

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS

INTERNATIONAL FOOD STANDARDS



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of  
the United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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## STANDARD FOR FERMENTED MILKS

**CXS 243-2003**

**Adopted in 2003. Revised in 2008, 2010, 2018.**

## 1. SCOPE

This standard applies to fermented milks, that is Fermented Milk including, Heat Treated Fermented Milks, Concentrated Fermented Milks and composite milk products based on these products, for direct consumption or further processing in conformity with the definitions in Section 2 of this Standard.

## 2. DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 *Fermented Milk*** is a milk product obtained by fermentation of milk, which milk may have been manufactured from products obtained from milk with or without compositional modification as limited by the provision in Section 3.3, by the action of suitable microorganisms and resulting in reduction of pH with or without coagulation (iso-electric precipitation). These starter microorganisms shall be viable, active and abundant in the product to the date of minimum durability. If the product is heat treated after fermentation the requirement for viable microorganisms does not apply.

Certain Fermented Milks are characterized by specific starter culture(s) used for fermentation as follows:

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Yoghurt:</b>                   | Symbiotic cultures of <i>Streptococcus thermophilus</i> and <i>Lactobacillus delbrueckii</i> subsp. <i>bulgaricus</i> .   |
| <b>Alternate culture yoghurt:</b> | Cultures of <i>Streptococcus thermophilus</i> and any <i>Lactobacillus</i> species.   |
| <b>Acidophilus milk:</b>          | <i>Lactobacillus acidophilus</i> .  |
| <b>Kefir:</b>                     | Starter culture prepared from kefir grains, <i>Lactobacillus kefiri</i> , species of the genera <i>Leuconostoc</i> , <i>Lactococcus</i> and <i>Acetobacter</i> growing in a strong specific relationship.<br><br>Kefir grains constitute both lactose fermenting yeasts ( <i>Kluyveromyces marxianus</i> ) and non-lactose-fermenting yeasts ( <i>Saccharomyces unisporus</i> , <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> and <i>Saccharomyces exiguus</i> ). |
| <b>Kumys:</b>                     | <i>Lactobacillus delbrueckii</i> subsp. <i>bulgaricus</i> and <i>Kluyveromyces marxianus</i> .  |

Other microorganisms than those constituting the specific starter culture(s) specified above may be added.

- 2.2 *Concentrated Fermented Milk*** is a Fermented Milk the protein of which has been increased prior to or after fermentation to minimum 5.6%. Concentrated Fermented Milks includes traditional products such as Stragis to (strained yoghurt), Labneh, Ymer and Ylette.
- 2.3 *Flavoured Fermented Milks*** are composite milk products, as defined in Section 2.3 of the *General Standard for the Use of Dairy Terms* (CXS 206-1999) which contain a maximum of 50% (m/m) of non-dairy ingredients (such as nutritive and non nutritive sweeteners, fruits and vegetables as well as juices, purees, pulps, preparations and preserves derived there from, cereals, honey, chocolate, nuts, coffee, spices and other harmless natural flavouring foods) and/or flavours. The non-dairy ingredients can be mixed in prior to/or after fermentation.
- 2.4 *Drinks based on Fermented Milk*** are composite milk products, as defined in Section 2.3 of the *General Standard for the Use of Dairy Terms* (CXS 206-1999), obtained by mixing Fermented Milk as described in Section 2.1 with potable water with or without the addition of other ingredients such as whey, other non-dairy ingredients, and flavourings. Drinks Based on Fermented Milk contain a minimum of 40% (m/m) fermented milk.

Other microorganisms than those constituting the specific starter culture(s) specified above may be added.

### 3. ESSENTIAL COMPOSITION AND QUALITY FACTORS

#### 3.1 Raw materials

- Milk and/or products obtained from milk.
- Potable water for the use in reconstitution or recombination.

