

## CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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Agenda Item 4

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**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME**

**CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD LABELLING**

**Forty-seventh Session**

**Palais de Congr s, Gatineau, Canada  
15 – 19 May 2023**

**CONSIDERATION OF LABELLING PROVISIONS IN DRAFT CODEX STANDARDS**

**(ENDORSEMENT)**

**(CCFFV, CCSCH and CCASIA)**

**Background**

According to the Procedural Manual<sup>1</sup>, Codex general subject committees, CCFL inclusive, may establish general provisions on matters within their terms of reference. These general provisions should only be incorporated into Commodity Standards by reference unless there is a need for doing otherwise.

The Procedural Manual also states that: "the Commodity committees shall refer any exemptions from, or additions to, the reference to the *General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985) as indicated in the section on food labelling in the *Format for Codex Commodity Standards* to the Committee on Food Labelling for endorsement".

Furthermore, *the labelling of non-retail containers should be in accordance with the General Standard for the Labelling of Non-Retail Containers of Foods* (CXS 346–2021). *The section may also contain provisions which are exemptions from, additions to, or which are necessary for the interpretation of the General Standard in respect of the product concerned provided that these can be justified fully.*<sup>2</sup>

**Action requested**

In line with the terms of reference of CCFL and the above requirement, the Committee is requested to consider and endorse the labelling provisions forwarded by the following Codex Committees: CCFFV, CCSCH and CCASIA, as presented in the Appendix with the links to relevant standards uploaded on the Codex website.

<sup>1</sup>Section II: Elaboration of Codex texts: Relations between Commodity Committees and General Subject Committees Procedural Manual (latest edition)

<sup>2</sup>Section II: Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related texts – Format for Commodity Standards: Section on Labelling (Procedural Manual (latest edition))

**A. CODEX COMMITTEE ON FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES (CCFFV)**

**Note:** CCFFV22 forwarded the Standards for onions and shallots; berry fruits; and fresh dates to CAC45 for adoption at Step 5/8. CAC45 adopted the Standards for onions and shallots and for berry fruits at Step 5/8 pending endorsement of the labelling provisions by CCFL; and the Standard for fresh dates at Step 5.

The labelling provisions in these standards follow the normal labelling provision in other standards for fresh fruits and vegetables previously endorsed by CCFL.

**STANDARD FOR ONIONS AND SHALLOTS (CXS 348-2022)****7. PROVISIONS CONCERNING MARKING OR LABELLING****7.1 Consumer packages**

In addition to the requirements of the *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985),<sup>j</sup> the following specific provisions apply:

**7.1.1 Name of produce**

If the produce is not visible from the outside, each package shall be labelled as to the name of the produce ("onions", "shallots" as defined in Section 2 – Definition of produce) and may be labelled as to name of the variety and/or commercial type.

**7.1.2 Origin of produce**

Country of origin<sup>3</sup> and, optionally, district where grown, or national, regional, or local place name.

In the case of a mixture of distinctly different varieties or commercial types of onions or shallots of different origins, the indication of the country of origin shall appear next to the name of the variety, commercial type and/or colour concerned.

**7.2. Non-retail containers**

The labelling of non-retail containers should be in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Non-Retail Containers of Foods* (CXS 346-2021)<sup>ii</sup>, in addition the following requirements shall apply:

Each package must bear the following particulars, in letters grouped on the same side, legibly and indelibly marked, and visible from the outside.

**7.2.1 Origin of the produce**

Country of origin<sup>4</sup> and, optionally, district where grown, or national, regional, or local place name.

In the case of a mixture of distinctly different commercial types and/or colours of onions or shallots of different origins, the indication of each country of origin shall appear next to the name of the commercial types and/or colours concerned.

**7.2.2 Commercial specifications**

- class;
- variety and/or commercial type (optional); and
- size (if sized) expressed as minimum and maximum diameters or in accordance with the method used.

**7.2.3 Official inspection mark (optional)****STANDARD FOR BERRY FRUITS (CXS 349-2022)****7. PROVISIONS CONCERNING MARKING OR LABELLING****7.1 Consumer packages**

In addition to the requirement of the *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985),<sup>i</sup> the following specific provisions apply:

<sup>3</sup> The full or commonly used name should be indicated.

