

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of
the United Nations**



**World Health
Organization**

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Agenda Item 7(a)

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

Forty-Third Session

Beijing, China, 4-9 April 2011

COMMENTS on Draft Revision of the Codex Classification of Foods and Animal Feeds at Step 7:

Tree nuts, Herbs and Spices, submitted by Canada, Cuba and Thailand.

CANADA

Tree Nuts:

Canada has no objection to the proposed revisions to the Codex Classification for Tree Nuts. However, Canada notes that the ICGCC revision of Crop Group 14: Tree Nuts Group, approved by the US and Canada in December 2010, includes commodities that are excluded from the proposed Codex revisions.

Canada thus recommends that the Codex working group responsible for the revisions to the Codex Classification of Food and Animal Feeds work closely with the ICGCC to ensure that revisions to the Tree Nuts Crop Group are done consistently.

Herbs and Spices:

Canada has no objection to the proposed revisions to the Codex Classification for Herbs and Spices. However, Canada notes the following differences between the ICGCC proposed Herbs and Spices Crop Group revisions, submitted to the US in June 2009 (discussion and approval still pending), and the proposed Codex revisions:

- The ICGCC has divided herbs into the "Fresh Herbs" and "Dried Herbs" subgroups while Codex has proposed the subgroups "Herbs" and "Leaves of woody plants".
- The current Codex classification for herbs is separated into two groups: Herbs Group 027 (used in either fresh or naturally dried form) and Dried Herbs Group 057 (in general artificially dried and often comminuted). The draft Codex revisions include Herbs Group 027 but not Dried Herbs Group 057. It is not clear what the status is regarding revisions to Dried Herbs Group 057.
- The proposed changes to the Herbs and Spices Crop Group, through the work of the ICGCC, recommend 4 Spice subgroups while the Codex revisions propose 8 subgroups.

The ICGCC Herbs and Spices Crop Group revisions are currently in the analysis phase and have not been finalized. Therefore, Canada recommends that the Codex working group responsible for the revisions to the Codex Classification of Food and Animal Feeds work closely with the ICGCC to ensure that revisions to the Herbs and Spices Crop Group are done consistently.

CUBA

English

Cuba approves this document.

Spanish

En principio Cuba está de acuerdo con lo expresado en este documento.

THAILAND

1. In the case of "Wild Bettle Leaf Bush (*Piper sarmentosum*)" issue, which an conclusion has not been reached, Thailand thinks it would be more appropriate to include the commodity into the Herbs group than the Leafy Vegetable group. In Thailand, this crop is not typically consumed but mostly consumed in a small amount as herbs and as a part of other foods. For this reason, we support the classification of wild bettle leaf bush in the herb group.

2. We would like to correct the common name of commodity HH 3216 from "Phak paen" to "Phak paenw".