

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of  
the United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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CL 2019/53-FO

July 2019

**TO:** Codex Contact Points  
Interested International Organizations

**FROM:** Secretariat, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme,  
Codex Alimentarius Commission  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
00153 Rome, Italy

**SUBJECT:** **Request for data and information on refractive index, saponification value, iodine values and relative density for sunflowerseed oil**

**DEADLINE:** 27 March 2020

**COMMENTS:** **To:**  
Secretariat  
Codex Alimentarius Commission  
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme  
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## BACKGROUND

1. The 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee for Fats and Oils (CCFO26) agreed to hold the Proposed Draft revision to the *Standard for Name Vegetable oils* (CXS 210-1999): Revision of essential composition of sunflowerseed oil (Section 3.1) at Step 4 of the Step Procedure until the revision of the values of parameters is completed. CCFO26 agreed to establish an EWG Chaired by Argentina and co-chaired by Brazil to among other issues analyse and review data for refractive index, saponification value, iodine values and relative density ([REP19/FO, para.76](#)).
2. In preparation for the eWG, CCFO26 agreed to request the Codex Secretariat to send a Circular Letter, calling for data and information on the parameters mentioned above for sunflowerseed oils.
3. The report of the eWG containing the proposed appropriate values for refractive index, saponification value, iodine values and relative density will be circulated to all members and observers for comments at Step 3 prior to the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee for Fats and Oils.

## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

3. Codex Members and Observers, as directed above, are invited to submit data and information on for refractive index, saponification value, iodine values for sunflowerseed oils.
4. In order to facilitate the work of the eWG, we kindly request you to use the table in the **annex** when submitting your data in response to the Circular Letter. Please also note that the tables can be expanded should you require more space to fill in the data.

**Annex****ANALYTICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SUNFLOWERSEED OIL:**

Please complete the following table with analytical values of samples of sunflower seed oil that have C18:1 between 39.5-43 and C18:2 between 45.4 and 74. The indexes should be determined according to the following methods:

Refractive index: ISO 6320: 2000; or AOCS Cc 7-25 (02)

Saponification value: ISO 3657: 2002; or AOCS Cd 3-25 (03)

Iodine value: Wijs - ISO 3961: 1996; or AOAC 993.20; or AOCS Cd 1d-1992 (97); or NMKL 39(2003)

Relative density: IUPAC 2.101, with the appropriate conversion factor.

These are the methods recommended in CXS 210-1999. In case of using other methods of analysis or later versions of those mentioned, specify and justify the convenience of the method.

**COUNTRY NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please, for each sample of sunflower seed oil, fill in at least information about C18:1 e C18:2 and related values of refractive index, saponification value, iodine values and relative density.

Sample	C6:0	C8:0	C10:0	C12:0	C14:0	C16:0	C16:1	C17:0	C17:1	C18:0	C18:1	C18:2	C18:3	C20:0	C20:1	C20:2	C22:0	C22:1	C22:2	C24:0	C24:1	Refractive Index	Saponification Value	Iodine Value	Relative Density	Comments		