

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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CL 2018/21-PR  
February 2018

**TO** Codex Contact Points  
Contact Points of international organizations having observer status with Codex

**FROM** Secretariat,  
Codex Alimentarius Commission,  
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme

**SUBJECT** **Revision of the Classification of Food and Feed (CXM 4-1989)**  
**Development of a system within the Classification to provides codes for commodities not meeting the criteria for crop grouping**  
**Request for comments at Step 3**

**DEADLINE** 31 March 2018

**COMMENTS** **To:** CCPR Secretariat  
Institute for Control of the Agrochemicals  
Ministry of Agriculture (ICAMA)  
E-mail: [ccpr@agri.gov.cn](mailto:ccpr@agri.gov.cn)

**Copy to:** Secretariat  
Codex Alimentarius Commission  
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme  
E-mail: [codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org)

## BACKGROUND

1. See CX/PR 18/50/11.

## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

2. Codex members and observers are invited to submit comments, through their Contact Points, on the aforesaid proposed draft revised groups as presented in Appendix I of CX/PR 18/50/11 to facilitate their consideration by CCPR.
3. Comments should also:
  - consider the two options for the development of a system within the Classification to provide codes for commodities that do not meet the criteria for inclusion in a crop group i.e. (1) the establishment of a separate Type within each Class to provide a list of commodities and codes that do not meet the criteria for inclusion in a crop group or (2) to create "Other" subgroups within a crop group.
  - take into account the guiding principles and the criteria for crop grouping of the Classification as indicated in the Annex.
4. Comments should be submitted in writing in conformity with the Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts (see Procedural Manual of the Codex Alimentarius Commission) preferably in word file to facilitate compilation and translation of comments.

## **ANNEX**

The Classification of Food and Feed (CXM 4-1993) includes food commodities and animal feedstuffs for which Codex maximum residue limits will not necessarily be established. The Classification is intended:

- to be a listing of food commodities in trade as complete as possible, classified into groups on the basis of the commodity's similar potential for pesticide residues;
- primarily to ensure the use of uniform nomenclature and secondarily to classify foods into groups and/or sub-groups for the purpose of establishing group maximum residue limits for commodities with similar characteristics and residue potential; and
- to promote harmonization of the terms used to describe commodities which are subject to maximum residue limits and of the approach to grouping commodities with similar potential for residue for which a common group maximum residue limit can be set.

### **Characteristics for crop grouping are:**

1. Commodity's similar potential for pesticide residues;
2. Similar morphology;
3. Similar production practices, growth habits, etc;
4. Edible portion;
5. Similar GAP for pesticide uses;
6. Similar residue behavior;
7. To provide flexibility for setting (sub) group tolerances.

The Criteria for the selection of representative commodities include:

1. A representative commodity is most likely to contain the highest residues;
2. A representative commodity is likely to be major in terms of production and/or consumption;
3. A representative commodity is most likely similar in morphology, growth habit, pest problems and edible portion to the related commodities within a group or subgroup.