CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION





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CX/PR 12/44/4

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

44th Session

Shanghai, P.R. China, 23-28 April 2012

MATTERS OF INTEREST ARISING FROM OTHER INTERNATIONATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA) RELEVANT TO CODEX WORK1

- 1. For almost 50 years, the Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture (the Joint Division) has uniquely promoted the mandates of both FAO, in its efforts to eliminate world hunger and reduce poverty through sustainable agricultural and rural development, improved nutrition and food security, and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), through peaceful uses of atomic energy to accelerate and expand the contributions of nuclear technologies to promote global health and prosperity.
- 2. The mission of the Joint Division is to strengthen capacities for the use of nuclear techniques for sustainable food security and to disseminate these techniques through international activities in research, training and outreach in its Member States. The Joint Division consists of five sections on food and environmental protection, soil and water management, plant breeding and genetics, animal production and health, and insect pest control.
- 3. The Joint Division will continue to strengthen its joint efforts with sister divisions in FAO Headquarters to improve food safety, protect consumer health and facilitate international agricultural trade by providing assistance in four main areas, namely, coordinating and supporting research, providing technical and advisory services, providing laboratory support and training, and collecting, analyzing and disseminating information. The activities related to the work of Codex are the use of ionizing radiation, the control of food contaminants, and the management of nuclear and radiological emergencies affecting food and agriculture.

NEW WEB APPLICATION ON FOOD CONTAMINANTS²

- 4. The new Food Contaminant and Residue Information System (FCRIS) web application, which is currently being created and revised on the basis of the existing Joint Division INFOCRIS database (http://www-infocris.iaea.org/EN/default.htm), is a compendium of certain contaminants in foods and a user-friendly platform that facilitates the uploading of new information.
- 5. The associated Pesticide Attributes Database (PAD) and the Pesticide Residue Methods (PRM) database are being developed as resources for physicochemical / toxicological data and for methods of analysis for pesticides, respectively. An example of the general PRM database is displayed in Figure 1; a detailed PRM record is displayed in Figure 2.
- 6. FCRIS and the related PAD and PRM databases still require further review and refinement before publication on the Joint Division website. In the meantime, we welcome the submission of additional information from Codex members and observers through established Codex procedures.

IAEA TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECTS - PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN FOODS

7. The Joint Division is currently managing several IAEA technical cooperation projects and associated training workshops related to pesticide residues. Please see the Joint Division website for details at http://www-naweb.iaea.org/nafa/fep/field-projects-fep.html.

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Document prepared by and under responsibility of the Joint FAO/IAEA Division on Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture, IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria.

This section is presented in relation to discussions held at the 34th Session of the Joint FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission (REP11/CAC, paragraphs 121-124) concerning the Analysis of Pesticide Residues: Recommended Methods (CODEX STAN 229-1993).

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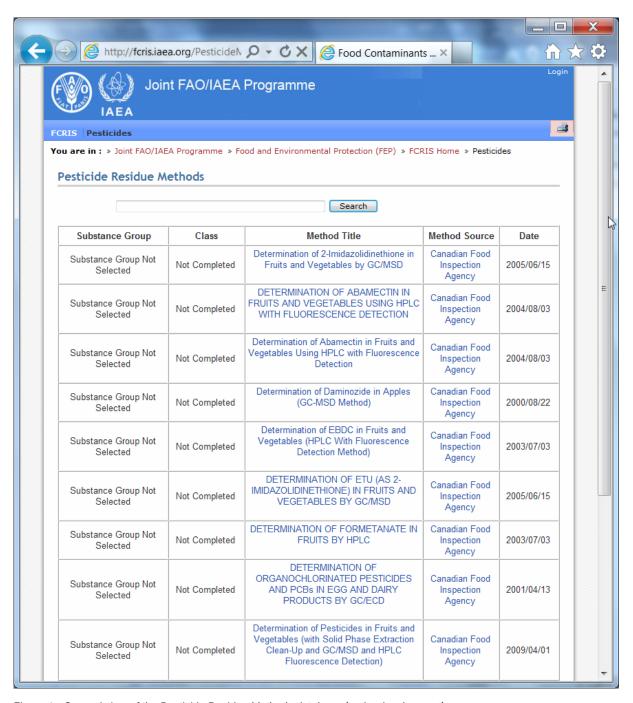


Figure 1 - General view of the Pesticide Residue Methods database (under development).

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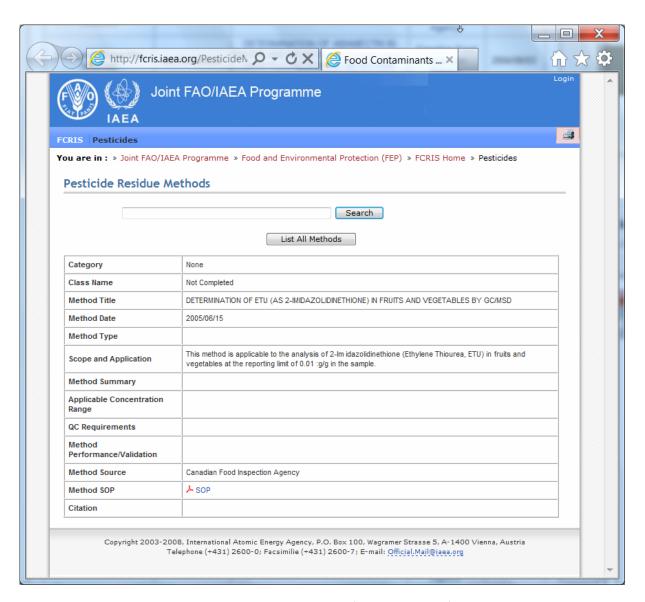


Figure 2 - Detailed view of the Pesticide Residue Methods database (under development).