<sup>4</sup> See note 3 above.

### **7.1.1 Name of produce**

Each package shall be labelled as to the name of the produce and may be labelled as to name of the variety and/or commercial type.

Each package may be labelled “Mixture of berry fruits”, in the case of a mixture of distinctly different species and/or varieties of berry fruits. The species and/or varieties in the package must be indicated. “Wild” or equivalent denomination may be included, where appropriate.

### **7.1.2 Origin of produce**

Each package must include country of origin<sup>5</sup> and, optionally, district where grown or national, regional or local place name.

In the case of a mixture of distinctly different species and/or varieties of berries of different origins for each species and variety, the indication of each country of origin shall appear next to the name of the species or variety concerned.

## **7.2 Non-retail containers**

The labelling of non-retail containers should be in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Non-Retail Containers of Foods* (CXS 346-2021)<sup>ii</sup> in addition the following requirements shall apply:

Each package must bear the following particulars, in letters grouped on the same side, legibly and indelibly marked, and visible from the outside.

### **7.2.1 Origin of produce**

Country of origin<sup>6</sup> and, optionally, district where grown, or national, regional, or local place name.

In the case of a mixture of distinctly different species and/or varieties of berries of different origins, the indication of each country of origin shall appear next to the name of the species and/or variety concerned.

### **7.2.2 Commercial specifications**

- class;
- variety and/or commercial type; “wild” or equivalent denomination, where appropriate;
- weight or size (if sized);
- net weight (optional); and
- crop year (optional).

## **DRAFT STANDARD FOR FRESH DATES**

## **7. PROVISIONS CONCERNING MARKING OR LABELLING**

### **7.1 CONSUMER PACKAGES**

In addition to the requirements of the *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985)<sup>i</sup>, the following specific provisions apply:

#### **7.1.1 Name of produce**

Each package shall be labelled as fresh dates and may be labelled as to the name of the variety, cultivar and/or commercial type.

#### **7.1.2 Origin of Produce**

Country of origin<sup>7</sup> and, optionally, district where grown or national, regional or local place name.

### **7.2 NON-RETAIL CONTAINERS**

The labelling of non-retail containers should be in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Non-Retail Containers of Foods* (CXS 346-2021)<sup>ii</sup>, in addition the following requirements shall apply:

#### **7.2.1 Origin of Produce**

Country of origin<sup>8</sup> and, optionally, district where grown, or national, regional or local place name.

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<sup>5</sup> The full or a commonly used name should be indicated.

<sup>6</sup> See note 5 above.

<sup>7</sup> The full or commonly used name should be indicated.

<sup>8</sup> See note 7 above.

In the case of a mixture of distinctly different species and/or varieties of fresh dates of different origins, the indication of each country of origin shall appear next to the name of the species and/or variety concerned.

### 7.2.2 Commercial Specifications

- Class (optional);
- Variety and/or commercial type;
- Weight or size (if sized) in accordance with the method applied.

## B. CODEX COMMITTEE ON SPICES AND CULINARY HERBS (CCSCH)

**Note:** CCSCH6 forwarded to CAC45 the standards for dried floral parts – saffron; and for dried chilli peppers and paprika for adoption at Step 8 and Step 5/8, respectively, and the standards for dried small cardamom; and for spices in the form of dried fruits and berries (allspice, juniper berry, star anise) for adoption at Step 5.

CAC45 adopted at Step 8, 5/8 and 5 the standards as forwarded by CCSCH6.

CCFL45 had considered the labelling provisions for six (6) standards (i.e. dried or dehydrated garlic; dried oregano; dried roots, rhizomes and bulbs – dried or dehydrated ginger; dried basil; dried floral parts – dried cloves and saffron); and had agreed that all the provisions were consistent with the requirements of the GSLPF, and also noted the following concerns on the labelling provisions 8.3, 8.3.1 and 8.5 (Inspection mark). CCFL45 agreed to endorse all the labelling provisions in the six (6) standards except for section 8.3; 8.3.1 and 8.5 which were referred to CCSCH for further consideration.

