

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - E-mail: [codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org) - [www.codexalimentarius.org](http://www.codexalimentarius.org)

CL 2021/37/OCS-PR  
May 2021

**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 on the revision of the Classification of Food and Feed (Class C, Class D and Tables of examples for representative commodities for Class C and Class D) (at Step 3)**

**DEADLINE:** **25 June 2021**

## BACKGROUND

1. For background information, please refer to:
  - CX/PR 21/52/6, Appendix I (revised Class C)
  - CX/PR 21/52/7
    - Appendix I (revised Class D)
    - Appendix II (Transfer of commodities from Class D to Class C)
  - CX/PR 21/52/8
    - Appendix I (Table of representative commodities for the revised Class C)
    - Appendix II (Table of representative commodities for the revised Class D)

## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

2. Codex members and observers are invited to provide comments at Step 3 on the revision of the Classification for Food and Feed as per the following:
3. **General Comments** on overall structure and content of the revised Class C, Class D, the tables on examples of representative commodities for these classes and the transfer of commodities from Class D to Class C
4. **Specific Comments**
  - 4.1 Revised Class C: Additional commodities for inclusion, relocation of commodities within the groups/sub-groups.
  - 4.2 Revised Class D: Additional commodities for inclusion, relocation of commodities within the groups/sub-groups and Recommendations 1-6.
  - 4.3 Transfer of commodities from Class D to Class C: Whether there is support for Recommendation 7, i.e. the way the commodities have been relocated from Class D to Class C, if not, please provide comments with their rationale on how to relocate commodities from Class D to Class C. And the outcome of the additional discussion of the classification of meals of oilseeds.
  - 4.4 Tables of representative commodities for the revised Class C and Class D: Additional commodities for inclusion, relocation of commodities within the groups/sub-groups.
5. Other comments not covered under points 3 and 4 that may be of relevance to Codex Members or Observers.

6. In providing replies to the questions raised in points 3 - 5, Codex members and observers are invited to take into account:
- 6.1 The guiding principles and the criteria for crop grouping of the Classification as indicated in Appendix I to this CL.
  - 6.2 The decision of CCPR49 (2017) in relation to the revision of the Classification of Food and Feed<sup>1</sup>
  - 6.3 The decision of CCPR50 (2018) in relation to the structure and approach to the revision Class C<sup>2</sup>;
  - 6.4 The decisions of CCPR51 (2019) in relation to the approach to the revision of Class C and Class D<sup>3</sup>;
  - 6.5 The decision of CCPR51 in relation to the transfer of commodities from Class D to Class C<sup>4</sup>;
  - 6.6 The decision of CCPR51 when it is not possible to have representative commodities due to the broad diversity of commodities in a group<sup>5</sup>;
  - 6.7 The discussions and conclusions of the EWG in support of the revised Class C (CX/PR 21/52/6, paragraphs 14-25); the revised Class D (CX/PR 21/52/7, paragraphs 4-12) and tables of representative commodities for these classes (CX/PR 21/52/8, paragraphs 4-7)
7. CL 2021/37/OCS-PR, Appendix II, is uploaded to the Codex Online Commenting System (OCS): <https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org/>, as per the guidance below.

#### **GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS**

8. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex members and observers using the OCS.
9. Contact Points of Codex members and observers may login to the OCS and access the document open for comments by selecting “Enter” in the “My reviews” page, available after login to the system.
10. Contact Points of Codex members and observers organizations are requested to provide proposed changes and relevant comments/justifications on a specific paragraph (under the categories: editorial, substantive, technical and translation) and/or at the document level (general comments or summary comments). Additional guidance on the OCS comment categories and types can be found in the OCS [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#).
11. Other OCS resources, including the user manual and short guide, can be found at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/>.
12. For questions on the OCS, please contact [Codex-OCS@fao.org](mailto:Codex-OCS@fao.org).

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<sup>1</sup> REP17/PR, para. 112

<sup>2</sup> REP18/PR, paras. 122-124

<sup>3</sup> REP19/PR, paras. 149-150

<sup>4</sup> REP19/PR, para. 152

<sup>5</sup> REP19/PR, para. 154

**APPENDIX I****(For information)**

The Classification of Food and Feed (CXA 4-1989) includes food commodities and animal feedstuffs for which Codex maximum residue limits will not necessarily be established. The Classification is intended:

- to be a listing of food commodities in trade as complete as possible, classified into groups on the basis of the commodity's similar potential for pesticide residues;
- primarily to ensure the use of uniform nomenclature and secondarily to classify foods into groups and/or sub-groups for the purpose of establishing group maximum residue limits for commodities with similar characteristics and residue potential;
- to promote harmonization of the terms used to describe commodities which are subject to maximum residue limits and of the approach to grouping commodities with similar potential for residue for which a common group maximum residue limit can be set.