#### 3.2 Permitted ingredients

- Starter cultures of harmless microorganisms including those specified in Section 2;
- Other suitable and harmless microorganisms (*in products covered by Section 2.4*);
- Sodium chloride;
- Non-dairy ingredients as listed in Section 2.3 (Flavoured Fermented Milks);
- Potable water (*in products covered by Section 2.4*);
- Milk and milk products (*in products covered by Section 2.4*);
- Gelatine and starch in:
  - fermented milks heat-treated after fermentation;
  - flavoured fermented milk;
  - drinks based on fermented milk; and
  - plain fermented milks if permitted by national legislation in the country of sale to the final consumer;

provided they are added only in amounts functionally necessary as governed by Good Manufacturing Practice, taking into account any use of the stabilizers/thickeners listed in Section 4. These substances may be added either before or after adding the non-dairy ingredients.

#### 3.3 Composition

|   | <b>Fermented Milk</b> | <b>Yoghurt, Alternate Culture Yoghurt and Acidophilus milk</b> | <b>Kefir</b>         | <b>Kumys</b>         |
|---|-----------------------|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| Milk protein <sup>(a)</sup> (% m/m)   | min. 2.7%             | min. 2.7%  | min. 2.7%            |                      |
| Milk fat (% m/m)  | less than 10%         | less than 15%  | less than 10%        | less than 10%        |
| Titration acidity, expressed as % lactic acid (% m/m)   | min. 0.3%             | min. 0.6%  | min. 0.6%            | min. 0.7%            |
| Ethanol (% vol./w)  |                       |  |                      | min. 0.5%            |
| Sum of microorganisms constituting the starter culture defined in section 2.1 (cfu/g, in total) | min. 10 <sup>7</sup>  | min. 10 <sup>7</sup>   | min. 10 <sup>7</sup> | min. 10 <sup>7</sup> |
| Labelled microorganisms <sup>(b)</sup> (cfu/g, total)   | min. 10 <sup>6</sup>  | min. 10 <sup>6</sup>   |                      |                      |
| Yeasts (cfu/g)  |                       |  | min. 10 <sup>4</sup> | min. 10 <sup>4</sup> |

(a) Protein content is 6.38 multiplied by the total Kjeldahl nitrogen determined.

(b) Applies where a content claim is made in the labelling that refers to the presence of a specific microorganism (other than those specified in section 2.1 for the product concerned) that has been added as a supplement to the specific starter culture.

In Flavoured Fermented Milks and Drinks based on Fermented Milk the above criteria apply to the fermented milk part. The microbiological criteria (based on the proportion of fermented milk product) are valid up to the date of minimum durability. This requirement does not apply to products heat-treated after fermentation.

Compliance with the microbiological criteria specified above is to be verified through analytical testing of the product through to “the date of minimum durability” after the product has been stored under the storage conditions specified in the labelling.

### 3.4 Essential manufacturing characteristics

Whey removal after fermentation is not permitted in the manufacture of fermented milks, except for Concentrated Fermented Milk (Section 2.2).

## 4. FOOD ADDITIVES

Only those additives classes indicated in the table below may be used for the product categories specified. Within each additive class, and where permitted according to the table, only those individual additives listed may be used and only within the limits specified.

In accordance with Section 4.1 of the Preamble to the *General Standard for Food Additives* (CXS 192-1995), additional additives may be present in the flavoured fermented milks and drinks based on fermented milk as a result of carry-over from non-dairy ingredients.

| Additive class      | Fermented Milks and Drinks based on Fermented Milk |                  | Fermented Milks Heat Treated After Fermentation and Drinks based on Fermented Milk Heat Treated After Fermentation |                  |
|---------------------|--|------------------|--|------------------|
|                     | Plain  | Flavoured        | Plain  | Flavoured        |
| Acidity regulators: | –  | X                | X  | X                |
| Carbonating agents: | X <sup>(b)</sup>                                   | X <sup>(b)</sup> | X <sup>(b)</sup>   | X <sup>(b)</sup> |
| Colours:            | –  | X                | –  | X                |
| Emulsifiers:        | –  | X                | –  | X                |
| Flavour enhancers:  | –  | X                | –  | X                |
| Packaging gases:    | –  | X                | X  | X                |
| Preservatives:      | –  | –                | –  | X                |
| Stabilizers:        | X <sup>(a)</sup>                                   | X                | X  | X                |
| Sweeteners:         | –  | X                | –  | X                |
| Thickeners:         | X <sup>(a)</sup>                                   | X                | X  | X                |

<sup>(a)</sup> Use is restricted to reconstitution and recombination and if permitted by national legislation in the country of sale to the final consumer.