Following feedback from CCSCH5, CCFL46 endorsed the labelling provisions for the aforementioned sections in the standards for dried oregano, dried roots, rhizomes and bulbs – dried or dehydrated ginger, dried floral parts – cloves, dried basil. CCSCH6 considered the request from CCFL for the section 8.3 for the standard for dried or dehydrated garlic and have forwarded labelling provisions (sections 8.3; 8.3.1, 8.3.2 and 8.3.3 for the *Standard for dried or dehydrated garlic* [CXS 347–2019]) to CCFL47 for endorsement. These labelling provisions are identical to those already endorsed for the aforementioned standards from CCSCH. CCSCH6 agreed to delete the provision for inspection mark (previously 8.5 mentioned above).

Further note the following:

Regarding Section 8.3 and 8.3.1 “Country of Origin/Country of Harvest”, CCSCH5 agreed to inform CCFL that:

- i. both provisions would be kept in the SCH standards.
- ii. the provision “Country of Origin/Country of Harvest” would be split into two independent and clear provisions, i.e. a provision on “Country of Origin” being mandatory and a provision on “Country of Harvest” being optional; and that these provisions would be reconsidered in individual standards, should the need arise.

CCSCH5 also noted that declaration of the region of production was considered equally important in providing significant information to the consumer, especially for regional products, and would also be an optional labelling requirement where appropriate.

Regarding Section 8.5 “Inspection mark (optional)”, CCSCH5 agreed that the provision be expunged from SCH standards. However, it could be considered under individual draft standards should there be a need.

In the case of the [draft Standard for dried floral parts – dried saffron](#), CCSCH6 agreed that both country of origin and country of harvest shall be declared (both mandatory) (see REP 22/SCH, paras 29 – 36 for the full discussion).

### [STANDARD FOR DRIED OR DEHYDRATED GARLIC \(CXS 347 – 2019\)](#)

#### 8.3 Country of origin and country of harvest

- 8.3.1 Country of origin shall be declared
- 8.3.2 Country of harvest (optional)
- 8.3.3 Region of harvest and year of harvest (optional)

### [DRAFT STANDARD FOR DRIED FLORAL PARTS – DRIED SAFFRON](#)

(full discussion on 8.3 country of origin and country of harvest can be found in [REP22/SCH](#), paras 29 – 36)

## 8. LABELLING

**8.1** The products covered by the provisions of this standard shall be labelled in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985).<sup>i</sup> In addition, the following specific

provisions apply:

## **8.2 Name of the product**

**8.2.1** The name of the product shall be “dried saffron” as described in Section 2.1.

**8.2.2** The name of the product may include an indication of the style as described in Section 2.2.

**8.2.3** Variety or cultivar may be listed on the label.

## **8.3 Country of origin and country of harvest**

**8.3.1** Country of origin shall be declared.

**8.3.2** Country of harvest shall be declared.

**8.3.3** Region of harvest and year of harvest (optional).

## **8.4 Commercial identification**

Grade/Class, if applicable.

## **8.5 Labelling of non-retail containers**

The labelling of non-retail containers should be in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Non-Retail Containers of Foods* (CXS 346-2021).<sup>ii</sup>

### **DRAFT STANDARD FOR DRIED OR DEHYDRATED CHILLI PEPPERS AND PAPRIKA**

## **8. LABELLING**

**8.1** The products covered by the provisions of this standard shall be labelled in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985).<sup>i</sup> In addition, the following specific provisions apply:

### **8.2 Name of the product**

**8.2.1** The common name of the product shall be as described in Section 2.1.1.

**8.2.2** The common name of the product shall include an indication of the style as described in Section 2.2.

**8.2.3** Trade name, variety or cultivar may be listed on the label.

### **8.3 Country of origin and country of harvest**

**8.3.1** Country of origin shall be declared.

**8.3.2** Country of harvest (optional).

**8.3.3** Region of harvest and year of harvest (optional).

### **8.4 Commercial identification**

a) Class/Grade, if applicable

b) Size for whole style (optional)

### **8.5 Labelling of non-retail containers**

The labelling of non-retail containers should be in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Non-Retail Containers of Foods* (CXS 346-2021).<sup>ii</sup>

### **STANDARD FOR DRIED SMALL CARDAMOM**

## **8 LABELLING**

**8.1** The products covered by the provisions of this Standard shall be labelled in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985).<sup>i</sup> In addition, the following specific provisions apply:

### **8.2 Name of the product**

**8.2.1** The common name of the product shall be as described in Section 2.1.

**8.2.2** The name of the product may include an indication of the style as described in Section 2.2.

**8.2.3** Trade name, variety or cultivar may be listed on the label.

### **8.3 Country of origin/country of harvest**

- 8.3.1** Country of origin shall be declared.
- 8.3.2** Country of harvest (optional).
- 8.3.3** Region of harvest and year of harvest (optional).

