



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEX COMMITTEE ON SPICES AND CULINARY HERBS**

Fifth Session

Virtual, 20 - 29 April 2021

Draft Standard for dried basil (Updated)

(Comments from Tanzania and Thailand)

Tanzania

PROPOSED DRAFT STANDARD FOR DRIED BASIL (UPDATED) AT STEP 6

GENERAL COMMENTS

The URT would like to thank the Electronic Working Group chaired by Egypt and co-chaired by Sudan for their good work to come up with this draft standard for dried basil for members' comments to protect the health of consumers and facilitate trade globally.

SPECIFIC COMMENT

Section 8.3.1 Year of harvest (optional)

The URT proposes removal of 8.3.1

Justification

"Country of Origin" should be declared as mandatory, in line with the General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985), that the 'Country of Harvest' is not necessary and should be removed from the draft standard.

Clause 9

The URT proposes this section to follow agreed format.

Table B Requirements for visible mould, mammalian excreta for ground/powdered basil

The URT proposes that requirements for visible mould, mammalian excreta for ground/powdered basil be zero

Justification

Presence of mould is an indication of poor hygiene and this can be controlled through GMP and GHP. Its presence is also of a public health concern.

Thailand

Agenda Item 6: Draft Standard for Dried basil

Thailand would like to provide suggestions on this document as follows:

1. For the title of draft standard, we would like to propose to add a term "dried" and to be read as "Dried Basil".
2. We would like to propose to correct the italic format of author name in scientific name of holy basil in table 1 as follows:

"*Ocimum tenuiflorum* **L.** and *Ocimum sanctum* **L.**"

3. In section 3.1 Composition, we would like to amend the term "Dried culinary leaves" to "Dried basil" to indicate the specificity of this standard.
4. In section 9.1 Method of analysis under the parameter "Insects/excreta/insect fragments", we would like to remove a text in the bracket "[ISPM 8 Determination of pest status in an area]" as it is not method of analysis. This ISPM is merely guidelines for determining the present or absent status of pests in an area.
5. We would like to propose to specify the labelling requirements for dried basil in the same manner as that of dried oregano as follows:

“8.2 Name of the product

8.2.1 The name of the product shall be “dried basil” or “basil” when the omission of the word dry would not mislead or confuse the consumer.

8.2.2 The scientific name and style of the product shall be noted and trade name may be indicated as described in Table 1 and Section 2.2.”