

*9th International
Graduate Course
on Production and Use of
Food Composition Data
in Nutrition*

Announcement

January 2009

FoodComp 2009

11-24 October 2009

Wageningen, The Netherlands

Organised by



WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY
AGROTECHNOLOGY AND
FOOD SCIENCES GROUP

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

In co-operation with



United Nations University
(Food and Nutrition
Programme for Human and
Social Development)



**Food and Agriculture
Organisation of the United Nations**
(Food Policy and
Nutrition Division)



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 Graduate School VLAG and the Division of Human Nutrition in cooperation with United Nations University (UNU), Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), and the European Food Information Resource Network (EuroFIR) in Wageningen, The Netherlands from 11-24 October 2009 (FoodComp 2009). Earlier courses in Wageningen were organised by the FLAIR Eurofoods-Enfant Project of the European Community and by VLAG-UNU-FAO-IUNS-COST 99 in 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2001, 2003, 2005, and 2007. Regional courses were organised in Chile in 1995; in Argentina in 1996; South Africa in 1997, 1999 and 2002; in Jamaica in 2001; in Thailand in 2002, in India in 2007 and in Slovak Republic in 2006 and 2008.

Objectives of course

The aim of FoodComp 2009 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 analytical 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 2009 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 foods for which nutrient values are needed; 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 2009 is intended for those involved in nutritional database programmes as analysts and/or compilers and will be of value to those teaching nutrition and nutritional aspects of food chemistry. Users of nutritional databases who wish to have a better understanding of how databases are prepared and the constraints upon their use will also find the course useful.

Course content

The major elements of the course, which will comprise lectures, seminars, 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 issues**
- **Documentation and database management**

Venue and duration

FoodComp 2009 will be held at the Hof van Wageningen, (formerly known as Wageningen International Conference Centre - WICC) in Wageningen, The Netherlands for two weeks from 11 - 24 October 2009.

Language

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

Registration and course fee

Please register by completing the attached application form. The final registration date is June 1, 2009. The number of participants is limited to 30. The course fee, including a Euro 350 non-refundable deposit, is Euro 3500. The fee covers accommodation and meals from 11-24 October 2009 at the Hof van Wageningen (former Wageningen International Conference Centre), a copy of the handbook and other course materials, tuition fees and excursions. 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.

Fellowships

A limited number of fellowships for suitable candidates from selected developing countries will be available. After receipt of the application forms candidates for such fellowships will be identified by the FoodComp board. The European Food Information Resource Network of Excellence (EuroFIR) also makes fellowships available for staff members of EuroFIR partners. More information will be announced on the EuroFIR website. Please note that the graduate school VLAG and the Division of Human Nutrition are not in a position to supply fellowships for the course.

All requests for fellowships should be made to the Foodcomp Secretariat and NOT to the fellowship granting organisations.

How to apply

All applicants should fill in the application form attached and send it together with their curriculum vitae before 1 June 2009 to the Course Secretariat. Candidates for a fellowship are recommended to apply as soon as possible, preferably before 15 May 2009.

Scientific Advisory Board

- Prof F.J. Kok, Division of Human Nutrition, Wageningen University
- Mr M. Bond, Executive Officer, UNU Centre, Tokyo, Japan
- Prof H. Schönfeldt, University of Pretoria and ARC Animal Nutrition and Animal Products Institute, Irene, South Africa
- Mr P. Finglas, Institute of Food Research, Norwich, UK
- Dr B. Burlingame, FAO, Food and Nutrition Division, Rome, Italy

Course director

- Mr P.J.M. Hulshof, Division of Human Nutrition, Wageningen University, The Netherlands

Suggested other faculty

- Dr J. Van Camp, University of Ghent, Belgium
- Dr H. van der Voet, Plant Science Group, Wageningen, The Netherlands
- Dr I. Castanheira, Instituto Nacional de Saúde Dr Ricardo Jorge, Lisbon, Portugal
- Prof P. van't Veer, Division of Human Nutrition, Wageningen University, The Netherlands
- Dr V. Ollilainen, University of Helsinki, Finland
- Dr P.C.H. Hollman, RIKILT – Institute of Food Safety, Wageningen, The Netherlands
- Dr J. Ireland, Former French Food Safety Agency, Paris, France
- Mrs J.M. Holden, Nutrient Data Laboratory, United States Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, USA
- Mr A. Møller, DanFood, Søborg, Denmark
- Ms S. Westenbrink, TNO Nutrition and Food Research, Zeist, The Netherlands
- Ms R. Charrondiere, FAO, Food and Nutrition Division, Rome, Italy
- Dr W. Becker, Swedish National Food Administration, Uppsala, Sweden

Course Secretariat

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Application form

9th International Graduate Course on the Production and Use of Food Composition Data in Nutrition,
11 - 24 October 2009, Wageningen, The Netherlands.

Please complete and return this form at the latest **before 1 June 2009 together with your curriculum vitae** to: Course Secretariat of FoodComp 2009 (see address above). Applications can also be made by using the application form at <http://www.vlaggraduateschool.nl/courses/food-comp.pdf>

Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms

Family name: _____ First _____ M/F _____

Address: _____

Postal Code/City: _____

Country: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Position: _____

EuroFIR member: Yes/No _____ Partner acronym: _____ Partner Number: _____

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 or employer, then provide name and address
of person/institute providing funds)

- Candidate for admission to course
- 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 numbers prove insufficient and that in such circumstances course fees will be refunded.

Date

Signature
