



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEx COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

50th Session

Haikou, P.R. China, 9-14 April 2018

MATTERS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY THE CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 40TH SESSION OF THE CODEx ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

I. Matters for Information

Adoption of standards and related texts

Maximum residue limits for pesticides/commodity combinations

1. CAC40 adopted draft and proposed draft MRLs for pesticides/commodity combinations at Step 8 and 5/8 (with omission of Steps 6 and 7) noting the reservations of the European Union, Norway, and Switzerland and the concerns of NHF on a number of them.¹

Revision of the Classification of Food and Feed (CXM 4-1989)

2. CAC40 adopted revisions to the Classification as follows:

- Editorial amendments to the fruit commodity groups (Type 01 – Fruits).²
- Draft and proposed draft revised vegetable commodity groups (Type 02 - Vegetables) at Steps 8 and 5/8 (with omission of Steps 6/7).³
- Draft revised grass commodity groups (Type 03 - Grasses) at Step 8.³
- Proposed draft tables on examples of selection of representative commodities (vegetable and grass groups) at Step 5/8.³
- Proposed draft revised Group 024 Seeds for beverages and sweets at Step 5.⁴

Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed

3. CAC40 adopted the draft Guidelines at Step 8.³

Revocation of maximum residue limits for pesticides

4. CAC40 revoked a number of MRLs (CXLs) for pesticide/commodity combinations following the revision of MRLs for pesticides.⁵

Discontinuation of work

5. CAC40 noted discontinuation of work on a number of proposed draft and draft MRLs for pesticide / commodity combinations in the Step Procedure.⁶

¹ REP17/CAC, paras. 60-62, Appendix III

² REP17/CAC, Appendix VIII

³ REP17/CAC, Appendix III

⁴ REP17/CAC, Appendix IV

⁵ REP17/CAC, Appendix V

⁶ REP17/CAC, Appendix VII

Approval of new work

6. The Commission approved the priority list of pesticides for evaluation by the FAO/WHO Joint Meetings on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) in 2018.⁷

Timeframe for completion of work on the revision of the Classification

7. CAC40 endorsed⁸ the revised target year for completion of work on the revision of Classification as follows:

- Types 04 “Nuts, Seeds and Saps” and 05 “Herbs and Spices” of Class A “Primary food commodities of plant origin” in 2018; and
- Class C “Primary animal feed commodities” in 2020.

8. The Committee is invited to note the information provided in paragraphs 1-7.

II. Matters for action

Biopesticides, biofertilizers and biostimulants

9. Chile requested guidance from the Commission on how the current lack of definitions and recommendations for biopesticides, biofertilizers and biostimulants should be addressed including the option of presenting a discussion paper on the subject to a suitable subsidiary body of the Commission. Although no problems were detected in trade currently, it could not be ruled out that this might be the case in future because of the different legislation initiatives that were currently taking place to address the use and safety of these products, therefore such international guidance was required to ensure a harmonized approach to regulating these products. This would also be in line with the Strategic Plan (2014–2019) strategic objective 1.2 on identification of emerging issues.

10. The Commission noted:

- (i) countries were starting to develop national legislation, which could benefit from international guidance;
- (ii) these substances were increasingly being used as an alternative to or to complement traditional agricultural practices, yet were not scientifically evaluated to ensure their safety;
- (iii) clear definitions of these substances and their safe use and appropriate residue levels should be addressed; and
- (iv) the technical nature of the issue required considered in specialized subsidiary bodies of the Commission.

11. CAC40 acknowledged the relevance of the issue and recommended that Chile submit a discussion paper on biopesticides, biofertilizers and biostimulants for consideration by the Committee on Food Labeling (CCFL), Committee on Pesticides Residues (CCPR) and Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF).

12. The Committee is invited to consider this request.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 73RD SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CCPR and CCRVDF

13. CCEXEC73 noted that the work of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs (CCRVDF) included compounds used as both veterinary drugs and pesticides. It was further noted that CCRVDF and CCPR could potentially be organized back-to-back and that the next opportunity would be 2020.

14. CCEXEC73 encouraged closer collaboration between CCRVDF and CCPR when considering MRLs for compounds used as both veterinary drugs and pesticides and invited the two Committees to explore innovative ways to foster such collaboration.⁹

15. The Committee is invited to consider this request.

⁷ REP17/CAC, Appendix VI

⁸ REP17/CAC, para. 153

⁹ REP17/EXEC2, paras. 17-19.