

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
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Agenda Item 8(c)

CX/PR 14/46/9-Add.1

April 2014

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

46th Session

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

COMMENTS on proposed draft Table 2 at Step 3 - Examples of selection of representative commodities (Vegetable commodity groups)

(for inclusion in the Principles and guidance for the selection of representative commodities for the extrapolation of maximum residue limits for pesticides to commodity groups),
submitted by Canada, European Union, Kenya and African Union

Canada

Canada's position on the proposed Draft Table 2 for the vegetable commodity groups.

In general Canada supports the proposed revisions to Table 2 and provides the following comments/observations:

For some of the commodity groups which were presented and discussed at the 45th Session of CCPR in May 2013, additional examples of representative commodities have been added (e.g. Codex Group 013 Leafy vegetables (including Brassica leafy vegetables)). Canada supports these additional choices given the diverse range of crops grown in different regions of the world. This will give broader flexibility to countries when determining an appropriate representative crop when conducting residue trials to support a crop group MRL. It is noted that the representative crops for the corresponding International Crop Grouping Consulting Committee (ICGCC) scheme are included in the Codex list which will ensure acceptance of data generated using the ICGCC crop grouping scheme to support Codex MRLs.

Groups 11 (Fruiting Vegetables, cucurbits), 14 (Legume Vegetables), and 15 (Pulses) have been added to Table 2 since the 45th Session of CCPR. 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 to these commodity groups. As such Canada is in agreement with the proposed revisions to the groups as well as the proposed representative crops. It is noted that Canada is also a member of the ICGCC and revisions to these crop groups are still in the proposal stage. Efforts should therefore be made to ensure consistency between the proposed Codex revisions to these commodity groups (11,14,15) with the proposed revisions through the work of the ICGCC.

European Union

The EU acknowledges that the column "Examples of Representative commodities" in Table 2 of the document "*Principles and Guidance for the selection of representative commodities for the extrapolation of maximum residue limits for pesticides to commodity groups*" has been updated in line with the proposals of revision of classification (documents CX/PR 14/46/7 and CX/PR 14/46/8) of the following vegetables groups:

- Root and tuber vegetables;
- Fruiting vegetables, cucurbits;
- Legume vegetables;
- Pulses.

The EU would like to present the following remarks:

- 1) As in the EU broader extrapolations are used, the EU would like to add some other examples of representative commodities:
Group 11 Fruiting vegetables, cucurbits.
Subgroup 11 C Fruiting vegetables, cucurbits – inedible peel – winter squashes:
"and/or Melon".

Group 14 Legume vegetables.

Subgroup 14B Peas with pods:

“**Beans with pods**”, as Peas with pods is a minor crop in the European Union.

Group 15 Pulses.

Subgroup 15A Dried beans (without pods):

after Beans dry: “**and/or Peas dry**”

Group 15 Pulses.

Subgroup 15B Dried peas (without pods):

after Peas dry: “**and/or Beans dry**”

In some other commodity groups the EU uses different representative crops:

Group 10 Brassica vegetables:

In the EU trials of both Cauliflower and Broccoli are required to extrapolate to the subgroup of Flowering brassicas. We propose to add “**Some trials on broccoli could be replaced by trials on Cauliflower**”. In the EU Cauliflower is a major crop and Broccoli a minor crop.

Group 12 Fruiting vegetables, other than Cucurbits:

In the EU it is possible to extrapolate from Tomato to Aubergine (Eggplant). Aubergine is a minor crop in the EU. We propose to add to Subgroup 12C Eggplants: “**and/or Tomato**”

Subgroup 10B Head brassicas:

The EU would like to mention more explicitly ‘Cabbage, **Head**’ as representative crop, instead of ‘Cabbage’.

Finally, the EU would like to note that the extrapolation within the rather heterogeneous Group 013 Leafy vegetables (including Brassica leafy vegetables) should be more specific, taking into account the morphological particularities of the crops.

Since higher residues are anticipated from foliar sprayings in varieties which do not form heads (e.g. scarole) or varieties which are forming small leaves (e.g. cress, lamb’s lettuce or spinach), an extrapolation from residues of e.g. head lettuce may underestimate residue levels in these commodities.

The EU supports the advancement of the document **CX/PR 14/46/9** to the next step.

Kenya

We propose that the table should be amended to include the Bambara groundnut and Kersting’s groundnut in Table 2, under Group of legumes vegetable

African Union

Position: AU proposes that the “African horned cucumber” proposed in subgroup 11C – Fruiting vegetables cucurbits inedible peel - winter squashes; to be moved to Subgroup 11B, fruiting vegetables, cucurbits – inedible peel – melons and renamed as “Horned melon”.

Rationale: Since there is still discussion on the fruiting vegetables cucurbits group, stock and stem vegetables and the legume vegetables (Group 014) and Pulses (Group 015) the proposals made in the table should await consensus reached on the sub-groups.