

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 4

CX/NFSU 07/29/4-Add. 2
October 2007

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION AND FOODS FOR SPECIAL DIETARY USES

29th Session

Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler, 12 - 16 November 2007

DRAFT REVISED STANDARD FOR GLUTEN-FREE FOODS

- Comments at Step 6 of the Procedure -

Comments from:

CUBA
GHANA

CUBA

CX/NFSDU 07/29/4-Add. 1 where reference is made to Brazil's comments regarding the Draft revised standard for gluten-free foods.

Cuba agrees that the words Gluten-Free should appear on gluten-free foods, written next to the food name. With regard to methods for identifying concentrations, it is proposed that ELISA monoclonal-antibody kits be used, which enable the determination of gliadin, hordein and secalin. In the case of gluten-free food manufacturers, the enzyme-linked assay determination must be performed for both the foodstuff used as an ingredient and the finished product.

GHANA

Title

Ghana does not support the proposed new name so we propose the deletion of the square brackets and its contents for title to read as follows: 'Draft revised Standard for Gluten-Free Foods' as this covers a wider range of food products including those used for the dietary management of the disease.

Section 2.1

We prefer that products described under section 2.1 a) be labeled as naturally gluten free and not gluten free to conform to the definition found in paragraph 5 under Claims in the Codex Standard.

We wish to propose that the gluten levels in foods as described in section 2.1 be maintained at 20ppm to provide sufficient protection for sufferers of celiac disease and that 'prolamin' in section 2.1.a be replaced with 'gluten' since gluten is the subject of discussion and not prolamin.

Para 2 b.

We prefer that there are no two different values for cross breed gluten and straight breed gluten because the different levels of gluten for cross breed and straight breed gluten would be difficult to analyze in developing countries where capacity including equipment to analyze the different types of gluten is absent and even if we did, the confusion of having one level is enough.

4. Labeling

We propose that section 5.1 should become 4.1 and 4.1 should become 4.2 because 'claims' is part of labelling. We also suggest the removal of decisions by National Authorities in the last sentence for paragraph 4.

6. General outline of the Method of analysis and sampling

Ghana is of the opinion that the determination of gluten in foodstuff and food ingredients should precede the determination of gluten, in other words the order should be reversed. (Reference 6.1 becomes 6.2 and vice versa)

6.1 Determination of gluten in food stuffs and ingredients

6.2 Determination of gluten.