

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of
the United Nations



World Health
Organization

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**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEX COMMITTEE ON RESIDUES OF VETERINARY DRUGS IN FOODS
Twentieth Session
San Juan, Puerto Rico, 7-11 May 2012**

REPORT of the

CCRVDF intra-session Working Group on the revision of the sampling plans for control of aquatic animal products and derived products of aquatic animal origin (table C, Annex b of CAC/GL 71-2009)

1. The 20th Session of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods agreed to establish an intra-session Working Group, led by the United States of America, open to all interested members and observers, and working in English only. The Committee agreed that the intra-session Working Group would consider the comments received in CX/RVDF 12/20/9 Add. 1, CX/RVDF 12/20/9 Add. 2, CRD 10, CRD 20, and CRD 25, with the mandate of preparing a revised sampling plan for consideration by the 20th Session.
2. The intra-session working group included participation from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, European Union, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, the Philippines, South Africa, Thailand, United Kingdom, and the United States of America.
3. Based on the comments received on the electronic Working Group report (CX/RVDF 12/20/9), the intra-session working group agreed that the proposal presented by Thailand in CRD10 was an appropriate starting point for discussion as it was more consistent with the existing Table A and B in CAC/GL 71-2009 in its presentation of aquatic animal products as a commodity.
4. Based on the research led by the United Kingdom and the desire to retain flexibility for competent authorities, the working group agreed to use “sufficient” rather than a specific number in the Instructions for Collection, where appropriate.
5. The working group also discussed the quantity listed in the table for laboratory sample. Some countries were concerned that a lower quantity would be sufficient for many laboratory tests, but others supported the current number stating that it would ensure sufficient quantity for all laboratory tests. The working group agreed to change the column name to “Recommended quantity required for laboratory sample” rather than “Minimum quantity required for laboratory sample” to increase the flexibility for competent authorities.
6. The working group also discussed whether this table was intended only to cover farmed aquatic animal products or all aquatic animal products. The working group agreed to change the title to “Aquaculture products” to increase the clarity on this issue.
7. The working group considered whether the footnote presented with the electronic Working Group recommendation was still needed. The working group determined that the footnote was not needed and agreed that CAC/GL 71-2009 included all of the information needed on sampling and that it would be redundant and confusing to include the information with Table C as well.
8. The intra-session working group recommends that the Committee consider the proposed Table C (Annex 1) for advancement to Step 5 or 5/8.

Annex 1**Table C: Aquaculture products**

Commodity	Instructions for Collection	Recommended quantity required for laboratory sample
VII. Class B – Type 08 (Aquatic Animal Products)		
A. Packaged fish – fresh, frozen, smoked, cured, or shellfish (except oysters)		
1. Bulk package	Collect sufficient units from a selected package to meet laboratory sample size.	500 g of edible tissue
2. Retail package	Collect sufficient units from selected packages to meet laboratory sample size.	500 g of edible tissue
B. Bulk fish	Collect muscle from sufficient fish, depending on size.	500 g of edible tissue
C. Bulk Shellfish	Collect sufficient shellfish, depending on size.	500 g of edible tissue
VII. Class E – Type 17 (Derived Edible Products of Aquatic Animal Origin)		
A. Canned fish and shellfish products (except oysters)	Collect sufficient tissue to meet laboratory sample size.	500 g of edible tissue
B. Other fish and shellfish products – fish flour and meal	Use sample schedule. Collect primary samples to meet laboratory sample size.	500 g