

Announcement
January 2013

12th International Postgraduate Course on the Production and Use of Food Composition Data in Nutrition

13-25 October 2013
Wageningen, The Netherlands

Organized by



*Division of Human Nutrition of Wageningen University & Graduate
School VLAG (Advanced Studies in Food Technology, Agrobiotechnology,
Nutrition and Health Sciences)*

Background

Compilations of data on the nutritional composition of foods are essential tools for nutritionists, especially those concerned with monitoring adequacy of dietary intake, for linking diet to health and disease, for planning and prescription, education, food security, and for trade, export and legislation. A two-week training course on the production and use of food composition data in nutrition is offered by the Division of Human Nutrition of Wageningen University and Graduate School VLAG (The Netherlands) from 13-25 October 2013 (FoodComp 2013). Ten courses were organised in Wageningen between 1992 and 2011. Regional courses were organised in Chile in 1995; in Argentina in 1996; in South Africa in 1997, 1999, 2002, 2005 and 2010; in Jamaica in 2001; in Thailand in 2002, in India in 2007, in Turkey in 2012, and in Slovak Republic in 2006 and 2008.

Objectives of course

The aim of FoodComp 2013 is to demonstrate how to produce, manage and use good quality food composition data in a standardized way, using harmonized procedures, so that the requirements of the multiple users of food composition data can be met. The course will be based on the philosophy that the preparation of nutritional databases requires close understanding of the needs of the users by both compilers and producers of data. The course will show how this understanding can be achieved and the benefits that flow from the collaboration of users, analysts and compilers.

Course structure

FoodComp 2013 will be structured around the second edition of the book 'Food Composition Data, Production, Management and Use', by Dr H. Greenfield and Professor D.A.T. Southgate. The course will cover: ways in which nutritional databases are used and how these determine the range of nutrients for which values are required; stages in the production of a nutrient database; selection of foods for which nutrient values are needed; biodiversity, crop variety and nutrient composition; sampling procedures and the statistical aspects involved in sampling; choice and validation of analytical methods to give nutritionally relevant values using novel work forms such as E-learning; quality control, quality evaluation and quality management of food composition data; food description and classification. Participants will become familiar with rules for data documentation as well as structures for constructing computerised relational databases.

Who should attend?

FoodComp 2013 is intended for those involved in nutritional database programmes as analysts, as compilers of food composition databases, and/or users who wish to have a better understanding of how databases are prepared and the constraints upon their use. The course will also be of value to those teaching nutrition and nutritional aspects of food chemistry and to those interested in assessing exposure from diets. Applicants should hold a master degree in nutrition, epidemiology, food science, agricultural science or related field.

Course content

The major elements of the course, which will comprise lectures, assignments, excursions, E-learning, and group work, will be:

- Requirements and use of nutrient databases at different levels
- Steps in establishing a food composition database
- Selecting and establishing priorities for including foods, nutrients and other food components in databases
- Sampling of foods
- Methods of analysis: critical evaluation and choice of methods
- Data quality (management) and evaluation
- Reviewing existing data
- Format and modes of expression
- Food nomenclature, classification and identification
- Recipe calculations
- Compilation of data
- Nutrient calculation software
- National and international activities in food composition
- Documentation and database management

Venue and duration

FoodComp 2013 will be held at The Hof van Wageningen, Wageningen, The Netherlands from 13-25 October 2013.

Language

The language of the course is English. Therefore, fluent English is essential.

Registration and course fee

Please register by completing the application form on the last page of this flyer. The number of participants is limited to 30. The course fee, including a Euro 350 non-refundable deposit, is Euro 3500. EuroFIR members and applicants affiliated to one of the regional INFOOD data centres get 10% discount. The fee covers tuition fees, accommodation and meals from 13-25 October at The Hof van Wageningen, a copy of the handbook and other course materials. It does not cover the cost of travel to the course, medical insurance and pocket money. The fee is payable on notification of acceptance for the course. Please note that no daily subsistence allowance (DSA) will be provided.

How to apply

Applicants should fill in the application form on the last page of this flyer and send it together with their curriculum vitae **before 1 June 2013** to the Course Secretariat. For those who wish to be considered for a fellowship the deadline for application is **1 April 2013** (see below).

Fellowships

A limited number of fellowships will be available for candidates that have been admitted to the course. There are two categories of fellowships:

- A. Fellowships through the Netherlands Fellowship Programme (NFP)
- B. Fellowships made available to the organisers by various other organisations.

Persons who wish to be considered for a fellowship need to apply at the latest **before 1 April 2013** by sending in the application form and a curriculum vitae to the course secretariat. ***The application should include a motivation letter and a letter of recommendation by the supervisor in addition to the curriculum vitae.***

For fellowships under category A: persons from one of the 62 NFP-countries will have to submit their application also through the appropriate application procedures that are described in detail at www.nuffic.nl/nfp under the heading of 'short courses' (**but only after they have been admitted to the course by E-mail notification!**). Deadline for NFP-applications for FOODCOMP 2013 is May 7th, 2013.

Scientific Advisory Board

- Prof Frans Kok, Division of Human Nutrition, Wageningen University, The Netherlands
- Dr Paul Finglas, Institute of Food Research, Norwich, United Kingdom
- Dr Ruth Charrondiere, FAO, Food and Nutrition Division, Rome, Italy
- Dr Prapasri Puwastien, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand

Course director

- Ir Paul Hulshof, Division of Human Nutrition, Wageningen University, The Netherlands

Course Secretariat

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Application form

12th International Post Graduate Course on the Production and Use of Food Composition Data in Nutrition,
13-25 October 2013, Wageningen, The Netherlands.

Please complete and return this form together with your curriculum vitae to:

Ms Lous Duym, E-mail: Lous.Duym@wur.nl

Division of Human Nutrition, Wageningen University, Bomenweg 2, 6703HD Wageningen, The Netherlands

The application form is also available on the VLAG website:

<http://www.vlaggraduateschool.nl/courses/food-comp-2013.pdf>

Family name:First name:M/F.....

Work address:

Postal Code / City:

Country:

Telephone:

E-mail:

Position:

EuroFIR/INFOODS affiliation: Yes/No

Address for correspondence:
(if different from above)

Wishes to be considered for a fellowship: Yes/No

Name and address of current employer:
.....

Will your employer meet the cost of you attending the course by paying for tuition fees, travel
and allowances YES/NO
(Please attach letter confirming the above if YES)

Invoice for tuition fees should be sent to (if not candidate, then provide name and address of person/institute
providing funds)

- Candidate
- Employer
- Other

Declaration and signature of candidate seeking admission:

I declare that the information given on this form and in the attached **curriculum vitae** is correct. I have read and understood the arrangements for payment of tuition fees to which I will adhere. I understand that the course may be cancelled if the number of participants prove insufficient and that in such circumstances course fees will be refunded.

.....

Date

.....

Signature