

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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CL 2022/46-CF

July 2022

**TO:** Codex Contact Points  
Contact Points of international organizations having observer status with Codex

**FROM:** Secretariat, Codex Alimentarius Commission,  
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme

**SUBJECT:** Request for comments on sampling plans for total aflatoxins for cereals and cereal-based foods, including foods for infants and young children

**DEADLINE:** 30 September 2022

## BACKGROUND

1. For background information, please refer to the discussion held, and decisions made on maximum levels (MLs) for total aflatoxins (AFT) in certain cereals and cereal-based foods including foods for infants and young children and associated sampling plans at the 15<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (2021)<sup>1</sup> available in the report of CCCF15<sup>2</sup>. Further information and discussion on methods of analysis and sampling plans for aflatoxins is also provided in conference room document CRD09.

## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

2. Codex members and observers are invited to provide:
  - a. information/data on the typical ratio of the four aflatoxins in naturally contaminated samples of maize grain; flour, meal, semolina and flakes derived from maize, husked rice, polished rice, sorghum grain and cereal-based foods for infants and young children; and
  - b. information on the variation in sampling, sampling preparation and analysis for husked rice, polished rice and sorghum grain.
3. Comments submitted in reply to this circular letter (CL) will be considered by the Electronic Working Group (EWG) on sampling plans for AFT for maize grain and flour, meal, semolina, and flakes derived from maize, as well as for cereal-based foods for infants and young children to develop sampling plans for consideration by CCCF16 (2023).

## GUIDANCE ON THE PROVISION OF COMMENTS

4. Comments should be submitted through the Codex Contact Points of Codex members and observers using the OCS.
5. Contact Points of Codex members and observers may log into the OCS and access the document open for comments by selecting "Enter" in the "My reviews" page, available after login to the system.
6. Other OCS resources, including [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) as well as the user manual and short guide, can be found at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en/>.
7. For questions on the OCS, please contact [Codex-OCS@fao.org](mailto:Codex-OCS@fao.org).

<sup>1</sup> REP22/CF15, paras 151 - 153

<sup>2</sup> Working documents, including CRDs and the report of the 15<sup>th</sup> Session are available on the Codex webpage: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCCF&session=15>