<sup>(b)</sup> Use of carbonating agents is technologically justified in Drinks based on Fermented Milk only. X The use of additives belonging to the class is technologically justified. In the case of flavoured products the additives are technologically justified in the dairy portion.

– The use of additives belonging to the class is not technologically justified.

Acidity regulators, colours, emulsifiers, packaging gases and preservatives listed in Table3 of the *General Standard for Food Additives* (CXS 192-1995) are acceptable for use in fermented milk products categories as specified in the table above.

| INS no.                   | Name of additive   | Maximum level                |
|---------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| <b>Acidity regulators</b> |  |                              |
| 334                       | Tartaric acid L(+)-  | 2 000 mg/kg as tartaric acid |
| 335(ii)                   | Sodium L(+)-tartrate                                       |                              |
| 337                       | Potassium sodium L(+)-tartrate                             |                              |
| 355                       | Adipic acid  | 1 500 mg/kg as adipic acid   |
| 356                       | Sodium adipate   |                              |
| 357                       | Potassium adipate  |                              |
| 359                       | Ammonium adipate   |                              |
| <b>Carbonating agents</b> |  |                              |
| 290                       | Carbon dioxide   | GMP                          |
| <b>Colours</b>            |  |                              |
| 100(i)                    | Curcumin   | 100 mg/kg                    |
| 101(i)                    | Riboflavin, synthetic                                      | 300 mg/kg                    |
| 101(ii)                   | Riboflavin 5'-phosphate, sodium                            |                              |
| 102                       | Tartrazine   |                              |
| 104                       | Quinoline yellow   | 150 mg/kg                    |
| 110                       | Sunset yellow FCF  | 300 mg/kg                    |
| 120                       | Carmines   | 150 mg/kg                    |
| 122                       | Azorubine (Carmoisine)                                     |                              |
| 124                       | Ponceau 4R (Cochineal red A)                               |                              |
| 129                       | Allura red AC  | 300 mg/kg                    |
| 132                       | Indigotine   | 100 mg/kg                    |
| 133                       | Brilliant blue FCF   | 150 mg/kg                    |
| 141(i)                    | Chlorophylls, copper complexes                             | 500 mg/kg                    |
| 141(ii)                   | Chlorophylls, copper complexes, sodium and potassium salts |                              |
| 143                       | Fast green FCF   | 100 mg/kg                    |
| 150b                      | Caramel II – sulphite caramel                              | 150 mg/kg                    |
| 150c                      | Caramel III – ammonia caramel                              | 2 000 mg/kg                  |
| 150d                      | Caramel IV – sulphite ammonia caramel                      | 2 000 mg/kg                  |
| 151                       | Brilliant black (Black PN)                                 | 150 mg/kg                    |
| 155                       | Brown HT   | 150 mg/kg                    |
| 160a(i)                   | Carotene, <i>beta</i> -, synthetic                         | 100 mg/kg                    |

