

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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CL 2019/03-PR  
February 2019

**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)**  
**Proposed tables on examples of representative commodities for commodity groups in different types under Class C - Primary Animal Feed Commodities and Class D – Processed Food Commodities of Plant Origin (for inclusion in the *Principles and Guidance for the Selection of Representative Commodities for the Extrapolation of Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides to Commodity Groups (CXG 84-2012)*)**  
**Request for comments at Step 3**

**DEADLINE** 20 March 2019

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

**Copy to:** Secretariat  
Codex Alimentarius Commission  
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme  
E-mail: [codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)

## BACKGROUND

1. See CX/PR 19/51/9.
2. Codex members and observers are reminded that the approach<sup>1</sup> 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 should be a close synchronization between comments submitted in reply to CL 2019/01-PR, CL 2019/02-PR, CL 2019/03-PR and CL 2019/19-PR.
3. Codex members and observers are reminded of the approach<sup>2</sup> taken by CCPR on the revision of the Classification i.e. (i) to include a commodity only in one group or subgroup to avoid confusion of having two different CXLs for the same commodity; (ii) to include the same commodity with different plant parts in different groups to allow consideration of plant parts when describing a commodity; (iii) to include cross-referencing where commodities (without a code number) can be listed in a group, but with reference to its primary classification; (iv) to include the word “subgroup” to the description of all subgroups to prevent misinterpretation between subgroups and individual commodities that share nearly the same name.

## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

4. Codex members and observers are invited to submit comments, through their Contact Points, on the tables on examples of representative commodities for relevant types under Class C and Class D (CX/PR 19/51/9, Appendices I and II) to facilitate their consideration by CCPR<sup>51</sup>.
5. Comments in relation to proposals for the transfer of processed commodities from Class D – Processed Food Commodities of Plant Origin to Class C should be submitted in reply to CL 2019/19-PR.
6. Comments submitted should take into account the guiding principles and the criteria for crop grouping of the Classification as indicated in the Annex as well as the practices and policies agreed by CCPR as described in paragraphs 2 and 3 above.
7. 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.

<sup>1</sup> ALINORM 10/33/24, para. 96, ALINORM 07/30/24 para. 150

<sup>2</sup> REP17/PR, para. 112

**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;
- 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.