

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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AGENDA ITEM NO. 4B

CX/FL 05/33/5-ADD.1

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

**CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING
THIRTY-THIRD SESSION
KOTA KINABALU, MALAYSIA, MAY 9 – 13, 2005**

***PROPOSED DRAFT AMENDMENT TO THE GUIDELINES FOR THE
PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, LABELLING AND MARKETING OF
ORGANICALLY PRODUCED FOODS:***

**PROPOSED DRAFT REVISED ANNEX 2 - TABLE 1
(NATURAL SODIUM NITRATE)
(ALINORM 04/27/22, APPENDIX VIII & CL 2004/22-FL)**

GOVERNMENT COMMENTS AT STEP 3

COMMENTS FROM:

CANADA

PROPOSED DRAFT AMENDMENT TO THE GUIDELINES FOR THE PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, LABELLING AND MARKETING OF ORGANICALLY PRODUCED FOODS:

**PROPOSED DRAFT REVISED ANNEX 2 – TABLE I
(NATURAL SODIUM NITRATE)
(ALINORM 04/22, APPENDIX VIII & CL 2004/22-FL)**

GOVERNMENT COMMENTS AT STEP 3

CANADA:

Canada is pleased to provide the following comments on Codex Circular Letter 2004/22-FL concerning the inclusion at Step 3 of Natural Sodium Nitrate in Table 1: Substance for Use in Soil Fertilizing and Conditioning of the *Proposed Draft Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Organically Produced Foods*.

Though, the Canadian organic industry does not support the use of Natural Sodium Nitrate in organic agriculture. Canada notes that the intent of the Annex is to provide guidance on substances which might be used by national authorities. Each country must evaluate, against the established criteria, whether or not it is appropriate to use that substance, given their regional circumstances. As a result, Canada is willing to consider the inclusion of these substances and suggests that restrictions on their usage be provided in the pertinent table. Canada also notes that an electronic working group lead by the United States was established to develop a defensible, transparent, and standardized decision process for the evaluation of substances. Canada suggests that Natural Sodium Nitrate be a pilot for this evaluation process.