

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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CL 2018/20-PR
February 2018

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 **Revision of the Classification of Food and Feed (CXM 4-1989)**
Class A: Primary commodities of plant origin
Type 05: Herbs and Spices

- **Group 027 – Herbs**
- **Group 028 - Spices**

Request for specific comments

DEADLINE **31 March 2018**

COMMENTS **To:** CCPR Secretariat
Institute for Control of the Agrochemicals
Ministry of Agriculture (ICAMA)
E-mail: ccpr@agri.gov.cn

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

BACKGROUND

1. See CX/PR 18/50/7.
2. Codex members and observers are reminded that the approach taken by CCPR in the revision of the Classification requires that all commodity groups pertaining to one type and the corresponding examples of representative commodities for commodity groups of the said type be finalized together in order to send a single document for final adoption by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and inclusion in the *Classification of Food and Feed (CXM 4-1989)* and the *Guidance on the Selection of Representative Commodities for the Extrapolation of Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides to Commodity Groups (CXG 84-2012)*. Therefore, there is a need of close synchronization with comments submitted in reply to CL 2018/15-PR.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

3. Codex members and observers are invited to submit comments, through their Contact Points, on Groups 027 and 028 as presented in Appendices I and II of CX/PR 18/50/7 to facilitate their consideration by CCPR.
4. Comments should be limited the terms of reference of the Electronic Working Group on the Revision of the Classification as agreed by CCPR49 to consider new commodities for Type 05 Herbs and Spices.
5. Comments should also:
 - consider the proposal by the European Union to relocate Subgroups 028H and 028I to Class D, Processed foods of plant origin.
 - consider the appropriate location of Milk thistle and perilla seed which are proposed for inclusion in the Oilseed group, but also proposed for inclusion in Seed Spices Subgroup 028A.
 - take into account the guiding principles and the criteria for crop grouping of the Classification as indicated in the Annex.
6. Comments should be submitted in writing in conformity with the Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts (see Procedural Manual of the Codex Alimentarius Commission) preferably in word file to facilitate compilation and translation of comments.

ANNEX

The Classification of Food and Feed (CXM 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; and
- 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.