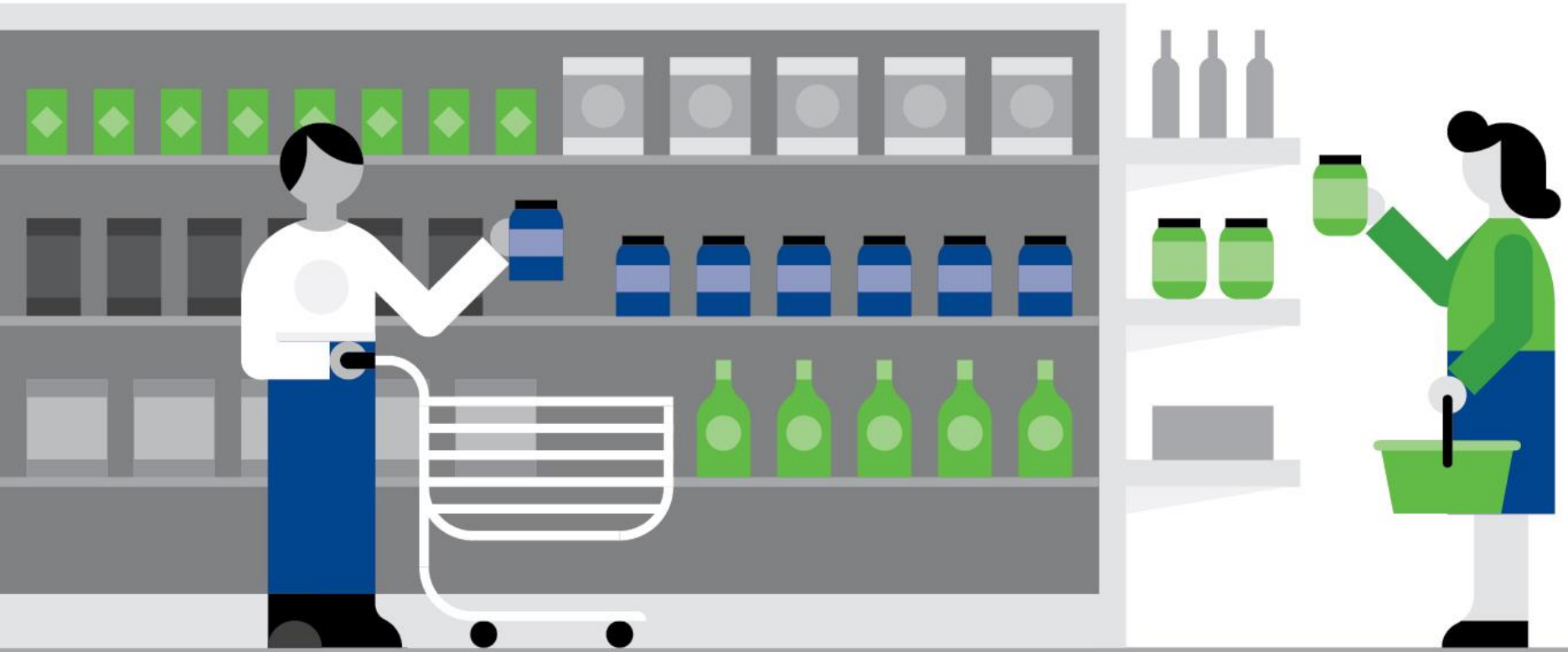
- 13th December 2013 – requirement to declare food allergens on prepacked foods was extended to include non pre-packed foods
- MS permitted to introduce national measures for how the information is made available
- In the absence of national legislation, EU labelling requirements for prepacked food automatically apply to foods sold loose (non-prepacked)
- In Ireland, the minimum requirement is that written food allergen information is provided to the consumer or mass caterer.

EFSA focal point

- Established in 2008
- They act as an interface between EFSA and national food safety authorities, research institutes and other stakeholders.
- promote information exchange, networking and engagement
- network comprises members from all 28 EU Member States, Iceland and Norway, as well as observers from Switzerland and EU candidate countries.



Does your MS require written information for foods sold loose? If so can you share your national legislation or guidance?



List of countries who responded and if they require the information in written format

Country	Written requirement
Ireland	yes
Croatia	yes
Cyprus	yes
Czech Republic	yes
Hungary	yes
Luxembourg	yes
Norway	yes
Portugal	yes
Poland	yes
Slovak Republic	yes
Slovenia	yes
Spain	yes
Norway	yes
Netherlands	yes
Malta	yes
Sweden	no
Switzerland	no
Austria	no
Belgium	no
Greece	no
Iceland	no
Estonia	no

21 Countries replied (22 including Ireland's requirements)

15 require the information in written format
- 3 of these did not bring in national legislation

7 don't require the information in written format

Quick summary of requirements by Member State

- Austria – choice of written or verbal
- Belgium – may be provided orally
- Croatia – must be provided in written format or exceptionally under certain conditions verbally
- Cyprus – in written format either on the material used to wrap the food or on the article where the foodstuff is placed and offered for sale or on a board next to where the food is for sale.
- Czech Republic – visibly right next to the food for sale
- Estonia - the information shall be given to the consumer on the sales premises by physical or electronic means or verbally

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- Greece – written or oral format
 - Hungary – written
 - Iceland – written information about how the consumer can get the allergen information
 - Luxembourg – written format
 - Malta – no national legislation
 - The Netherlands – no national legislation, information must be available to the consumer
 - Norway – no national legislation, the information is mandatory

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- Poland – requires written information in the form of tags, labels, notices or other means
 - Portugal – any material form that is easily understood
 - Slovak Republic – written “labelled”
 - Slovenia – indicated in at least one place where the food is presented
 - Spain – must be provided in writing – can be provided verbally when requested.
 - Sweden – verbal is acceptable
 - Switzerland – does not have to be written once it can be guaranteed to the consumer in another way, freely.

Thank you



Food Safety Authority of Ireland
The Exchange, George's Dock, IFSC,
Dublin 1, D01 P2V6

T +353 1 817 1300
E info@fsai.ie

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www.fsai.ie