| INS no.            | Name of additive  | Maximum level             |
|--------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 160e               | Carotenal, <i>beta</i> -apo-8'-                             |                           |
| 160f               | Carotenic acid, methyl or ethyl ester, <i>beta</i> -apo-8'- |                           |
| 160a(iii)          | Carotenes, <i>beta</i> -,<br><i>Blakeslea trispora</i>      |                           |
| 160a(ii)           | Carotenes, <i>beta</i> -,<br>vegetable                      | 600 mg/kg                 |
| 160b(i)            | Annatto extract, bixin-based                                | 20 mg/kg as bixin         |
| 160b(ii)           | Annatto extract, norbixin-based                             | 20 mg/kg as norbixin      |
| 160d               | Lycopenes   | 30 mg/kg as pure lycopene |
| 161b(i)            | Lutein from <i>Tagetes erecta</i>                           | 150 mg/kg                 |
| 161h(i)            | Zeaxanthin, synthetic                                       | 150 mg/kg                 |
| 163(ii)            | Grape skin extract  | 100 mg/kg                 |
| 172(i)             | Iron oxide, black   |                           |
| 172(ii)            | Iron oxide, red   |                           |
| 172(iii)           | Iron oxide, yellow  |                           |
| <b>Emulsifiers</b> |   |                           |
| 432                | Polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan monolaurate                   | 3 000 mg/kg               |
| 433                | Polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan monooleate                    |                           |
| 434                | Polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan monopalmitate                 |                           |
| 435                | Polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan monostearate                  |                           |
| 436                | Polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan tristearate                   |                           |
| 472e               | Diacetyltartaric and fatty acid esters of glycerol          | 10 000 mg/kg              |
| 473                | Sucrose esters of fatty acids                               | 5 000 mg/kg               |
| 474                | Sucroglycerides   | 5 000 mg/kg               |
| 475                | Polyglycerol esters of fatty acids                          | 2 000 mg/kg               |
| 477                | Propylene glycol esters of fatty acids                      | 5 000 mg/kg               |
| 481(i)             | Sodium stearyl lactylate                                    | 10 000 mg/kg              |
| 482(i)             | Calcium stearyl lactylate                                   | 10 000 mg/kg              |
| 491                | Sorbitan monostearate                                       | 5 000 mg/kg               |
| 492                | Sorbitan tristearate  |                           |
| 493                | Sorbitan monolaurate  |                           |
| 494                | Sorbitan monooleate   |                           |

| INS no.                           | Name of additive             | Maximum level              |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 495                               | Sorbitan monopalmitate       |                            |
| 900a                              | Polydimethylsiloxane         | 50 mg/kg                   |
| <b>Flavour enhancers</b>          |                              |                            |
| 580                               | Magnesium gluconate          | GMP                        |
| 620                               | Glutamic acid, (L+)-         |                            |
| 621                               | Monosodium L-glutamate       |                            |
| 622                               | Monopotassium L-glutamate    |                            |
| 623                               | Calcium di-L-glutamate       |                            |
| 624                               | Monoammonium L-glutamate     |                            |
| 625                               | Magnesium di-L-glutamate     |                            |
| 626                               | Guanylic acid, 5'-           |                            |
| 627                               | Disodium 5'-guanylate-       |                            |
| 628                               | Dipotassium 5'-guanylate-    |                            |
| 629                               | Calcium 5'-guanylate         |                            |
| 630                               | Inosinic acid, 5'-           |                            |
| 631                               | Disodium 5'-inosinate        |                            |
| 632                               | Dipotassium 5'-inosinate     |                            |
| 633                               | Calcium 5'-inosinate         |                            |
| 634                               | Calcium 5'-ribonucleotides-  |                            |
| 635                               | Disodium 5'-ribonucleotides- |                            |
| 636                               | Maltol                       |                            |
| 637                               | Ethyl maltol                 |                            |
| <b>Preservatives</b>              |                              |                            |
| 200                               | Sorbic acid                  | 1 000 mg/kg as sorbic acid |
| 202                               | Potassium sorbate            |                            |
| 203                               | Calcium sorbate              |                            |
| 210                               | Benzoic acid                 | 300 mg/kg as benzoic acid  |
| 211                               | Sodium benzoate              |                            |
| 212                               | Potassium benzoate           |                            |
| 213                               | Calcium benzoate             |                            |
| 234                               | Nisin                        | 500 mg/kg                  |
| <b>Stabilizers and Thickeners</b> |                              |                            |

