



COMPENDIUM OF FOOD ADDITIVE SPECIFICATIONS

Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives

73rd Meeting 2010



**World Health
Organization**



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of
the United Nations**

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INTRODUCTION

This volume of FAO JECFA Monographs contains specifications of identity and purity prepared at the 73rd meeting of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA), held in Geneva on 8 - 17 June 2010. The specifications monographs are one of the outputs of JECFA's risk assessment of food additives, and should be read in conjunction with the safety evaluation, reference to which is made in the section at the head of each specifications monograph. Further information on the meeting discussions can be found in the summary report of the meeting (see Annex 1), and in the full report which will be published in the WHO Technical Report series. Toxicological monographs of the substances considered at the meeting will be published in the WHO Food Additive Series.

Specifications monographs prepared by JECFA up to the 65th meeting, other than specifications for flavouring agents, have been published in consolidated form in the Combined Compendium of Food Additive Specifications which is the first publication in the series FAO JECFA Monographs. This publication consist of four volumes, the first three of which contain the specifications monographs on the identity and purity of the food additives and the fourth volume contains the analytical methods, test procedures and laboratory solutions required and referenced in the specifications monographs. FAO maintains an on-line searchable database of all JECFA specifications monographs from the FAO JECFA Monographs, which is available at: <http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/jecfa-additives/search.html> . The specifications for flavourings evaluated by JECFA, and previously published in FAO Food and Nutrition Paper 52 and subsequent Addenda, are included in a database for flavourings (flavouring agent) specifications which has been updated and modernized. All specifications for flavourings that have been evaluated by JECFA since its 44th meeting, including the 73rd meeting, are available in the new format online searchable database at the JECFA website at FAO: <http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/jecfa-flav/search.html>. The databases have query pages and background information in English, French, Spanish, Arabic and Chinese. Information about analytical methods referred to in the specifications is available in the Combined Compendium of Food Additive Specifications (Volume 4), which can be accessed from the query pages.

An account of the purpose and function of specifications of identity and purity, the role of JECFA specifications in the Codex system, the link between specifications and methods of analysis, and the format of specifications, are set out in the Introduction to the Combined Compendium, which is available in shortened format online on the query page, which could be consulted for further information on the role of specifications in the risk assessment of additives.

Chemical and Technical Assessments (CTAs) for some of the food additives have been prepared as background documentation for the meeting. These documents are available online at: http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/jecfa_archive_cta_en.asp .

Contact and Feedback

More information on the work of the Committee is available from the FAO homepage of JECFA at: http://www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/jecfa_index_en.asp . Readers are invited to address comments and questions on this publication and other topics related to the work of JECFA to:

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