



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES
46th Session**

Nanjing, P. R. China, 5-10 May 2014

**COMMENTS on the draft revision of the Classification of Foods and Animal Feeds at Step 6:
Selected vegetable commodity groups
submitted by Canada, China, El Salvador, European Union, Kenya and African Union**

Canada

Canada's position on the revised Root and Tuber Vegetables Group.

As a member of the Electronic Working Group on the Revision of the Classification, Canada provided comments through this working group on the proposed revisions presented in CX/PR 14/46/7. Noted changes to the document as a result of the comments received include:

- Discussion on the appropriate commodity group for Water chestnut (*trapa natans* L.), Water bamboo (*Zizania latifolia* (Griesb.), Turcz. Ex Stapf) and Foxnut (*Euryale ferox* Salisb.). Based on information provided that Water chestnut and foxnut are not root crops, these crops have been removed from the Root and Tuber Vegetables group. Because the edible portion of Water chestnut is the stem, this crop has been moved to Crop Group 017 Stalk and Stem vegetables. Further discussion is required to determine the appropriate group for Water Chestnut and water bamboo.
- Common name of Cumin, black root was changed to Caraway, black root.

The rest of the document is the same as that vetted through the electronic working group. Canada is in agreement with the two changes made above and supports the revised root and tuber vegetable group as presented in Appendix I of CX/PR 14/46/7.

China

The comments on the commodity of Water bamboo

Based on the discussion in EWG members, China agree with the comments from EU, and move Water bamboo to Subgroup 17A Stalk and Stem vegetables - Stems and Petioles.

Water bamboo

The swollen crisp white stems of Manchurian wild rice (*Zizania latifolia*; incorrect synonym: *Z. caduciflora*), which is a perennial native to China, are grown as a vegetable, popular in East and Southeast Asia. The swelling occurs because of infection with the smut fungus *Ustilago esculenta*. The fungus prevents the plant from flowering, so the crop is propagated asexually, the infection being passed from mother plant to daughter plant. Harvest must be made between about 120 days and 170 days after planting, after the stem begins to swell but before the infection reaches its reproductive stage, when the stem will begin to turn black and eventually disintegrate.

The vegetable is especially common in China, where it is known as gaosun or jiaobai (茭白). Other names which may be used in English include coba.



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wild_rice

The comments on the commodities of Water chestnut and Foxnut

We suggest to add them into Group 024 Seed for beverages and sweets. That commodity group has not been discussed in CCPR.

At the same time, we take a notice that lotus seed also should be included. The starchy seed is edible for these three commodities.

Water chestnut

The water chestnut (water caltrop), refer to any of three, extant species of the genus *Trapa*: *Trapa natans*, *T. bicornis* and the endangered *Trapa rossica*. The species are floating annual aquatic plants, growing in slow-moving water up to 5 meters deep, native to warm temperate parts of Eurasia and Africa. They bear ornately shaped fruits, which in the case of *T. bicornis* resemble the head of a bull, each fruit containing a single very large **starchy seed**. *T. natans* and *T. bicornis* have been cultivated in China and India for at least 3,000 years for the edible seeds.



Boiled water caltrop (*T. bicornis*) seeds

Classification of water chestnut

Scientific classification	
Kingdom:	Plantae
Division:	Magnoliophyta
Class:	Magnoliopsida
Order:	Myrtales
Family:	Lythraceae
Subfamily:	Trapoideae
Genus:	<i>Trapa</i>
Type species	
	<i>Trapa natans</i> L.
Species	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>T. natans</i> • <i>T. bicornis</i> • <i>T. rossica</i>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_caltrop

Foxnut

Foxnut is the only species in the genus *Euryale*. It is a flowering plant classified in the water lily family, Nymphaeaceae, although it is occasionally regarded as a distinct family Euryalaceae. Unlike other water lilies, the pollen grains of *Euryale* have three nuclei.

Euryale is an annual plant native to eastern Asia, and is found from India- found in Bihar, mithilanchal (Local name Makhan) and in Loktak Lake Manipur (local name - thangzing) to Korea and Japan, as well as parts of eastern Russia. It grows in water, producing bright purple flowers. The leaves are large and round, often more than a meter (3 feet) across, with a leaf stalk attached in the center of the lower surface. The underside of the leaf is purplish, while the upper surface is green. The leaves have a quilted texture, although the stems, flowers, and leaves which float on the surface are covered in sharp prickles. Other leaves are submerged. In India, *Euryale* normally grows in ponds, wetlands etc. Recently the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has found out a technique for the field cultivation of *Euryale*.

The plant produces **starchy white seeds**, and the seeds are edible. The plant is cultivated for its seed in lowland ponds in India, China, and Japan. The Chinese have cultivated the plant for over 3000 years. More than 96,000 hectares of Bihar, India, were set aside for cultivation of *Euryale* in 1990-1991. The plant does best in locations with hot, dry summers and cold winters. Seeds are collected in the late summer and early autumn, and may be eaten raw or cooked.

In China, its edible seeds are used in traditional Chinese medicine, where they are often cooked in soups along with other ingredients.



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euryale_ferox

Lotus seed

English name: lotus seed

Latin name: Semen Nelumbinis

Lotus seed is dry mature seed of *Nelumbonucifera* Gaertn. In China, the lotus seedpod is cut when it becomes mature in autumn. Then the seeds are taken out, peeled and dried. It is planted in most part of China.



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lotus_seed

China proposes to add four new commodities (Pseudoginseng, Prince Ginseng, Tuber Fleecflower Root and Radix Astragali) into group 016A Root vegetables.

