

CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOODS (CCCF)

Establishment of Maximum Levels for Cadmium in Chocolates and Cocoa-derived Products (March, 2021)

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CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



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Cadmium in Chocolates

CCCF (2014 – up to date): Some highlights

- ▶ CCCF (2014) agreed to start new work on MLs for cadmium in chocolates / cocoa derived products and the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) approved the request as proposed by CCCF
- ▶ Scope of the work
 - Chocolates and cocoa-derived products – ready for consumption
 - ❖ Cocoa-derived products: cocoa powder (100% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis):
ML 2.0 – 3.0 mg/kg under discussion in the Electronic Working led by Ecuador
 - ❖ Chocolate categories:
 - ❑ Chocolates containing or declaring < 30% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis:
ML = 0.3 mg/kg for consideration at CCCF14 (2021)
 - ❑ Chocolates and chocolate products containing or declaring ≥ 30% to < 50% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis:
ML = 0.6 – 0.7 mg/kg under discussion in the Electronic Working Group led by Ecuador
 - ❑ Chocolates containing or declaring ≥ 50% to < 70% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis:
ML = 0.8 mg/kg adopted by CAC41 (2018) – included in the GSCFF
 - ❑ Chocolates containing or declaring ≥ 70% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis:
ML = 0.9 mg/kg adopted by CAC41 (2018) – included in the GSCFF
- ▶ Approach to the work:
 - JECFA73 & 77 Evaluations
 - Proportionality between MLs

Cadmium in Chocolates

CCCF14 (2021) – will consider:

- ▶ Matters arising from CAC42 (2019)
 - ML of 0.3 mg/kg for chocolates with <30% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis (Agenda Item 5)
- ▶ Matters arising from the EWG (2018-2020)
 - MLs for chocolates between 30 – 50% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis and cocoa powder (100% total cocoa solids on a dry matter basis) (Agenda Item 6)
- ▶ Matters arising from JECFA
 - The findings of JECFA91 on the dietary exposure to Cd from all sources, particularly chocolates and cocoa products (Agenda Item 3)
- ▶ Decisions to be taken on the next steps for the consideration of MLs for cadmium in the remaining chocolate categories and cocoa powder (Agenda Items 5&6)

Information on CCCF work

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Codex website: CCCF

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCCF>

Reports of CCCF

- Working documents for the meetings:
- Circular letters (calls for comments / data / information)
- Standards and related texts

Specific link to CCCF14 webpage:

<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCCF&session=14>