| INS no.  | Name of additive                 | Maximum level  |
|----------|----------------------------------|--|
| 170(i)   | Calcium carbonate                | GMP  |
| 331(iii) | Trisodium citrate                | GMP  |
| 338      | Phosphoric acid                  | 1 000 mg/kg, singly or in combination, as phosphorus |
| 339(i)   | Sodium dihydrogen phosphate      |  |
| 339(ii)  | Disodium hydrogen phosphate      |  |
| 339(iii) | Trisodium phosphate              |  |
| 340(i)   | Potassium dihydrogen phosphate   |  |
| 340(ii)  | Dipotassium hydrogen phosphate   |  |
| 340(iii) | Tripotassium phosphate           |  |
| 341(i)   | Monocalcium dihydrogen phosphate |  |
| 341(ii)  | Calcium hydrogen phosphate       |  |
| 341(iii) | Tricalcium orthophosphate        |  |
| 342(i)   | Ammonium dihydrogen phosphate    |  |
| 342(ii)  | Diammonium hydrogen phosphate    |  |
| 343(i)   | Monomagnesium phosphate          |  |
| 343(ii)  | Magnesium hydrogen phosphate     |  |
| 343(iii) | Trimagnesium phosphate           |  |
| 450(i)   | Disodium diphosphate             |  |
| 450(ii)  | Trisodium diphosphate            |  |
| 450(iii) | Tetrasodium diphosphate          |  |
| 450(v)   | Tetrapotassium diphosphate       |  |
| 450(vi)  | Dicalcium diphosphate            |  |
| 450(vii) | Calcium dihydrogen diphosphate   |  |
| 451(i)   | Pentasodium triphosphate         |  |
| 451(ii)  | Pentapotassium triphosphate      |  |
| 452(i)   | Sodium polyphosphate             |  |
| 452(ii)  | Potassium polyphosphate          |  |
| 452(iii) | Sodium calcium polyphosphate     |  |
| 452(iv)  | Calcium polyphosphate            |  |
| 452(v)   | Ammonium polyphosphate           |  |



| INS no. | Name of additive   | Maximum level |
|---------|--|---------------|
| 542     | Bone phosphate   |               |
| 400     | Alginic acid   | GMP           |
| 401     | Sodium alginate  |               |
| 402     | Potassium alginate   |               |
| 403     | Ammonium alginate  |               |
| 404     | Calcium alginate   |               |
| 405     | Propylene glycol alginate  |               |
| 406     | Agar   |               |
| 407     | Carrageenan  |               |
| 407a    | Processed eucheama seaweed (PES)   |               |
| 410     | Carob bean gum   |               |
| 412     | Guar gum   |               |
| 413     | Tragacanth gum   |               |
| 414     | Gum Arabic (Acacia gum)  |               |
| 415     | Xanthan gum  |               |
| 416     | Karaya gum   |               |
| 417     | Tara gum   |               |
| 418     | Gellan gum   |               |
| 425     | Konjac flour   |               |
| 440     | Pectins  |               |
| 459     | Cyclodextrin, -beta  | 5 mg/kg       |
| 460(i)  | Microcrystalline cellulose (Cellulose gel)   | GMP           |
| 460(ii) | Powdered cellulose   |               |
| 461     | Methyl cellulose   |               |
| 463     | Hydroxypropyl cellulose  |               |
| 464     | Hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose   |               |
| 465     | Methyl ethyl cellulose   |               |
| 466     | Sodium carboxymethyl cellulose (Cellulose gum)   |               |
| 467     | Ethyl hydroxyethyl cellulose   |               |
| 468     | Cross-linked sodium carboxymethyl cellulose (Cross-linked cellulose gum)                           |               |
| 469     | Sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, enzymatically hydrolyzed (Cellulose gum, enzymatically hydrolyzed) |               |

