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codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Twenty-ninth Session

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“GSFA ONLINE”

INTRODUCTION

1. The Secretariat of the Codex Alimentarius Commission launched on the 1st March 2006 a searchable web-based version of the Codex General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA). The GSFA Online helps regulatory authorities, consumers and the food industry get the latest up-to date information on Codex food additives provisions.

ABOUT THE SYSTEM

2. “GSFA Online” is a searchable, web-based version of the *Codex General Standard for Food Additives* (CAC/STAN 192-1995). The Standard sets forth the conditions under which food additives may be used in different food products. “GSFA Online” allows the users to search the Standard by food additive (name, synonym, INS number), by functional class of additives, and by food category.

3. It provides up-to-date information on the food additives provisions contained in the Codex GSFA to all users, including regulatory authorities, consumers, industry.

How to use “GSFA Online”?

4. “GSFA Online” has an intuitive and user-friendly interface which may be accessed using a standard web browser at <http://www.codexalimentarius.net/gsfonline>. It includes explanatory text on each page, as well as a glossary of the technical terms. This “learn as you go” approach allows users to begin searching the system immediately.

What’s new?

5. For the first time, “GSFA Online” provides users with a simple tool to rapidly access current information on *Codex Alimentarius* food additive provisions contained in the *Codex General Standard for Food Additives* (GSFA). Its powerful but simple search engine allows users to retrieve the required information. “GSFA Online” will be updated regularly after the Codex Alimentarius Commission has adopted new and revised food additives provisions.

What is next?

6. A CD-ROM version of “GSFA Online” will be made available at the 29th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission for those who may not always have easy access to the Internet. It will provide the same functionality and content as the online version. The CD-ROM version can be obtained through FAO Sales and Marketing Group (Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy. Fax: +39 570 53360; E-mail: publications-sales@fao.org).

7. “GSFA Online” is currently available in English, French and Spanish.

For further information, please contact:

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Fig. Opening Screen of “GSFA Online”

FAO/WHO Food Standards ENGLISH | FRANÇAIS | ESPAÑOL

CODEX alimentarius

ABOUT CODEX MEETINGS AND EVENTS OFFICIAL STANDARDS

GSFA Online

Updated up to the 28th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (2005)

CODEX GENERAL STANDARD FOR FOOD ADDITIVES (GSFA) ONLINE DATABASE

The "Codex General Standard for Food Additives" (GSFA, Codex STAN 192-1995) sets forth the conditions under which permitted food additives may be used in all foods, whether or not they have previously been standardized by Codex. The Preamble of the GSFA contains additional information for interpreting the data. Users are encouraged to consult the Preamble when using this database.

This database provides, in a searchable format, all the provisions for food additives that have been adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

Provisions are searchable by food additive (name, synonym, INS number), by functional class, as defined in the Codex Class Names and the International Numbering System for Food Additives (CAC/GL 36-1989), and by food category, as described in Annex B of the Codex GSFA.

Please note that the summary and conclusions of recent JECFA meetings and other relevant information, such as call for data for future meetings, are available on the **FAO website** and the **WHO website**. Other useful links:

- JECFA reports and toxicological monographs
- JECFA specifications

In this Section

- Food Category Index
- Food Additive Index
- Functional Classes
- Search Database