

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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Agenda Item 10

CRD9

## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

20<sup>th</sup> Session

Kampala, Uganda, 2 – 6 October, 2017

### COMMENTS ON DISCUSSION PAPER ON GLOSSARY OF TERMS USED IN THE LAYOUT FOR CODEX STANDARDS FOR FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

(Comments submitted by Thailand, African Union)

#### Thailand

Thailand would like to provide general comments on the document as follows:

1. We are of the opinion that Glossary of Terms should provide only the terms to be used in the layout for codex standards for fresh fruits and vegetables to facilitate the implementation of Codex standards.
2. As UNECE standards and their terminologies on quality have been used as a references for the development of a number of Codex standards, therefore, it is necessary to also taking into account the "Glossary of Terms for use with UNECE Standards on Fresh Fruit and Vegetables" to avoid confusion.
3. We propose that the structure of the document should follow the structure of the Layout for Codex standards for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables in order to make the document more user- friendly.
4. We are of the opinion that for consistency it is important to adopt existing definitions from relevant Codex standards, rather than developing the new text, for example, Labelling, Packaging, Inspection, Sampling plan.

#### African Union

**Issue:** The terms and expressions are not listed alphabetically.

**Position:** AU proposes to have the terms and expressions in alphabetical order.

**Rationale:** To improve logical flow of the document.

**Issue: Section 1.2.** "Genus, Group of species sharing several traits. A genus includes beings among which inbreeding not possible due to their belonging to different species, in which case fertilization is impossible or sterile specimens named hybrids are produced. The name of each genus is both capitalized and underlined".

**Editorial comments:** We propose to amend the statement to read as follows: "Group of species sharing several traits. A genus includes beings among which inbreeding **is** not possible due to their belonging to different species, in which case fertilization is impossible or sterile specimens named hybrids are produced. The name of each genus is both capitalized and underlined or **italicized**"

**Issue: Section 1.3.** "Species, Group of similar organisms, closely connected in structure and functionality, where inbreeding naturally occurs. The names of species are written in small letters and underlined".

**Editorial comments:** The statement should be amended to read as follows; Section 1.3. "Species, Group of similar organisms, closely connected in structure and functionality, where inbreeding naturally occurs. The names of species are written in small letters and underlined **or italicized**".

**Issue: Section: 2.1,** "Breathing"

**Position:** We propose to replace "breathing" with "respiration" as this is a more technically acceptable terminology.

**Issue: Section 2.2,** "Physiological maturity or ripeness"

**Editorial comments:** .."Part of the maturation process of fruits where they are likely, under appropriate conditions, to continue transforming and reach the level of maturity making them apt for consumption. Fruits are best harvested at that particular point. ~~Doing~~ **Harvesting** it before that ensures quite irregular a maturation process".

**Issue:** Section 2.5, Climactere, Period in which some fruits increase their breathing rate, to reach a “climactic” point, and then gradually decrease it”.

**Position:** Replace “breathing” with “respiration” to read as follows; “Period in which some fruits increase their breathing-respiration rate, to reach a “climactic” point, and then gradually decrease it”.

**Issue: 2.6, “Climacteric fruits”.**

Those fruits undergoing, after harvest, a period in which their breathing rate increases to “climax”, thus maturing considerably after harvesting.

**Editorial comments:** Replace “breathing” with “respiration” to read as follows; “Those fruits undergoing, after harvest, a period in which their ~~breathing~~-respiration rate increases to “climax”, thus maturing considerably after harvesting”.

**Issue: 2.7, “Non climacteric fruits.**

**Editorial comments:** Replace “breathing” with “respiration” to read as follows: “Those fruits decreasing their ~~breathing~~-respiration activity after harvesting. Their maturing process remains practically unchanged after harvesting”.

**Issue: 3.2, “Pericarp”.**

**Editorial comment:** “That part of the fruit covering and protecting the seeds, and resulting from the transformation of the ovaric wall. It is made up ~~by~~of three parts named: epicarp, mesocarp, and endocarp”.

**Issue: 3.6. “Seed”,**

“The fertilized and transformed ovule in phanerogamous plants. Likewise, it is that part of the plant responsible for the perpetuation of the species”.

**Position:** AU proposes that the term “phanerogamous” defined in the Glossary as seed bearing plants, should also be referred to as “spermatophytes” as this is the common technical term used.

**Issue: 3.8, “Flavedo”.** “Used only for citrics. The flavedo is the pigmented epicarp (skin) of those fruits”.

**Editorial comments:** AU suggests to change “citrics” to “citrus”.

**Issue: 3.9, “Albedo”.** “Used only for citrics. The albedo is the white mesocarp between the epicarp (skin) and the endocarp (segments) in citrics”.

