

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda Item 9 (b)

CX/FH 06/38/9-Add.1
October 2006

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD HYGIENE

Thirty-eighth Session

THE USE OF THE LACTOPEROXIDASE SYSTEM FOR MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Prepared by FAO

During the adoption of the Code of Practice for Milk and Milk Products, the 27th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission agreed to add the following text to the end of footnote 9 of Appendix II of the draft Code: "The use of the lactoperoxidase system for milk and milk products in international trade will be reexamined by the Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH) after completion of an expert review by FAO and WHO of available data and considering the FAO Lactoperoxidase Expert Group report about potential risks and benefits of lactoperoxidase system. CCFH will then review the issue in 2006" (ALINORM 04/27/41).

As follow up to this FAO and WHO implemented a technical meeting to examine the benefits and potential risks of the lactoperoxidase system of raw milk preservation on 28 November to 2 December 2005. This meeting considered all available information in relation to the use of the lactoperoxidase system in milk and dairy products. It took into consideration the microbiological effects and performance of the system, human health and nutrition, the impact of the system on milk processing and technology and the economic value and trade issues. The meeting made a number of recommendations based on the available scientific information and its deliberations thereon. These recommendations and a full report of the meeting are attached and also available for downloading from the following FAO ftp server:

ftp://ftp.fao.org/codex/ccfh38/fh38_lpe.pdf

The report is being brought to the attention of all Codex members to provide background information and an update of the scientific data to facilitate the committees discussions under this agenda item.