

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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Agenda Item 8(c)

CX/PR 16/48/8  
March 2016

## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME CODEX COMMITTEE ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES

48<sup>th</sup> Session

Chongqing, P.R. China, 25 - 30 April 2016

### DRAFT REVISION OF THE CLASSIFICATION OF FOOD AND FEED: SELECTED VEGETABLE COMMODITY GROUPS GROUP 011: FRUITING VEGETABLES, CUCURBITS

(AT STEP 4)

(Prepared by the Electronic Working Group chaired by the United States of America  
and co-chaired the Netherlands)

Codex Members and Observers wishing to submit comments at **Step 3** on this document (see **Appendix I**), including possible implications for their economic interests, should do so in conformity with the *Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts* (Codex Alimentarius Commission Procedural Manual) before **11 April 2016**. Comments should be directed:

to:

CCPR Secretariat  
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with a copy to:

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## BACKGROUND

1. Background on the discussion of the revision of the Classification of Food and Feed (CAC/MISC 4-1993) can be found in the reports of the 36<sup>th</sup> – 47<sup>th</sup> sessions of the Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR) including relevant sessions of the Codex Alimentarius (CAC) held from 2004 to 2015. Reports of Codex committee meetings are available at: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings-reports/en/>.

2. The 47<sup>th</sup> Session of CCPR (April 2015) held considerable discussion on the relative importance of the seven crop grouping criteria and the practical implications of having more sub-groups than necessary and therefore concluded that:<sup>1</sup>

- No agreement could be reached at the present session on the grouping of Group 011 Fruiting vegetables, cucurbits.
- The issue should be put back to the Electronic Working Group on the revision of the Classification for further consideration in order to come up with one or two options for crop grouping for Group 011 for consideration by the next CCPR.

<sup>1</sup> REP15/PR, para 129

3. Delegations expressed their willingness to find a compromise solution that would allow CCPR to decide on a revised classification for Group 011. The consideration of this matter in a EWG would provide sufficient time for in-country consultation in relation to implications of different crop grouping combinations in terms of additional residue data for generation of group MRLs, risk assessment (edible / inedible peel, cooked / uncooked product, etc.) that would aid to reach consensus on the different options for crop grouping.<sup>2</sup>

4. The Committee agreed to further consider Group 011 – Fruiting vegetables, cucurbits at its next session and therefore decided to return this Group to Step 2/3 for further discussion, comments and consideration by CCPR48.<sup>3</sup>

5. In order to facilitate consideration of Group 011 at CCPR48, the Committee agreed that the EWG on the revision of the Classification chaired by the United States of America and co-chaired by the Netherlands would continue with the revision of the Classification including this Group.<sup>4</sup> The list of participants is presented in Appendix II.

6. The mandate of the EWG was to focus on pending issues related to Group 011 Fruiting Vegetables, Cucurbits as follows:

- (1) Rationale for separating melon and winter squash,
- (2) Criteria used to separate or combine melon and winter squash,
- (3) Commodity specific residue data,
- (4) Flexibility in the selection of representative commodities to avoid generation of additional residue data and
- (5) A subgroup compromise solution for Cucurbits.

Five subgroup options were considered by the EWG including:

- **Option 1:** 11A Cucumber and Summer Squash, 11B Melons, 11C Winter Squash;
- **Option 2:** 11A. Melon, 11B. Squash/Cucumber (includes winter squashes and pumpkins);
- **Option 3:** 11A Cucumber and Summer Squash, 11B Melons and Pumpkins (includes winter squashes and pumpkins);
- **Option 4:** 11A Cucumber and Melons, 11B Squashes and
- **Option 5:** No subgroups. Japan supported Option 1 and Indonesia supported Option 4. Canada, Ecuador and the EU supported Option 3. The US supported Option 2, but could support Option 3 as a compromise.