**Characteristics for crop grouping are:**

1. Commodity's similar potential for pesticide residues;
2. Similar morphology;
3. Similar production practices, growth habits, etc;
4. Edible portion;
5. Similar GAP for pesticide uses;
6. Similar residue behavior;
7. To provide flexibility for setting (sub) group tolerances.

The Criteria for the selection of representative commodities include:

1. A representative commodity is most likely to contain the highest residues;
2. A representative commodity is likely to be major in terms of production and/or consumption;
3. A representative commodity is most likely similar in morphology, growth habit, pest problems and edible portion to the related commodities within a group or subgroup.

**APPENDIX II****(For comments)****PART I: REVISED CLASS C (CX/PR 21/52/6, Appendix I) (Agenda Item 7a)**

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**I General Comments** on overall structure and content of the revised Class C and their readiness for adoption at Step 5 or Step5/8

**II Specific Comments**

1. Additional commodities for inclusion in the different groups/sub-groups
2. Relocation of commodities within the groups/sub-groups
3. Other comments/issues not covered by the points above

**PART II: REVISED CLASS D (CX/PR 21/52/7, Appendix I) (Agenda Item 7b)**

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**I General Comments** on overall structure and content of the revised Class D and their readiness for adoption at Step 5 or Step5/8

**II Specific Comments**

1. Additional commodities for inclusion in the different groups/sub-groups
2. Relocation of commodities within the groups/sub-groups
3. Recommendation 1: *To include flour commodities not originating from cereals separated from the flour from cereals and to classify them in Class D, Type 13, Group 069 (Miscellaneous derived edible products from plant origin).*
4. Recommendation 2: *To keep Class D, Type 15, Group 078 (Manufactured foods (multi-ingredient) of plant origin), but to classify no commodities in this Group.*
5. Recommendation 3: *To not create groups for wholemeal analogous to groups for flour from cereals.*
6. Recommendation 4: *To rename Class D, Type 13, Group 070 "Fruit juices" into "Fruit and vegetable juices" and to change the introduction text accordingly.*
7. Recommendation 5: *To agree with: (i) the structure, locations of commodities and other changes proposed for Class D, Type 13, Group 066 Teas and (ii) the approach taken for herbal teas to mention the most important ones separately and to cover minor ones under two single codes DT 9999 Leaves and flowers from other crops used for herbal teas, dried and DT 9998 Roots from other crops used for herbal teas, dried.*
8. Recommendation 6: *To agree on the additional new commodities included in Class C*
9. Other comments/issues not covered by the points above

**PART III: TRANSFER OF COMMODITIES FROM CLASS D TO CLASS C (CX/PR 21/52/7, Appendix II) (Agenda Item 7b)**

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**I General Comments** on the transfer of commodities from Class D to Class C as proposed by the EWG

**II Specific Comments**

1. Recommendation 7: *To agree with the relocation of commodities from Class D to Class C as shown in Appendix II to CX/PR 21/52/7 and in the revised Class C (CX/PR 21/52/6, Appendix I) and Class D (CX/PR 21/52/7, Appendix I).*
  - a. If there is not support for Recommendation 7, provide comments on how to relocate commodities from Class D to Class C taking into account points 6.2 and 6.5 of CL 2021/37/OCS-PR, paragraph 6
2. Classification of meals of oilseeds
3. Other comments/issues not covered by the points above

**PART IV: TABLES OF REPRESENTATIVE COMMODITIES FOR THE REVISED CLASS C AND CLASS D (CX/PR 21/52/8, Appendices I and II) (Agenda Item 7c)**

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**I General Comments** on overall structure and content of the tables on examples of representative commodities for the revised Class C and Class D and their readiness for adoption at Step 5 or Step5/8

**II Specific Comments**

1. Additional commodities for inclusion in the tables
2. Relocation of commodities within the groups/sub-groups
3. Other comments/issues not covered by the points above