

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 7

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES

Fiftieth Session

PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO THE PRIORITY LIST OF SUBSTANCES PROPOSED FOR EVALUATION BY JECFA(replies to CL 2017/48-FA)

Comments of Sudan

Sudan

EXPANSION OF THE GENERAL PARAGRAPH ON “FUNCTIONAL USES” OF THE 1999 JECFA ADDITIVE SPECIFICATION OF GUM ARABIC, TO INCLUDE PREBIOTIC USES TO ENHANCE AWARENESS

Introduction

Lifestyle diseases are on the rise exponential , and current century is dominated by Antibiotic and medicine remedies, However new scientific and clinical research has proven that pre-biotic will play a leading preventive and Curative role in the fight against lifestyle diseases.

Prebiotic is defined by the FAO report on Prebiotic 2007 as “a non-viable food component that confers a health benefit on the host associated with modulation of the microbiota.”

Benefits of probiotic micro biota Are many including boosting both immune and digestive systems, crowding out pathogenic microbiota and boosting absorption of minerals.

Prebiotic is selectively fermented by Probiotic microbiota to produce short-chain fatty acids

Gum Arabic (GA) was granted highest safety status(ADI Unspecified) for unlimited daily intake by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives since 1969 and was granted GRAS status by US FDA since 1970 , however, Sudanese people in Western Sudan has been using Hashab GA for constipation ailment for long time , and Indians are also using Talh GA for pregnant women to prevent abortion and boost mother milk production for long time too .

Gum Arabic as Prebiotic Polysacchride, The 1999 JECFA specifications of Gum Arabic (GA)

as an Additive contains a General awareness paragraph on All functional Uses of GA. However, when that specification was released (1999) there are no substantiated studies on other uses of GA, though it was only traditionally edible food remedy in Both Sudan (Hashab) and India (Talha), However as of 2006, and after GA was researched extensively and used commercially as StandAlone prebiotic Polysacchride/Olygosacchride, as well as an ingredient , With Health benefits .

Therefore, Sudan wishes to introduce gum Arabic as a unique natural source of prebiotics polysaccharide/oligosaccharide.

This preBiotic use was already incorporated among functional uses in the 2011 Sudanese Additive specification for both GA Hashab & Talha

Scientific evidences

Gum Arabic was proved to be prebiotic with heath benefit,

A) prebiotic effect, specifically we have five scientific studies to support prebiotic effect of GA

A-1 Pro digest laboratory Study for Hashab branded (Almanna/Safast/PrebioC) and Talha with Hashab as an Additive E414) branded (Tayebat/SweetFibre/PrebioD)

A-2 Kerry ingredient study on GA as prebiotic (Gum arabic establishes prebiotic functionality in healthy human volunteers in a dose-dependent manner.) Calame W, Weseler AR, Viebke C, Flynn C, Siemensma AD.

A-3 CNI study on GA as prebiotic

A-4 Dr Sehad Alarifi Study on Prebiotic GA fermentation by probiotic microbiota (comparison with FOS and

GOS Prebiotic)

A-5 Sudanese Standards organization SSMO expanded the Functional Uses of GA in the local Additive specification of 2011 to include Prebiotic for both Hashab & Talha GA

B Health benefit of GA as perbiotic

B-1 Constipation Study (The prebiotic effects of a new mixture of soluble fermentable fibres in the treatment of chronic constipation LUCAAMADIO - ERICA STOCCO - GIUSEPPE DODI)

B-2 Constipation Study (Gum Arabic in treatment of functional constipation in children in Sudan)

B-3 Diarrhea study (B-4 Obesity Study (Metabolic effects of Gum Arabic (Acacia Senegal) in patients

with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM): Randomized, placebo controlled double blind trial) BMI Dr Rasha Abu Al Gasim)

B-5 malnutrition for children (5 months to 6years Prof Dorriya Omer)

B-6 Gum Arabic as no velanti-oxidant agent in sickle cell anemia, phase II trial (Dr Lamis Kaddam on SCD)

So, the general paragraph on "Functional Uses" as stated in the 1999 JECFA specification of GA, should be expanded to include the Prebiotic functional use of gum Arabic. This will enlighten consumers about new uses of GA and encourage researchers and investors to tap this important forestry resource to fight lifestyle diseases, global warming and poverty/unemployment.