Codex Alimentarius Commission

Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme

Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling

41st Session
Budapest, Hungary, 11 - 15 May 2020

Matters Referred by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and Other Subsidiary Bodies

A. Matters Arising from the 42nd Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission

Matters for Information

Standards and Related Texts Adopted

1. The Commission adopted the methods of analysis / performance criteria for provisions in Codex standards; the preamble and document structure for the General Standard on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CXS 234-1999); and editorial amendments of methods of analysis for provisions in Codex Standards (CXS 234 – 1999). The Commission noted that the preamble and new structure for CXS 234-1999 will not immediately be published as it would take time to prepare the transfer of all the methods into the new structure.


Standards and Related Texts Revoked


B. Matters Arising from Other Codex Subsidiary Bodies

Matters for Information

Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH51)

CXS 234 as Single Reference for Methods of Analysis

4. CCFH51 agreed to request the Codex Secretariat to provide links to the relevant CCFH texts containing methods of analysis for inclusion of the links in CXS 234-1999; and in principle to transfer the methods in the General Methods for the Detection of Irradiated Foods (CXS231-2001) to CXS2 34-1999. CCFH51 noted the offer of Brazil to review the methods in CXS 231-2001 to determine their fitness for purpose and their possible conversion to performance-based criteria for consideration by CCFH52.

Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU41)

Microbiological Methods

5. CCNFSDU41 agreed to inform CCMAS that the microbiological methods for nicotinamide, niacin, pantothenic acid, pyridoxine, cobalamin, and Vitamin D were still in use and to retain these methods.

Methods of Analysis for Provisions in the Standard for Follow-Up Formula (CXS 156 -1987)

6. CCNFSDU41 agreed to inform CCMAS to replace AOAC 999.15 / EN 14148 for vitamin K with AOAC 2015.09 / ISO 21446 as Type II.

1 REP19/CAC, paras 14, 73 and Appendix II, III and VII
2 REP19/CAC, para 95 and Appendix IV
3 REP20/FH, para 8
4 REP20/NFSDU, para 198-199
FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (CCLAC21)

Review and update of CXS 234 and development of database of methods

7. CCLAC21 took note of the recent progress and ongoing work and the importance of Codex methods in having reliable results, and the value of CXS 234-1999 for national food control management systems.

8. The Committee is invited to note the above-mentioned matters.

Matters for Action

Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXC77)

9. CCEXC77 encouraged CCMAS to liaise with other committees regarding methods of analysis/performance criteria and sampling and the use of the General Standard on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CXS 234-1999) as the single reference point for methods of analysis/performance criteria and sampling as much as possible.

Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU41)

10. CCNFSDU41 agreed to request CCMAS to develop performance criteria for Type III methods for determination of the nine minerals (calcium, copper, iron, magnesium, manganese, phosphorous, potassium, sodium, and zinc) in the Standard for Infant Formula and Formulas for Special Medical Purposes Intended for Infants (CXS 72-1981), noting that this approach would provide flexibility to members to choose methods for general use; and to inform CCMAS that Type II methods should continue to be listed in CXS 234-1999 as specific methods were preferred for dispute settlement purposes.

Methods to measure sweetness in Drink/Product for young children with added nutrients / Drink for young children

11. CCNFSDU41 agreed to ask CCMAS whether there were internationally validated methods to measure sweetness of carbohydrate sources for follow up formula for older infants and drink/product for young children with added nutrients or drink for young children.

Dietary fibre: Applicable to the Guidelines for Use of Nutrition and Health Claims (CXG 23-1997): Table of Conditions for Claims

12. CCNFSDU41 agreed to submit to CCMAS the method for dietary fibre, ICC Standard No. 185 / AOAC 2017.16 / as Type I method to replace AOAC 2009.01 / AACC Intl 32-45.01.

FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA21)

Methods of analysis for laver products

13. CCASIA21 clarified that the method for acid value was for the extracted oil and agreed to forward the information, in response to the CCMAS question regarding extraction method, for consideration by CCMAS.

14. CCASIA21 agreed to provide the validation data on the method of analysis for moisture content for consideration to re-type the testing method for moisture content by CCMAS.

15. The Committee is invited to consider the above information.

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5 REP20/LAC, para 31
6 REP19/EXEC2, para 21
7 REP20/NFSDU, para 9
8 REP20/NFSDU, para 49
9 REP20/NFSDU, para 196
10 REP20/ASIA, para 52-53
11 Detailed information is contained in CRD2/CCASIA21.