

CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda item 9

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEx COMMITTEE ON PROCESSED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES (CCPFV)

working by correspondence through the Codex online-platform

Final report from the Chair of the CCPFV Electronic Working Group (EWG) on Matters Referred from the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS)

Members and observers wishing to comment on this document should join CCPFV29 usergroup in Codex online forum (<http://forum.codex-alimentarius.net/index.php>) and provide their comments to CCPFV29 usergroup when CCPFV29 requests them.

I. BACKGROUND

In July 2018, the 41st session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission endorsed the recommendations of the CCPFV Chairperson to establish seven electronic working groups (EWGs) to begin the new work approved for CCPFV. This included the EWG on Matters Referred from CCMAS to be chaired by the United States and tasked with preparing draft responses for consideration by CCPFV to the matters referred to CCPFV from CCMAS40. The EWG on Matters Referred from CCMAS was established in 2018 and chaired by the United States. The EWG was comprised of four member countries and one international association as indicated below.

| Name | Country/organization |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Mr. Richard Peterson, EWG Chair | United States of America |
| Ms. Korwadee Phonkliang | Thailand |
| Henk van der Schee | The Netherlands |
| Sophie Gallagher | United Kingdom |
| John Collins | IFU, International Fruit and Vegetable Juice Association |

There were several additional pending members who were informed several times, that they needed to be referred by their Codex contact point. Those pending members never responded back.

II. EWG RESPONSES

This EWG was tasked with two matters referred from CCMAS:

Matter 1. As elaborated in paras 12 – 13 of REP17/MAS, the task of the EWG is to identify a method for fat extraction (quick-frozen French-fried potatoes).

EWG Chair's comments: After further communications with industry, it was discovered that this analysis is performed on the fryer oil only, not the end product. As the potatoes are being processed in the plant they are "par-fried" prior to freezing. The testing of "free fatty acids (FFA)" is actually performed on this "par-fry" oil. As the volume of potatoes being par-fried increases through time so does the amount of FFA in the oil. When the FFA's reach a certain level, the oil may impart an off taste as well as induce uneven coloring. So, this test is suited only for processing and not the individual quality requirements.

Matter 2. As for sampling plans for ginseng and quick-frozen vegetables, CCMAS noted in paras 14 – 15 of REP17/MAS that another EWG on revision of CAC/GL 50-2004 would be looking at a template to assist commodity committees (REP17/MAS, paras 14-15). Therefore, no further action by CCPFV is needed by at this time.

The above message was sent out to all members of the EWG members on February 19, 2019. There were no responses. The message was again sent out on March 12, 2019, and again there were no responses. Therefore, the EWG Chair equates that the lack of responses implies consent.

EWG Recommendations to CCPFV on Matter 1: Since FFA analysis would not be a quality requirement for quick-frozen French-fried potatoes, the EWG recommends that CCPFV remove this requirement for analysis from the standard and inform CCMAS that it is no longer a requirement.