

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



JOINT OFFICE: Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 ROME Tel: 39 06 57051 www.codexalimentarius.net Email: codex@fao.org Facsimile: 39 06 5705 4593

Agenda Item 11

CX/FA 07/39/17-Add. 1
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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES

Thirty-ninth Session

Beijing, China, 24-28 April 2007

COMMENTS ON SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE IDENTITY AND PURITY OF FOOD ADDITIVES ARISING FROM THE 67TH JECFA MEETING

The following comments have been received from the following Codex Members : Canada.

Canada

Canada is pleased to offer the following comments:

Annex 2, Specifications resulting from the 67th JECFA

Canada notes that there are now five full and one tentative specification for various annatto extracts. In view of distinct differences in those specifications and different ADI values for bixin and norbixin compounds, Canada suggests assigning new INS registry numbers within INS 160 b. Currently this number applies for all annatto extracts.

Specific comments:

Butyl and propyl p-hydroxybenzoates:

Canada supports option A, i.e. withdrawal of the Codex specifications.

Turmeric (INS 100 ii):

Canada supports the option of maintaining specifications for turmeric. It is currently listed as a food colour within curcumins (INS 100) group. Current specifications in the JECFA compendium refer to turmeric oleoresin with a note that purified extracts of turmeric containing more than 90% total colouring matter are subject to specifications for "curcumin". Canada supports option C, i.e. add the substance to the priority list for JECFA's revision of specifications.

Paraffin wax, INS 905 c (ii):

Canada suggests forwarding this substance for JECFA evaluation (option C). There is a minor inconsistency in INS numbers for microcrystalline wax in the existing JECFA specifications. In the INS registry, paraffin wax has INS 905c (ii) and petroleum wax has INS 905c. There are no specifications outlined for paraffin wax in the JECFA compendium; there are for microcrystalline wax, with INS 905c and the synonymous name petroleum wax. However, in the INS registry, microcrystalline wax has an INS number 905c (i). Perhaps JECFA could establish specifications for paraffin wax (INS 905c (ii)) and also revise specifications for microcrystalline wax (INS 905c (i)).

Sodium tartrate, INS 335:

Canada supports option C, revision of specifications by JECFA and subsequent adoption by Codex of revised specifications (option D).

Polyvinylpyrrolidone, INS 1201:

Canada supports option E (reconsideration of existing specifications) with a possible subsequent re-evaluation by JECFA (option C).

Sucrose esters of fatty acids, INS 473:

Canada supports option F, i.e. postpone decision awaiting the outcome of 68th JECFA. This additive is widely used and its full specifications would be appreciated.