

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 7 (c)

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

Thirty-ninth Session

Beijing, China, 7 - 12 May 2007

DISCUSSION PAPER ON METHODS OF ANALYSIS FOR FAT-SOLUBLE PESTICIDES IN WHOLE MILK AND MILK FAT

(Prepared by IAEA)

INTRODUCTION

1. Based on Australia's comments on "CL 2006/9-PR, Part D – Item 4: Methods of Analysis for Fat-Soluble Pesticides in Whole Milk and Milk Fat" approaches towards harmonizing the analysis of pesticide residues in milk and milk products are brought to the attention of CCPR.

BACKGROUND

2. Different practices exist for determining pesticide residues in whole milk or in milk fat which may lead to different findings and problems related to non-equivalence of results. This is mostly due to different separation techniques of fat and the aqueous phase of milk and eventually milk products.

3. Levels of pesticide residues found in the fatty and aqueous phase may depend on the physico-chemical properties of active ingredients and the methods of physical separation applied. Due to varying physical operations during the fat separation process, levels of pesticides determined may be changed through degradation/ absorption/ occlusion.

4. In addition, different analytical procedures may cause diverging results even when peer validated methods are applied.

5. There are concerns regarding insufficient comparability of results and problems regarding the mutual recognition of results when using different methodological approaches in analysing whole milk and/ or the fatty/ aqueous fractions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

6. CCPR and the Ad Hoc working group during the upcoming CCPR Meeting should take the initiative to collect information and discuss current practices for the determination of pesticide residues in whole milk/ milk fat applicable in different countries.

7. Once agreed by the scientific community, a proposal should be submitted in which methods should be recommended by CCPR for universal application.
8. The available agreed methodological information should be submitted to CODEX for consideration through the CODEX Step Procedure.

PROPOSAL

9. Authoritative guidance by CODEX should be elaborated towards unified and agreed practices for the determination of pesticide residues in whole milk/ milk fat to enhance the uniformity/ equivalence of milk and milk product matrix treatments and the comparability of analytical findings.