| INS no.                         | Name of additive  | Maximum level |     |
|---------------------------------|---|---------------|-----|
| 470(i)                          | Salts of myristic, palmitic and stearic acids with ammonia, calcium, potassium and sodium |               |     |
| 470(ii)                         | Salts of oleic acid with calcium, potassium and sodium                                    |               |     |
| 471                             | Mono- and di- glycerides of fatty acids   |               |     |
| 472a                            | Acetic and fatty acid esters of glycerol  |               |     |
| 472b                            | Lactic and fatty acid esters of glycerol  |               |     |
| 472c                            | Citric and fatty acid esters of glycerol  |               |     |
| 508                             | Potassium chloride  |               |     |
| 509                             | Calcium chloride  |               |     |
| 511                             | Magnesium chloride  |               |     |
| 1200                            | Polydextrose  |               |     |
| 1400                            | Dextrins, roasted starch  |               |     |
| 1401                            | Acid treated starch   |               |     |
| 1402                            | Alkaline treated starch   |               |     |
| 1403                            | Bleached starch   |               |     |
| 1404                            | Oxidized starch   |               |     |
| 1405                            | Starches, enzyme treated  |               |     |
| 1410                            | Mono starch phosphate   |               |     |
| 1412                            | Distarch phosphate  |               |     |
| 1413                            | Phosphated distarch phosphate   |               |     |
| 1414                            | Acetylated distarch phosphate   |               |     |
| 1420                            | Starch acetate  |               |     |
| 1422                            | Acetylated distarch adipate   |               |     |
| 1440                            | Hydroxypropyl starch  |               |     |
| 1442                            | Hydroxypropyl distarch phosphate  |               |     |
| 1450                            | Starch sodium octenyl succinate   |               |     |
| 1451                            | Acetylated oxidized starch  |               |     |
| <b>Sweeteners<sup>(a)</sup></b> |   |               |     |
| 420                             | Sorbitol  |               | GMP |
| 421                             | Mannitol  |               | GMP |

| INS no. | Name of additive                    | Maximum level   |
|---------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 950     | Acesulfame potassium                | 350 mg/kg   |
| 951     | Aspartame                           | 1 000 mg/kg   |
| 952     | Cyclamates                          | 250 mg/kg   |
| 953     | Isomalt (Hydrogenated isomaltulose) | GMP   |
| 954     | Saccharin                           | 100 mg/kg   |
| 955     | Sucralose (Trichlorogalactosucrose) | 400 mg/kg   |
| 956     | Alitame                             | 100 mg/kg   |
| 961     | Neotame                             | 100 mg/kg   |
| 962     | Aspartame-acesulfame salt           | 350 mg/kg on an acesulfame potassium equivalent basis |
| 964     | Polyglycitol syrup                  | GMP   |
| 965     | Maltitols                           |   |
| 966     | Lactitol                            |   |
| 967     | Xylitol                             |   |
| 968     | Erythritol                          |   |

(a) The use of sweeteners is limited to milk-and milk derivative-based products energy reduced or with no added sugar.

## 5. CONTAMINANTS

The products covered by this Standard shall comply with the Maximum Levels for contaminants that are specified for the product in the *General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Foods and Feeds* (CXS 193-1995).

The milk used in the manufacture of the products covered by this Standard shall comply with the Maximum Levels for contaminants and toxins specified for milk by the *General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Foods and Feeds* (CXS 193-1995) and with the maximum residue limits for veterinary drug residues and pesticides established for milk by the CAC.

## 6. HYGIENE

It is recommended that the products covered by the provisions of this standard be prepared and handled in accordance with the appropriate sections of the *General Principles of Food Hygiene* (CXC 1-1969), the *Code of Hygienic Practice for Milk and Milk Products* (CXC 57-2004) and other relevant Codex texts such as Codes of Hygienic Practice and Codes of Practice. The products should comply with any microbiological criteria established in accordance with the *Principles and Guidelines for the Establishment and Application of Microbiological Criteria Related to Foods* (CXG 21-1997).

## 7. LABELLING

In addition to the provisions of the *General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985) and the *General Standard for the Use of Dairy Terms* (CXS 206-1999), the following specific provisions apply:

### 7.1 Name of the food

#### 7.1.1 The name of the products covered by Sections 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3, shall be fermented milk or concentrated fermented milk as appropriate.

