

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
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Agenda Item 2

CX/CF 10/4/2-Add.2
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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOODS

Fourth Session
Izmir, Turkey, 26-30 April 2010

MATTERS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION
AND/OR OTHER CODEX COMMITTEES/TASK FORCES

Sixty-second Session of the Executive Committee¹

1. The Secretariat recalled that, due to the development of general standards for groups of processed fruits and vegetables, several individual standards had been revoked or would be revoked at the 32nd Session of the Commission, following the adoption of the Draft Standard for Jams, Jellies and Marmalades and the Draft Standard for Certain Canned Vegetables. The general standards included only the general statement on contaminants specified in the Procedural Manual, while the individual standards included maximum levels for certain contaminants (lead and tin) that were also listed in the General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Foods. The Committee was invited to consider how to proceed with these existing maximum levels, and whether they should be reconsidered by the Committee on Contaminants in Foods and the Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables.
2. One Member pointed out that the current maximum levels for tin for solids and liquids might not be entirely applicable to some of the semi-liquid products covered by the Draft Standards, and therefore this question should be addressed by the Committee on Contaminants in Foods.
3. In view of the technical nature of the issue, the Committee recommended that the Commission, while adopting the Draft Standards, refer the review of the maximum levels for contaminants in processed fruits and vegetables to the Committee on Contaminants in Foods.
4. The Committee is **invited** to review the maximum levels for contaminants (tin and lead) in processed fruits and vegetables as listed in the General Standard on Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (see Annex II).² (Explanatory notes are provided in Annex I).

¹ ALINORM 09/32/3, paras 15-17

² General Standard for Contaminants in Food and Feed (CODEX STAN 193-1995), pages 33, 34, 37

ANNEX I

Explanatory notes

The Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables has been updating the individual standards for processed fruits and vegetables by making them more general to cover a broader range of similar products. The development of more general standards for canned stone fruits; canned citrus fruits; jams, jellies and marmalades; and canned vegetables led to the enlargement of the scope in relation to the corresponding individual standards that have been superseded by the general standards as follows.

- The Standard for Canned Stone Fruits (CODEX STAN 242-2003) supersedes individual Standards for Canned Peaches (CODEX STAN 14-1981), Canned Plums (CODEX STAN 59-1981) and Canned Apricots (CODEX STAN 130-1981) and includes additional provisions for canned cherries.
- The Standard for Canned Citrus Fruits (CODEX STAN 254-2007) supersedes individual Standards for Canned Mandarin Oranges (CODEX STAN 68-1981) and Canned Grapefruits (CODEX STAN 15-1981) but also incorporates provisions for canned pummelo and canned sweet oranges.
- The Standard for Jams, Jellies and Marmalades (CODEX STAN 296-2009) covers jams, jellies and marmalades made from all fruits and vegetables and supersedes Standards for Citrus Marmalade (CODEX STAN 80-1981) and Jams (Fruit Preserves) and Jellies (CODEX STAN 79-1981).
- The Standard for Certain Canned Vegetables (CODEX TAN 297-1009) supersedes all individual Codex standards for canned vegetables namely: asparagus (CODEX STAN 56-1981), carrots (CODEX STAN 116-1981), green peas (CODEX STAN 58-1981), green beans and wax beans (CODEX STAN 16-1981), mature processed peas (CODEX STAN 81-1981), palmito (CODEX STAN 144-1985) and sweet corn (CODEX STAN 18-1981) and includes one additional annex on baby corn.

The section on contaminants of the new general standards incorporates the standardized provision applying across commodity standards by referring to the General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed. However, the maximum levels for lead and tin in the GSCTFF come from the individual standards that have been revoked.

1. Due to the revocation of the individual standards for various canned fruits and vegetables and the extension of the scope of the corresponding general standards there is a need to clarify (a) whether the levels for lead and tin in the GSCTFF still apply and if so the references will be changed as indicated in the Annex II and (b) whether they should extend to the additional commodities covered by the general standards.
2. In addition, the General Standard provides for a maximum level for tin in canned foods (excluding beverages) as developed by the Committee on Contaminants and Toxins in Foods. The Committee may also wish to consider whether the general maximum level for tin in canned foods (excluding beverages) encompasses canned stone fruits, canned citrus fruits, jams, jellies, marmalades, canned citrus fruits, and canned vegetables in order to refer to this general level.

