

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 5.2

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

Sixth Session

Virtual

26-30 September and 3 October 2022

Proposed draft standard for small cardamom

(Comments from Chile, Kenya, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Tanzania and Uganda)

Chile

De acuerdo con los Principios para el establecimiento de métodos de análisis del Codex y Métodos de análisis y muestreo, se realizan comentarios a los métodos analíticos propuestos a los que se hace referencia en los anteproyectos de normas.

Parámetro	Método	Principio	Tipo	Comentario
Cenizas totales (base seca)	ISO 939 and ISO 928	Destilación y gravimetría	I	Ambos métodos ISO 939 no son equivalentes, el ISO 939 se basa en destilación y el segundo por gravimetría. Se debe tipificar solo a uno como tipo I, se sugiere Tipificación del ISO 928, ya que el 939 no es un método utilizado para cenizas.
Cenizas insolubles en ácido (base seca)	ISO 939 and ISO 930	Destilación y gravimetría	I	Ambos métodos ISO 939 no son equivalente, el ISO 939 se basa en destilación y el segundo por gravimetría. Se debe tipificar solo a uno como tipo I, se sugiere Tipificación del ISO 928, ya que el 939 no es un método utilizado para cenizas.
Aceite volátil (base seca)	ISO 939 and ISO 6571	Destilación seguida de volumetría	I	Mejorar el principio del método, debería decir: "Hidrodestilación". No es necesario incluir la mención del método ISO 939 para expresar resultados en base seca, ya que el método está siendo ratificado para el producto y la provisión.
Materia extraña	ISO 927	Examen visual/ Gravimetría	I	Mejorar descripción del principio más acorde a lo señalado en el método. Debería decir "Examen Visual".
Materia foránea	ISO 927	Examen visual/ Gravimetría	I	Mejorar descripción del principio más acorde a lo señalado en el método. Debería decir "Examen Visual".
Cápsulas vacías y malformadas	IS 1907:1984	Examen visual	IV	Se sugiere retirar el año de la metodología propuesta, porque el acuerdo del CCMAS es que se ratifica el método y se asume la versión vigente. Se puede usar la misma metodología para el
Semillas ligeras	IS 1907	Examen visual	IV	Se sugiere para el parámetro "Semillas Ligeras", la metodología IS 1907, de tipo IV, la cual no está descrita en el cuadro 4 del anexo III de este anteproyecto de norma.
Insectos muertos enteros	ISO 927	Examen visual	IV	Se sugiere para el parámetro "insectos muertos", la metodología ISO 927, de tipo IV la cual no está descrita en el cuadro 4 del anexo III de este anteproyecto de norma.

Kenya

1. **Position:** Kenya proposes to amend the title to include Dried in the title to read; 'PROPOSED DRAFT STANDARD FOR **DRIED** SMALL CARDAMOM'
Rationale: To be Consistent with the scope of the draft standard.
2. **Position:** Kenya proposes the amendment of the statement in the Scope, Clause 1 to read; 'This Standard applies to ~~plant products~~ **small cardamom** in their dried or dehydrated form as spices, defined in Section 2.1 below, offered for direct consumption, as an ingredient in food processing, or for repackaging if required. It excludes the product for industrial processing.'
Rationale: This is only for small cardamom and not any other plant product.
3. **Position:** Kenya proposes to amend the text and delete the table in the product definition in clause 2.1 to read:
Dried Small Cardamom is a product obtained from the dried fruits of the plant *Elettaria cardamomum* L. ~~Matonas described in table 1.~~
Justification: The table needs to be deleted since the product is only one.
4. **In Annex 1:**
 - a) **Position:** Kenya proposes the renaming of the table to table 2 and not table 1.
Rationale: This is to avoid double naming of table 1 which is at clause 2.
 - b) Kenya proposes to seek for more data to authenticate the values under acid insoluble ash. There are more tolerances for whole seed at 2 - 2.5% and 3% in powdered seeds whose rationale could not be explained.
Position: Kenya proposes the acid insoluble ash for the powder to be set at 1%. This is as set out in our national legislation
Rationale: 3% will allow people to mishandle the product and encourage adulteration.
 - c) Kenya supports the adoption of 1.5% for Volatile oil.
Rationale: The surveillance data from Kenya indicates the values of 1.5% and above which informed our national legislation.
5. **In Annex II**
 - a) **Position:** Kenya proposes to include unit of measure e.g. count per 100g(Max) on the parameter of Whole insects, dead.
Rationale: There was no unit of measure and this will make the parameter measurable.
 - b) **Position:** Kenya proposes to Adopt 4%, 6.6%, 2.2% and 1% across the row on seeds for the various parameters; **Whole insects, dead; Excreta, mammalian; Excreta, Others; and mould, visible respectively.**
Rationale. To align with the whole. The same applies across the row.

