



As of July 24, 2008

FDA will be publishing a final rule to define the food labeling term "gluten-free" sometime after it solicits and considers the public comments it receives on the agency's safety assessment report on gluten exposure in individuals who have celiac disease. FDA's intent to conduct this safety assessment was mentioned in the preamble of the proposed rule.

A Federal Register notice is expected to be published this summer to announce the availability of FDA's draft safety assessment report.

Because of this intermediate step, it is premature to estimate when the final rule will be published. However, interested individuals may wish to periodically check FDA's website <http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/lab-cat.html> - **gluten for updates on the safety assessment report and the final rule.**