ANNEX II

LEAD

Reference to JECFA: 10 (1966), 16 (1972), 22 (1978), 30 (1986), 41 (1993), 53 (1999)
 Toxicological guidance: PTWI 0.025 mg/kg bw (1987 for infants and young children, extended to all age groups in 1993, maintained 1999)
 Residue definition: Lead, total
 Synonyms: Pb
 Related Code of Practice: Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Lead Contamination in Foods (CAC/RCP 56-2004)
 Code of Practice for Source Directed Measures to Reduce Contamination of Foods with Chemicals (CAC/RCP 49-2001)

Commodity/Product Code	Name	Level mg/kg	Suffix	Type	Reference	Notes/Remarks for Codex Alimentarius
	Canned grapefruit	1		ML	CS 15-1981 CX STAN 254-2007 ³	
	Canned mandarin oranges	1		ML	CS 68-1981 CX STAN 254-2007 ³	
	Jams (fruit preserves) and jellies	1		ML	CS 79-1981 CX STAN 296-2009 ⁴	
	Canned asparagus	1		ML	CS 56-1981 CX STAN 297-2009 ⁵	
	Canned carrots	1		ML	CS 116-1981 CX STAN 297-2009 ⁵	
	Canned green beans and canned wax beans	1		ML	CS 16-1981 CX STAN 297-2009 ⁵	
	Canned green peas	1		ML	CS 58-1981 CX STAN 297-2009 ⁵	
	Canned mature processed peas	1		ML	CS 81-1981 CX STAN 297-2009 ⁵	
	Canned palmito	1		ML	CS 144-1985	

³ The Standard also covers canned pummelos and canned mandarin oranges.

⁴ The Standard cover jams, jellies and marmaldes made from all fruits and vegetables.

⁵ The Standard also covers canned baby corn.

Commodity/Product Code	Name	Level mg/kg	Suffix	Type	Reference	Notes/Remarks for Codex Alimentarius
	Canned sweet corn	1		ML	CS 18-1981 <i>CX STAN 297-2009⁵</i>	
	Canned peaches ⁶	1		ML	CS 14-1981 <i>CX STAN 242-2003⁷</i>	
	Canned plums ⁶	1		ML	CS 59-1981 <i>CX STAN 242-2003⁷</i>	
	Canned apricots ⁶	1		ML	CS 130-1981 <i>CX STAN 242-2003⁷</i>	

⁶ These levels were omitted from the GSCTFF.

⁷ The Standard also covers canned cherries.

TIN

Reference to JECFA: 10 (1966), 14 (1970), 15 (1971), 19 (1975), 22 (1978), 26(1982), 33(1988), 55 (2000), 64 (2005)

Toxicological guidance: PTWI 14 mg/kg bw (1988, Expressed as Sn; includes tin from food additive uses; maintained in 2000.)

Residue definition: Tin, total (Sn-tot) when not otherwise mentioned; inorganic tin (Sn-in); or other specification

Synonyms: Sn

Related Code of Practice: Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Inorganic Tin Contamination in Canned Foods (CAC/RCP 60-2005)
Code of Practice for Source Directed Measures to Reduce Contamination of Foods with Chemicals (CAC/RCP 49-2001)

Commodity/Product Code	Name	Level mg/kg	Suffix	Type	Reference	Notes/Remarks for Codex Alimentarius
	Canned grapefruit	250	C	ML	CS 15-1981 CX STAN 254-2007 ³	
	Canned mandarin oranges	250	C	ML	CS 68-1981 CX STAN 254-2007 ³	
	Jams (fruit preserves) and jellies	250	C	ML	CS 79-1981 CX STAN 296-2009 ⁴	
	Canned asparagus	250	C	ML	CS 56-1981 CX STAN 297-2009 ⁵	
	Canned carrots	250	C	ML	CS 116-1981 CX STAN 297-2009 ⁵	
	Canned green and wax beans	250	C	ML	CS 16-1981 CX STAN 297-2009 ⁵	
	Canned green peas	250	C	ML	CS 58-1981 CX STAN 297-2009 ⁵	
	Canned mature processed peas	250	C	ML	CS 81-1981 CX STAN 297-2009 ⁵	
	Canned palmito	250	C	ML	CS 144-1985 CX STAN 297-2009 ⁵	
	Canned sweet corn	250	C	ML	CS 18-1981 CX STAN 297-2009 ⁵	
	Canned peaches ⁶	250		ML	CS 14-1981 CX STAN 242-2003 ⁷	
	Canned plums ⁶	250		ML	CS 59-1981	

Commodity/Product Code	Name	Level mg/kg	Suffix	Type	Reference	Notes/Remarks for Codex Alimentarius
	Canned apricots ⁶	250		ML	<i>CX STAN 242-2003</i> ⁷ CS 130-1981 <i>CX STAN 242-2003</i> ⁷	