7. Option 3 was presented as a compromise solution. There is support for Option 3 from Ecuador, New Zealand, Canada and Germany. Japan supports Option 1, but if a compromise is required could support Option 3. The European Union could support Option 3, but would like to examine the proposal for representative crops. The US could support Option 3, but is opposed to any option that would require additional data on representative commodities.

8. Option 3 is described below as follows:

**Subgroups named (Compromise Option 3):**

Subgroup 011A. Fruiting vegetables, Cucurbits such as Cucumbers and Summer Squashes

Subgroup 011B. Fruiting vegetables, Cucurbits such as Melons, Pumpkins and Winter Squashes

**Codes for the subgroups:**

VC 2039 Cucurbits such as Cucumbers and Summer Squashes

VC 2040 Cucurbits such as Melons, Pumpkins and Winter Squashes

<sup>2</sup> REP15/PR, para 128

<sup>3</sup> REP15/PR, para 130

<sup>4</sup> REP15/PR, paraS 129 and 138

**New commodity codes:**

VC 2650 Chieh qua  
 VC 2651 Chinese cucumber  
 VC 2652 Cucumber, exploding  
 VC 2653 Cucumber, stuffing  
 VC 2654 Gac  
 VC 2655 Gourd, bitter snake  
 VC 2656 Gourd, buffalo  
 VC 2657 Gourd, fluted  
 VC 2658 Gourd, Malabar  
 VC 2659 Gourds, other  
 VC 2660 Gourd, pointed  
 VC 2661 Gourd, round  
 VC 2662 Indian spine gourd  
 VC 2663 Ivy gourd  
 VC 2664 Japanese snake gourd  
 VC 2665 Tacaco  
 VC 2680 African horned melon  
 VC 2681 Casabanana  
 VC 2682 Korean melon  
 VC 2683 Melon, nara  
 VC 2684 Wax gourd (mature fruit)

*Trichosanthes edulis* Rugayah and *Trichosanthes laeoica* C. Y. Cheng & Lu Q. Huang have been added as "Gourds, other" in 11A (unless common names can be identified).

Indian round gourd now references Gourd, round, as *Praecitrullus fistulosus* (Stocks) Pangalo is a synonym of *Benincasa fistulosa*

Malabar gourd was not transferred to 11B as Malabar gourd is consumed both as both an immature fruit similar to summer squash and also as a winter squash.

*Trichosanthes ovigera* Blumehas has been corrected to *Trichosanthes pilosa* Lour.

**CONCLUSION**

9. The revised Group 011 is based on Option 3 which was considered at CCPR47 and further examined by the EWG. This option is the compromised solution reached by members of the EWG. It is submitted for comments by Codex members and observer international organizations and further consideration by CCPR48.

10. Comments submitted should take into account the issues put forward in paragraph 6 which constitutes the mandate of the EWG following discussion on Group 011 at CCPR47 (REP15/PR, paras 127 - 130).

11. Comments submitted should also take into account the guiding principles and the criteria for crop group of the Classification of Food and Feed (Appendix III).

12. Group 011 – Fruiting vegetables, cucurbits as revised by the EWG is presented in Appendix I.

**RECOMMENDATION**

13. The Committee is invited to consider the sub-grouping and new commodities for Group 011 – Fruiting vegetables, cucurbits with a view to their finalization by the 48<sup>th</sup> Session of CCPR.

**APPENDIX I****FRUITING VEGETABLES, CUCURBITS****Class A****Type 2                      Vegetables                      Group 011                      Group Letter Code VC**

Group 011 Fruiting vegetables, Cucurbits are derived from the immature or mature fruits of various plants, belonging to the botanical family Cucurbitaceae: usually these are annual vines or bushes.

The vegetables are fully exposed to pesticides during the period of fruit development. The edible portion of those fruits of which the inedible peel is discarded before consumption is protected from most pesticides, by the skin or peel, except from pesticides with a systemic action.