**Editorial comments:** AU proposes that “citrics” be replaced with “citrus”.

**Issue: 4.2, “Polar diameter”.**

**Editorial comments:** AU proposes that “basis” be replaced with “base”. The sentence should read as follows: “Measured from the central core of the fruit, proceeding lengthwise from the ~~basis~~-base of the peduncle toward the apex”.

**Issue: 4.8, “Sound fruit”.** “

**Editorial comments:** AU proposes to rephrase the sentence to read as follows: “Produce free of disease, damage, rot, damage caused by insects ~~or~~and other pests, and free of live or dead insects or their larvae”.

**Issue: 4.9, “Fresh fruit”.**

**Editorial comments:** AU proposes to rephrase the sentence to read as follows: “Produce not ~~submitted~~ subjected to any form of industrial processing substantially changing its natural properties”.

**Issue: 5.3.3, “Damage caused by citrus red spider mite”.** “This particular damage occurs in pomegranate, avocado and especially citrics. It is caused by several species of Tetranychus attacking the skin cells of the produce. Produce attacked by Tetranychus sexmaculatus (Riley) show white or silvery areas, while those attacked by Brebipalpus californicus show dark areas with scarred corky plates”.

**Editorial comments:** AU proposes that botanical names should be italicized or underlined

**Issue: 5.3.8, “Melanosis”.**

**Position:** Change “citrics” to “citrus” for the sentence to read as follows: “Disease common in ~~citrics~~-citrus, and caused by fungus *Diaporthe citri* Wolf. At the beginning, the skin shows small stains or gummy cells clusters irregularly scattered, which are likely to form dark rough scabs”.

**Issues: 6.3, “Retailer”**

**Position:** AU proposes to revise the definition of “retailers” as follows: “A person who ~~visits~~-buys from wholesalers or medium wholesalers ~~to purchase products later sold~~ and sells to the final consumer”.

**Issues:** 6.5, “Middleman”. “A person devoted to buy goods in wholesale and middle wholesale for distribution in vegetable markets”.

**Position:** AU proposes to revise the definition of “middleman” as follows; “A person ~~devoted to~~ who buys goods in wholesale and middle wholesale for distribution in fruit vegetable markets”.

**Issues:** 8.2, “Bulk Transport”.

**Position:** AU proposes to revise the definition of “bulk transport” as follows to improve readability: “The carrying transportation of the products fruits and/or vegetables directly inside a vehicle ~~without any package or container toward~~ to distribution centers without the use of any packaging materials or containers”.

**Issues: 8.3, “Packed Product Transport”.**

**Position:** AU proposes to revise the definition of “packedretailers” as follows “Transportation to distribution centers of packed fruits and/or vegetables ~~products~~ arranged in an orderly fashion inside a vehicle ~~toward distribution centers~~”.

**Issue:** There is no definition for “vegetables” in the glossary.

**Position:** AU recommends that a definition for vegetables should be included in the glossary as follows:

“Vegetables” – Plants or parts of plants (not including fruits or seeds) that are used for food.

**Issue:** There are no terminologies on Vegetables

**Position:** We propose that terminologies pertaining to Vegetables in the Codex Standards for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables are also presented in the Glossary. Suggested terminologies include those found in the Codex Standards for Asparagus, Baby Corn, Ginger, Nopal, Sweet Cassava and Tannia such as Shoots, Rust, Silk, Anthers, Inflorescence, Husk, Cobs, Stalk, Kernels, Roots, Rhizome, Stem, Distal, Tubercles.

Shoots – Very young plants, new parts growing on a plant or stems that are above ground.

Rust – Plant disease caused by fungi.

Silk – Thread-like fibers that form part of the ears of corn or sweet corn.

Anthers – Terminal part of the stamen of a flowering plant.

Inflorescence – A group or cluster of flowers on the stem of a plant.

Husk – The outer covering of an ear of corn.

Cobs – The central part of ears of corn where the grains of corn are attached.

Stalk – The main stem of a plant or the portion of the stem that connects a flower, fruit or leaves to the main stem of a plant.

Kernels – Whole grains or seeds of a cereal such as sweet corn.

Roots – Plant parts that lies underground and lacks leaves, buds or nodes. Roots provide plants with nutrients from soil.

Rhizome – An underground stem that grows horizontally.

Stem – The part of a plant that grows above ground, bearing leaves and flowers.

Distal – The area of a plant organ that is furthest away from the point of attachment of the organ to a plant.

Tubercles – Small rounded structure, projections or elevations on a plant (aerial tubers).