However, these names may be replaced by the designations Yoghurt, Acidophilus Milk, Kefir, Kumys, Stragisto, Labneh, Ymer and Ylette, provided that the product complies with the specific provisions of this Standard. Yoghurt may be spelled as appropriate in the country of retail sale.

“Alternate culture yoghurt”, as defined in Section 2, shall be named through the use of an appropriate qualifier in conjunction with the word “yoghurt”. The chosen qualifier shall describe, in a way that is accurate and not misleading to the consumer, the nature of the change imparted to the yoghurt through the selection of the specific *Lactobacilli* in the culture for manufacturing the product. Such change may include a marked difference in the fermentation organisms, metabolites and/or sensory properties of the product when compared to the product designated solely as “yoghurt”. Examples of qualifiers which describe differences in sensory properties include terms such as “mild” and “tangy”. The term “alternate culture yoghurt” shall not apply as a designation.

The above specific terms may be used in connection with the term “frozen” provided (i) that the product submitted to freezing complies with the requirements in this Standard, (ii) that the specific starter cultures can be reactivated in reasonable numbers by thawing, and (iii) that the frozen product is named as such and is sold for direct consumption, only.

Other fermented milks and concentrated fermented milks may be designated with other variety names as specified in the national legislation of the country in which the product is sold, or names existing by common usage, provided that such designations do not create an erroneous impression in the country of retail sale regarding the character and identity of the food.

- 7.1.2** Products obtained from fermented milk(s) heat treated after fermentation shall be named “Heat Treated Fermented Milk”. If the consumer would be misled by this name, the products shall be named as permitted by national legislation in the country of retail sale. In countries where no such legislation exists, or no other names are in common usage, the product shall be named “Heat Treated Fermented Milk”.
- 7.1.3** The designation of Flavoured Fermented Milks shall include the name of the principal flavouring substance(s) or flavour(s) added.
- 7.1.4** The name of the products defined in Section 2.4 shall be drinks based on fermented milk or may be designated with other variety names as allowed in the national legislation of the country in which the product is sold. In particular, water added as an ingredient to fermented milk shall be declared in the list of ingredients<sup>1</sup> and the percentage of fermented milk used (m/m) shall clearly appear on the label. When flavoured, the designation shall include the name of the principal flavouring substance(s) or flavour(s) added.
- 7.1.5** Fermented milks to which only nutritive carbohydrate sweeteners have been added, maybe labelled as “sweetened \_\_\_\_\_”, the blank being replaced by the term “Fermented Milk” or another designation as specified in Section 7.1.1 and 7.1.4. If non-nutritive sweeteners are added in partial or total substitution to sugar, the mention “sweetened with \_\_\_\_\_” or “sugared and sweetened with \_\_\_\_\_” should appear close to the name of the product, the blank being filled in with the name of the artificial sweeteners.
- 7.1.6** The names covered by this Standard may be used in the designation, on the label, in commercial documents and advertising of other foods, provided that it is used as an ingredient and that the characteristics of the ingredient are maintained to a relevant degree in order not to mislead the consumer.

## **7.2 Declaration of fat content**

If the consumer would be misled by the omission, the milk fat content shall be declared in a manner acceptable in the country of sale to the final consumer, either as (i) a percentage of mass or volume, or (ii) in grams per serving as qualified in the label, provided that the number of servings is stated.

## **7.3 Labelling of non-retail containers**

Information required in Section 7 of this Standard and Sections 4.1 to 4.8 of the *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods*, and, if necessary, storage instructions, shall be given either on the container or in accompanying documents, except that the name of the product, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer or packer, shall appear on the container. However, lot identification and the name and address of the manufacturer or packager may be replaced by an identification mark, provided that such mark is clearly identifiable with the accompanying documents.

## **8. METHODS OF SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS**

For checking the compliance with this standard, the methods of analysis and sampling contained in the *Recommended Methods of Analysis and Sampling* (CXS 234-1999) relevant to the provisions in this standard, shall be used.

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<sup>1</sup> As prescribed in section 4.2.1.5 of the *General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985)