



TO Codex Contact Points
Contact Points of international organizations having observer status with Codex

FROM Secretariat,
Codex Alimentarius Commission,
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme

SUBJECT Request for Comments at Step 6 on the draft Standards for Garlic and Kiwifruit

DEADLINE 30 September 2016

COMMENTS **To:** Mexico Secretariat for CCFFV
Ministry of Economy-General Bureau of Standards
E-mail: codexmex@economia.gob.mx

Copy to: Secretariat
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme
E-mail: codex@fao.org

BACKGROUND

GARLIC

1. The 19th Session of the Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (October 2015) (CCFFV19) noted that most of the comments had been addressed but there were some issues that required further examination including additional provisions for “smoked” garlic and defects in the quality classes and their tolerances.
2. CCFFV19 agreed to forward the proposed draft Standard to the Commission for adoption at Step 5¹.
3. CCFFV19 also agreed to establish an Electronic Working Group, chaired by Mexico, to continue further work on the draft with the a view to:
 - examine how defects work in practice for this type of commodity;
 - review how best to address smoked garlic;
 - consider other critical points that may come up during circulation for comments at step 6.
4. The 39th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (July 2016) (CAC39) adopted the proposed draft Standard at Step 5 while noted comments on the need to clarify provisions for commercial types, presentation, sizing and their tolerances.²

KIWIFRUIT

5. CCFFV19 considered the proposed draft Standard for Kiwifruit and noted that substantial progress had been made but some issues needed to be further discussed and therefore agreed to forward the proposed draft Standard to CAC39 for adoption at Step 5.³
6. CCFFV19 also agreed to establish an EWG, chaired by New Zealand and co-chaired by Iran, to revise the draft Standard.
7. CAC39 adopted the proposed draft Standard at Step 5⁴ and noted the following views:
 - some technical issues related to maturity requirements (Brix / percentage of dry matter), sizing and tolerances, should be further examined by CCFFV;
 - the tolerance for decay in the “Extra” class could be considered in the work on the standard layout for Codex standards for fresh fruits and vegetables instead of in individual standards (see also aubergines);
 - the inclusion of hybrids was not a common practice in Codex standards for fresh fruits and vegetables.

¹ [REP16/FFV](#) paras 52 - 70 and Appendix IV

² [REP16/CAC](#) paras 86 - 89 and Appendix IV

³ [REP16/FFV](#) paras 71 - 76 and Appendix V

⁴ [REP16/CAC](#) paras 90 - 91 and Appendix IV

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

8. Codex members and observers are invited to submit comments at Step 6, as directed above, on the draft Standards⁵ for Garlic¹ and Kiwifruit³.
9. In submitting comments, Codex members and observers are invited to take into account key points of discussion and decisions taken at CCFFV19^{1,3} as well as key points brought up by Codex members at CAC39^{2,4} in relation to these standards.
10. Comments should be submitted through or with a copy to the Codex Contact Point of members or observers.
11. Comments submitted should be in accordance with the general guidance for the provision of comments (Appendix I) and presented in Word file to facilitate their analysis and compilation.
12. Members and observers which have submitted comments at Step 5 to CAC39 are reminded to resubmit their comments in response to this Circular Letter.

⁵ Reports of Codex meetings are available on the [Codex website \(Meetings and Reports\)](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/codex-home/en/): <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/codex-home/en/>

Appendix I**GENERAL GUIDANCE FOR THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS**

In order to facilitate the compilation and prepare a more useful comments' document, members and observers, which are not yet doing so, are requested to provide their comments under the following headings:

- (i) General Comments
- (ii) Specific Comments

Specific comments should include a reference to the relevant section and/or paragraph of the document that the comments refer to.

When changes are proposed to specific paragraphs, Members and Observers are requested to provide their proposal for amendments accompanied by the related rationale. New texts should be presented in underlined/bold font and deletion in ~~strikethrough font~~.

In order to facilitate the work of the Secretariats to compile comments, members and observers are requested to refrain from using colour font/shading as documents are printed in black and white and from using track change mode, which might be lost when comments are copied/pasted into a consolidated document.

In order to reduce the translation work and save paper, members and observers are requested not to reproduce the complete document but only those parts of the texts for which any change and/or amendments is proposed.