

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
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Agenda Item 2

MAS/38 CRD/18

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON METHODS OF ANALYSIS SAMPLING

38th Session

Budapest, Hungary, 8 -12 May 2017

ENDORSEMENT OF SAMPLING PLANS FOR PROVISION IN CODEX STANDARDS FOR GINSENG PRODUCTS

(prepared by Republic of Korea)

The background of this matter is described in paragraph 10 and 11 of the working document CX/MAS 17/38/2.

The Republic of Korea would like to ask the PWG and this Committee to endorse the sampling plan as it was agreed at the 28th session of CCPFV.

Rationale

In the *General Guidelines on Sampling* (CAC/GL 50-2004), ISO 2859/1-1985 method is suggested for an attribute sampling plan, and ISO 3951/1-1989 is for a variable sampling plan. Also, Section 2.5.1.3 (*Compared effectiveness of an inspection for a given defective rate by attributes and by variables*) in the same guideline describes that 'when the quantitative controlled characteristic is normally distributed, it is preferable to select a variable sampling plan in terms of efficacy.

However, Section 2.5.1.4 (*Decision tree for the selection of an attributes or a variables sampling plan*) in the same guideline describes that an attribute sampling plan should be selected when the values of the measurable variable are not distributed in Normal Law or it is hard to judge with certitude that the values of the measurable variable are distributed in Normal Law.

The Standard for Ginseng Products defines two types of the product, Dried Ginseng and Ginseng Extract. Their quality factors include chemical characteristics; moisture, ash, water-saturated n-butanol extracts, ginsenoside, and physical characteristics; insect-damaged ginseng, moldy ginseng. However, since components of ginseng products change depending on the growing condition of ginseng roots, their measurable values hardly follow a normal distribution. In particular, the ginsenoside criterion presented in the Standard is a qualitative not quantitative factor.

Therefore, the Republic of Korea is of the opinion that the chemical and physical characteristics of the product are quality factors for which an attribute sampling plan would be appropriate.