The entire fruiting vegetable or the edible portion after discarding the inedible peel may be consumed in the fresh form or after processing. The entire immature fruit of some of the fruiting vegetables species may be consumed, whereas only the edible portion of the mature fruit of the same species, after discarding the then inedible peel, is consumed.

The group Fruiting vegetables, Cucurbits is divided in 2 subgroups:

11A Fruiting vegetables, Cucurbits – Cucumbers and Summer squashes

11B Fruiting vegetables, Cucurbits – Melons, Pumpkins and Winter squashes

Portion of the commodity to which the MRL applies (and which is analysed): **Whole commodity after removal of stems.**

**Group 011                      Fruiting vegetables, Cucurbits****Code No.                      Commodity**

VC 0045                      **Fruiting vegetables, Cucurbits**

**Subgroup 011A Fruiting vegetables, Cucurbits such as Cucumbers and Summer squashes****Code No.                      Commodity**

VC 2039                      **Fruiting vegetables, Cucurbits such as Cucumbers and Summer squashes**

(includes all commodities in this subgroup)

-                      **Alcayota**, see Gourd Malabar, VC 2658

VC 0420                      **Balsam apple**

*Momordica balsamina* L.

VC 0421                      **Bitter melon**

*Momordica charantia* L.

-                      **Bitter cucumber**, see Bitter melon, VC 0421

-                      **Bitter gourd**, see Bitter melon, VC 0421

-                      **Balsam pear**, see Bitter melon, VC 0421

VC 0422                      **Bottle gourd**

*Lagenaria siceraria* (Molina) Standl.;

syn: *L. vulgaris* Ser.; *L. leucantha* (Duch.) Rusby

VC 0423                      **Chayote**

*Sechium edule* (Jacq.) Schwartz;

syn: *Chayota edulis* Jacq.

VC 2650                      **Chieh qua** (young Chinese waxgourd, immature fruit)

*Benincasa hispida* (Thunb.) Cogn. var. *chieh-qua* How

- VC 2651           **Chinese cucumber**  
                     *Trichosanthes kirilowii* Maxim.
- **Christophine**, see Chayote, VC 0423
- **Courgette**, see Squash, Summer, VC 0431
- VC 0424           **Cucumber**  
                     *Cucumis sativus* L.; English and forcing cucumber cultivars
- **Cucumber, brown-netted**, see Cucumber, VC 0424  
                     *Cucumis sativus* L. var. *sikkimensis*
- VC 2652           **Cucumber, exploding**  
                     *Cyclanthera brachystachya* (Ser.) Cogn.
- VC 2653           **Cucumber, stuffing**  
                     *Cyclanthera pedata* (L.) Schrad.
- **Cucuzzi**, see Bottle gourd, VC 0422
- VC 2654           **Gac**  
                     *Momordica cochinchinensis* (Lour.) Spreng.
- VC 0425           **Gherkin**  
                     *Cucumis sativus* L.; pickling cucumber cultivars
- VC 0426           **Gherkin, West Indian**  
                     *Cucumis anguria* L.
- VC 2655           **Gourd, bitter snake**  
                     *Trichosanthes tricuspidata* Lour.
- VC 2656           **Gourd, buffalo**  
                     *Cucurbita foetidissima* Kunth
- **Gourd, club**, see Snake gourd, VC 0430
- VC 2657           **Gourd, fluted**  
                     *Telfairia occidentalis* Hook. f.
- VC 2658           **Gourd, Malabar**  
                     *Cucurbita ficifolia* Bouché
- VC 2659           **Gourds, other**, including  
                     *Trichosanthes edulis* Rugayah  
                     *Trichosanthes laeoica* C. Y. Cheng & Lu Q. Huang
- VC 2660           **Gourd, pointed**  
                     *Trichosanthes dioica* Roxb.
- VC 2661           **Gourd, round**  
                     *Benincasa fistulosa* (Stocks) H. schaeff. & S.S. Renner
- **Gourd, Xishuangbanna**, see Cucumber, VC 0424  
                     *Cucumis sativus* L. var. *xishuangbannansis* ined.
- **Indian round gourd**, see Gourd, round, VC 2661  
                     *Praecitrullus fistulosus* (Stocks) Pangalo

