

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - E-mail: codex@fao.org - www.codexalimentarius.org

Agenda Items 6

CRD20

February 2023

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON RESIDUES OF VETERINARY DRUGS IN FOODS

26th Session

13-17 February 2023

Portland, Oregon, United States of America

Comments submitted by HealthforAnimals

Agenda Item 6: MRLs for veterinary drugs in foods

Agenda Item 6.1: MRLs for ivermectin in tissues of sheep, pigs and goats (fat, kidney, liver and muscle) at Step 7

Summary:

The proposed draft MRLs at Step 4 for nicarbazin (chicken muscle, skin plus fat, kidney, and liver) were recommended by the 94th JECFA (2019) following evaluation. The 94th JECFA full report is available via the FAO or WHO website (WHO Technical Report Series No. 1041). It was previously evaluated by the 50th JECFA and initial standards were established by the 23rd Codex Alimentarius Commission.

HealthforAnimals offers the following comments:

The Acceptable daily intake (ADI) recommended by JECFA of 0–0.9 mg/kg bw is appropriate and consistent with the data. We concur with the recommended ADI and toxicological rationale.

The marker residue, assigned as 4,4'-dinitrocarbanilide (DNC) is metabolically relevant and measurable. The Committee evaluated and validated a method of analysis for nicarbazin consistent with requirements set forth in CAC/GL 71-2009.

The Committee recommended Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) in chicken of 4000 µg/kg for muscle, 4000 µg/kg for skin with fat, 15000 µg/kg for liver and 8000 µg/kg for kidney. These levels support good veterinary use and we concur with the recommendation.

HealthforAnimals Position:

HealthforAnimals supports advancing the proposed draft MRLs for nicarbazin to Step 5/8 for consideration by the next Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC). The proposed standards meet all the procedural and scientific requirements for the advancement of standards to the next CAC. HealthforAnimals observes that nicarbazin is an important tool in combatting disease in poultry. Coccidiosis is common in poultry. Left untreated or poorly addressed, chickens can develop an infection that requires a medically important antimicrobial. Therefore, the use of nicarbazin, often in combination with an ionophore, can help reduce the need for the use of a medically important antimicrobial as well as protecting the health and welfare of the chicken. HealthforAnimals respectfully requests delegations support the advancement of the ADI and MRLs to Step 5/8 for consideration by the next Codex Alimentarius Commission.