Pseudoginseng

English Name: Pseudoginseng

Latin name: *Panax.Panaxpseudoginseng*



Pseudoginseng	
Scientific classification	
Kingdom:	Plantae
(unranked):	Angiosperms
(unranked):	Eudicots
(unranked):	Asterids
Order:	Apiales
Family:	Araliaceae
Genus:	<i>Panax</i>
Subgenus:	<i>Panax</i>
Section:	<i>Pseudoginseng</i>
Species:	<i>P. pseudoginseng</i>
Binomial name	
<i>Panax pseudoginseng</i>	
Wall.	

Panaxpseudoginseng is a species of the genus Panax. Common names include Pseudoginseng, Nepal ginseng, and Himalayan ginseng. Pseudoginseng belongs to the same scientific genus as ginseng. In Latin, the word panax means “cure-all”, and the family of ginseng plants is one of the most well-known herbs. Panaxpseudoginseng is not an adaptogen like the better known Panax species, but it is famous as a hemostatic herb that both invigorates and builds blood.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panax_pseudoginseng

Prince Ginseng

English name: Prince Ginseng

Latin name: Pseudostellaria heterophylla Rupr.& Maxim.



Pseudostellaria heterophylla	
Scientific classification	
Kingdom:	Plantae
(unranked):	Angiosperms
(unranked):	Eudicots
(unranked):	Core eudicots
Order:	Caryophyllales
Family:	Caryophyllaceae
Genus:	<i>Pseudostellaria</i>
Species:	<i>P. heterophylla</i>
Binomial name	
<i>Pseudostellaria heterophylla</i>	
Rupr. & Maxim.	

Pseudostellariaheterophylla, known commonly as HaiErShen (Chinese: Kid Ginseng), Tai ZiShen (Chinese: Prince Ginseng), and false starwort, is an adaptogen in the Caryophyllaceae family that is used in Chinese medicine. It is known as the “ginseng of the lungs”. The plant is a low growing plant of the pink family that is grown in Southern China.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pseudostellaria_heterophylla

Tuber Fleeceflower Root

English name: Tuber Fleeceflower Root

Latin name: *Fallopia multiflora* (Thunb.)Harald.



Scientific classification	
Kingdom:	Plantae
(unranked):	Angiosperms
(unranked):	Eudicots
(unranked):	Core eudicots
Order:	Caryophyllales
Family:	Polygonaceae
Genus:	<i>Fallopia</i>
Species:	<i>F. multiflora</i>
Binomial name	
<i>Fallopia multiflora</i>	
(Thunb.) Haraldson	

Fallopia multiflora (Tuber Fleeceflower Root) is a species of Fallopia native to central and southern China.

It is also known as *Polygonum multiflorum*, and is predominantly referred to as such in PubMed.

It is a herbaceous perennial vine growing to 2–4 m tall from a woody tuber. The leaves are 3–7 cm long and 2–5 cm broad, broad arrowhead-shaped, with an entire margin. The flowers are 6–7 mm diameter, white or greenish-white, produced on short, dense panicles up to 10–20 cm long in summer to mid autumn. The fruit is an achene 2.5–3 mm long.

It is used in traditional Chinese medicine, which regards it as having anti-aging properties

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fallopia_multiflora

Radix Astragali

English name: Radix Astragali

Latin name: *Astragalus propinquus* Schischkin



Scientific classification

Kingdom:	Plantae
'unranked):	Angiosperms
'unranked):	Eudicots
'unranked):	Rosids
Order:	Fabales
Family:	Fabaceae
Genus:	<i>Astragalus</i>
Species:	<i>A. propinquus</i>

Binomial name

Astragalus propinquus
Schischkin^[1]

A. propinquus (Radix Astragali) is used in traditional Chinese medicine for healing and for diabetes. *A. propinquus* has been asserted to be a tonic that can improve the functioning of the lungs, adrenal glands and the gastrointestinal tract, increase metabolism and sweating, promote healing, and reduce fatigue.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Astragalus_propinquus

El Salvador

Some of the products listed, such as: (VR0574) Beetroot *Beta vulgaris* L., var. *Conditiva*; (VR0577) Carrot *Daucus carota* L.; (VR0578) Celeriac *Apium graveolens* L., var. *Rapaceum*; (VR0494) Radish *Raphanus sativus* L. var. *Sativus*; (VR 0463) Cassava *Manihot esculenta* are consumed in El Salvador; among other things, due to our intake of these products, for the time being we agree to the proposed Classification by the Working Group.

European Union

On 26/11/2013 the EU made some comments to the previous draft of the proposed revision (Codex Circular Letter CL 2013/19 PR).

The EU acknowledges that its comments have been largely considered in the drafting of the actual version and fully supports the advancement of the document CX/PR 14/46/7 to the next step.

Kenya

SPECIFIC COMMENT: on No.5

We have considered the proposals in Appendix I for the Root and Tuber Vegetables Group while taking into consideration the discussion held at the 45th Session of the Committee and the considerations given in paragraphs 4-8 and comments submitted at Step 6 and would like to support the inclusion of water bamboo in sub-group 17a- stalk and stem vegetables since the edible portion is the stem.

African Union

Position: AU proposes the inclusion of *Mondia whitei* in the Subgroup 16A Root vegetables. It is commonly consumed raw in Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya.

AU also requests the inclusion of both the “yellow” and “white” (in the edible part) sweet potato varieties in Subgroup 16B Tuberous vegetables and further inclusion of both varieties in VR 0508.

Rationale: For African member states, it is critical to look at the current classification for root and tuber vegetables and take note of the need to propose new additions to the group before its final adoption at Step 8.