



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

### **Aflatoxins in cereals and cereal-based products, including food for infants and young children**

**Request for data on total aflatoxins in cereals and cereal-based products (maize grain destined for further processing and flour, meal, semolina and flakes derived from maize; sorghum; husked and polished rice), and cereal-based foods for infants and young children**

**Issued 5-July-2019**

#### **Background**

The 13th Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF13), held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, from April 29 - May 3, 2019, agreed to establish an Electronic Working Group (EWG) led by Brazil and India to advise on the need and feasibility to establish maximum levels (MLs) for total aflatoxins in cereals and cereal-based products, and cereal-based foods for infants and young children for consideration by CCCF14 in 2020.

We are requesting submission of all available data on total aflatoxins in cereals and cereal-based products (maize grain destined for further processing and flour, meal, semolina and flakes derived from maize; sorghum; husked and polished rice) and cereal-based foods for infants and young children.

We are requesting submission of new data covering approximately the last 10 years.

Data should be submitted by **October 31, 2019**, to allow time for data analysis and drafting of the paper by the EWG.

The call for data can also be viewed online at <http://www.who.int/foodsafety/en/> or <http://www.fao.org/food/food-safety-quality/scientific-advice/calls-data-experts/en/>.

Date for submission

The submission of data is requested before

**31 October 2019**

This deadline applies to all data to be submitted.

WHO will be compiling data for the EWG.

**All new data must be uploaded in the GEMS database, which is easily accessible on the web.**

To access the GEMS database, go to [http://www.who.int/foodsafety/areas\\_work/chemical-risks/gems-food/en/](http://www.who.int/foodsafety/areas_work/chemical-risks/gems-food/en/).

Please read the "GEMS/Food Database Manual" before attempting to submit data to GEMS. To submit data, you will need an account, and instructions on creating an account are found on page 2 of the manual. For technical questions about submitting data to GEMS, please contact Philippe Verger at WHO ([vergerp@who.int](mailto:vergerp@who.int)).

Note that data already submitted to the GEMS Food Database do not need to be re-submitted.

When submitting data to the GEMS/Food database for this work, please:

- Provide complete information on the LOQ and LOD of analytical methods.
- Provide information in the "Local Food Identifier" or "Notes" fields of the database to allow more specific identification of samples, e.g., Is a food fresh or processed (e.g. fermented, dried / dehydrated, chips, boiled, flour, etc.)?
- Provide information on "State of Food Analysed" e.g., cooked or raw.