Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

World Health Organization

**Hydrocyanic acid and Mycotoxins
in food commodities**
**Request for data on Hydrocyanic acid
and Mycotoxins in cassava and cassava products
(including fermented cooked cassava-based products)**
Issued 08-08-2017

Background

The 11th Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF), held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from April 3—April 7, 2017, agreed to establish an Electronic Working Group (EWG) led by Nigeria to advise on the need and feasibility to establish a maximum level (ML) for Hydrocyanic acid (HCN) in all fermented cassava products as well as to consolidate information on Mycotoxin occurrence in these products, for consideration by CCCF12 in 2018. The 12th Session of CCCF deferred the discussion until 2019 and encouraged Codex members to continue submitting data to GEMS/Food.

We are requesting submission of the following data:

- occurrence data on HCN and mycotoxins in cassava and cassava products (including fermented cooked cassava-based products);
- information on processing (cooking) methods; and
- consumption patterns

Indication of the implementation of the Code of practice for the reduction of hydrocyanic acid in cassava and cassava products (CAC/RCP 73-2013) for the generation of the relevant data is desirable.

We are requesting submission of new data covering approximately the years from the last JECFA evaluation in 2011 of HCN in cassava and cassava products and at least 10 years of mycotoxins. Data should be submitted by September 30, 2017, to allow time for data analysis and drafting of the paper by the EWG.

Data that were submitted to JECFA for the 2011 HCN risk assessment do <u>not</u> need to be resubmitted.

The call for data can also be viewed online at http://www.who.int/foodsafety/en/ or http://www.fao.org/food/food-safety-quality/scientific-advice/calls-data-experts/en/.

Date for submission
The submission of data is requested before
31 October 2018
This deadline applies to all data to be submitted.

WHO will be compiling data for the EWG. **All new data EXCEPT DATA ON CASSAVA CONSUMPTION PATTERN (see below) must be uploaded in the GEMS database, which is now easily accessible on the web.** To access the GEMS database, go to http://www.who.int/foodsafety/areas_work/chemical-risks/gems-food/en/. Please read the "GEMS/Food Database Manual" before attempting to submit data to GEMS. To submit data, you will need an account, and instructions on creating an account are found on page 2 of the manual. For technical questions about submitting data to GEMS, please contact Philippe Verger at WHO (vergerp@who.int).

When submitting data to the GEMS/Food database for this work, please:

- Provide complete information on the LOQ and LOD of analytical methods.
- Provide information in the "Local Food Identifier" or "Notes" fields of the database to allow more specific identification of samples, e.g., Is a food fresh or processed (e.g. fermented, dried / dehydrated, chips, boiled, flour, etc.)?
- Provide information on "State of Food Analysed" e.g., cooked or raw.

Data on cassava consumption pattern should be send in excel to Philippe Verger at WHO (vergerp@who.int). Annex 1 should be filled and attached to the excel sheet.

Annex 1: Information on food consumption data.

General Information :

Country:

Name of Survey:

Reference :

Food report's details

Portion Size Assessment:

Recipe Disintegration:

Composite food:

Portion estimation tool:

Expression of food intake

Number of Food items

Institutional Information

Institution's name:

Institution contact details:

Name of contact person:

Email of contact person:

Survey's details

Number of record days

Survey period

Survey methodology

Sampling unit

Sample design

Over sampled subgroups

Population Information

Number of subjects:

Age range:

Sex ratio: % ♂ / % ♀

Body weight

Population's body weight   See Annex I

Results

Under reporters:

Exclusion of under reporters:

Publication permission:

Representativeness:

Response rate:

Exclusion criteria during data cleaning:

Annex I: Body weight mean according to age and sex.

Age groups	♂	♀	Total
0 - 35 months	kg	kg	kg
3 - 5 years	kg	kg	kg
6 - 14 years	kg	kg	kg
15 - 49 years	kg	kg	kg
50 - 74 years	kg	kg	kg
> 75 years old	kg	kg	kg
> 15 years old	kg	kg	kg
General population	kg	kg	kg