**8.4 Labelling of non-retail containers**

The labelling of non-retail containers should be in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Non-Retail Containers of Foods* (CXS 346-2021).<sup>ii</sup>

**DRAFT STANDARD FOR SPICES DERIVED FROM DRIED FRUITS AND BERRIES – ALLSPICE, JUNIPER BERRY AND STAR ANISE**

**8. LABELLING**

**8.1** The products covered by the provisions of this Standard shall be labelled in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985).<sup>i</sup> In addition, the following specific provisions apply:

**8.2 Name of the product**

- 8.2.1 The name of the product shall be as described in Section 2.1
- 8.2.2 The name of the product may include an indication of the style as described in Section 2.2. (Styles).
- 8.2.3 Trade name, variety or cultivar may be listed on the label.

**8.3 Country of origin and country of harvest.**

- 8.3.1 Country of origin shall be declared
- 8.3.2 Country of harvest (optional)
- 8.3.3 Region of harvest and year of harvest(optional)

**8.4 Commercial classification**

- Class/Grade, if applicable
- Size (optional)
- Weight

**8.5 Labelling of non-retail containers**

The labelling of non-retail containers should be in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Non-Retail Containers of Foods* (CXS 346-2021).<sup>ii</sup>

**C: THE FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR ASIA (CCASIA)**

**Note:** CCASIA22 forwarded the Proposed draft regional standards for: soybean products fermented with *Bacillus* species; and cooked rice wrapped in plant leaves to CAC46 for adoption at Step 5/8.

The labelling provisions in the these standards follow the normal labelling provisions in other standards developed by CCASIA previously endorsed by CCFL.

**PROPOSED DRAFT REGIONAL STANDARD FOR SOYBEAN PRODUCTS FERMENTED WITH BACILLUS SPECIES**

**8. LABELLING**

The products covered by the provisions of this standard shall be labelled in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985).<sup>i</sup>

**8.1 The Name of the Product**

The products are soybean products fermented with *Bacillus* spp. The product should be designated with the appropriate term in Section 2.2. Other names may be used in accordance with the law and custom of the country of retail sale in the manner not to mislead consumers.

**8.2 Labelling of Non-Retail Containers**

The labelling of non-retail containers should be in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Non-Retail Containers of Foods* (CXS 346-2021).<sup>ii</sup>

**PROPOSED DRAFT REGIONAL STANDARD FOR COOKED RICE WRAPPED IN PLANT LEAVES****8. LABELLING**

The product covered by the provisions of this Standard shall be labelled in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labeling of Prepackaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985).<sup>i</sup>

**8.1 Name of the Product**

The name of the product shall be “Cooked rice wrapped in plant leaves”. The product shall be labelled with the corresponding name described in Section 2.2. Other names<sup>9</sup> may be used in accordance with the law and custom of the country in which the product is sold and in such a manner as to not mislead consumers.

**8.2 Labelling of Non-Retail Containers**

The labelling of non-retail containers should be in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Non-Retail Containers of Foods* (CXS 346-2021).<sup>ii</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Other names for example, Zongzi, Chimaki, Ba-Jang, Khao Tom Mat, lotus leaf rice, Ketupat, Ma-chang, etc.

## NOTES

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<sup>i</sup> FAO and WHO. 1985. *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods*. Codex Standard, No. CXS 1-1985. Codex Alimentarius Commission. Rome.

<sup>ii</sup> FAO and WHO. 2021. *General Standard for the Labelling of Non-Retail Containers of Foods*. Codex Standard, No. CXS 346-2021. Codex Alimentarius Commission. Rome.