Malaysia

MALAYSIA PROPOSAL	
<p>4 FOOD ADDITIVES</p> <p>4.1 The anticaking agents listed in Table 3 of the <i>General Standard for Food Additives</i> (CXS192-1995) may be permitted for use in ground/powdered small cardamom seeds.</p>	<p>Ground/powdered form is obtained by grinding the dried seeds of small cardamom as stated in Section 2.2 Styles.</p>
<p>5 CONTAMINANTS</p> <p>5.1. The products covered by this Standard shall comply with the maximum levels of the <i>General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed</i> (CXS 193-1995), <u>Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Mycotoxins in Spices (CXC 78-2017)</u> and other relevant Codex texts.</p>	<p>To align with other Code x standard for spices and culinary herbs.</p>

<p>Table 3. Physical characteristics</p> <p>To add foot note for extraneous matter, foreign matter and N/A as below:</p> <p><u>Extraneous matter: Vegetative matter associated with the plant from which the product originates but not accepted as part of the final product (i.e. floral and plant waste)</u></p> <p>–</p> <p><u>Foreign matter: Any visible/detectable objectionable foreign matter or material not usually associated with the natural components of the spice plant, such as sticks, stones, burlap bagging, metal, etc.</u></p> <p>–</p> <p><u>N/A: Not applicable, means that this form of the above product has not been evaluated for this provision, and currently do not have values. N/A does not refer to zero.</u></p>	<p>To align with other Code x standard for spices and culinary herbs.</p>
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Saudi Arabia

Specific Comment- Product Definition Part:

Saudi Arabia suggests a comprehensive definition for small cardamom. Therefore, a better understanding for small cardamom can be reached.

Specific Comment- Classification Part:

Saudi Arabia suggests providing a classification for cardamom that includes the size, colour, and defects.

Tanzania

Scope:

Comment: Introduce the scientific name of the small cardamom under the scope.

Rationale: For its relevance

2.1

Comment: Product definition rephrased to read “Dried Small Cardamom is a product obtained from the dried fruits of the plant having reached appropriate degree of development, harvested and post-harvested treated properly, by undergoing operations such as stripping, cleaning, curing, sorting, grading, and/or grinding before the final packaging and, are sold in styles as described in 2.2.

Rationale: To remove ambiguity since the product might be confusing if adulterated by immature cardamom.

Uganda

Uganda commends the work of the EWG chairpersons and vice chairperson.

Uganda deliberated on the agenda item and generated the following comments:

1. under clause 2.1, Uganda recommends that table 1 is deleted and add the scientific name replacing the word “...plant “ in the statement “...dried fruits of the plant...”

Justification:

The common and scientific names are better represented in the text other than the table.

Proposed changes:

“...dried fruits of Small Cardamom (*Elettaria cardamomum* L. Maton).....”;

2. under clause 2.2, for editorial purposes, Uganda recommends that the word “... for” is deleted from the statement on other styles and replaced with the word “from”

Proposed changes

“.....different from those three.....”

3. Having recommended that table 1 be deleted, Uganda recommends that the remaining tables in the standard be renumbered as tables “1 and 2”.

4. Under clause 6.1, Uganda recommends that the statement “...Annex III Spices and Aromatic Herbs...” is added to the existing brackets

Justification

The statement is hanging therefore confusing whether it is part of the statement or on its own

Proposed changes

“...(CXC 75-2015, Annex III Spices and Aromatic Herbs)...