VC 2662	<b>Indian spine gourd</b> <i>Momordica dioica</i> Roxb. Ex Willd.
VC 2663	<b>Ivy gourd</b> <i>Coccinia grandis</i> (L.) Voigt
VC 2664	<b>Japanese snake gourd</b> <i>Trichosanthes pilosa</i> Blume
VC 0427	<b>Loofah, Angled</b> <i>Luffa acutangula</i> (L.) Roxb.
VC 0428	<b>Loofah, Smooth</b> <i>Luffa aegyptiaca</i> Mill. syn: <i>Luffa cylindrica</i> (L.) M. J. Roem;
-	<b>Marrow</b> (immature fruit), see Squash, Summer, VC 0431 <i>Cucurbita pepo</i> L., several cultivars
-	<b>Patisson</b> , see Squash, Summer, VC 0431
-	<b>Sinkwa or Sinkwa towel gourd</b> , see Loofah, Angled, VC 0427
VC 0430	<b>Snake gourd</b> <i>Trichosanthes cucumerina</i> L.; syn: <i>T. anguina</i> L.
-	<b>Spiny bitter gourd</b> , see Gac, VR 2654
-	<b>Sponge gourd</b> , see Loofah, Smooth, VC 0428
VC 0431	<b>Squash, Summer</b> Immature cultivars of <i>Cucurbita pepo</i> L.; <i>Cucurbita pepo</i> L. subsp. <i>pepo</i> ; <i>Cucurbita pepo</i> L. subsp. <i>Ovifera</i> (L.) Harz;
-	<b>Squash, White Bush</b> , see Squash, Summer, VC 0431
-	<b>Sweet gourd</b> , see Gac, VR 2654
VC 2665	<b>Tacaco</b> <i>Sechium tacaco</i> (Pittier) C. Jeffrey
-	<b>Vegetable sponge</b> , see Loofah, Smooth, VC 0428
-	<b>Wax gourd</b> (immature fruit), see Chieh qua, VC 2650
-	<b>West Indian gherkin</b> , see Gherkin, West Indian, VC 0426
-	<b>Zapallito italiano (zucchini)</b> , see Squash, Summer, VC 0431
-	<b>Zucchetti</b> , see Squash, Summer, VC 0431
-	<b>Zucchini</b> , see Squash, Summer, VC 0431
<b>Subgroup 011B Fruiting vegetables, Cucurbits such as Melons, Pumpkins and Winter Squashes</b>	
<b>Code No.</b>	<b>Commodity</b>
VC 2040	<b>Fruiting vegetables, Cucurbits such as Melons, Pumpkins and Winter Squashes</b> (includes all commodities in this subgroup)
-	<b>Acorn squash</b> , see Winter squash, VC 0433 <i>Cucurbita pepo</i> var. <i>ovifera</i> (L.) Harz

- VC 2680      **African horned melon**  
                   *Cucumis metuliferus* E. Meyer ex Naudin
- **Butternut squash**, see Winter squash, VC 0433 or Pumpkins, VC 0429  
                   *Cucurbita moschata* Duchesne
- **Calabaza**, see Winter squash, VC 0433 or Pumpkins, VC 0429  
                   *Cucurbita pepo* L.
- **Cantaloupe**, see Melons, except Watermelon, VC 0046  
                   *Cucumis melo* L., subsp. *melo* var. *cantaloupo* Ser.
- VC 2681      **Casabanana**  
                   *Sicana odorifera* (Vell.) Naudin
- **Casaba or Casaba melon**, see Melons, except Watermelon, VC 0046
- **Cheese pumpkin**, see Winter squash, VC 0433 or Pumpkins, VC 0429  
                   *Cucurbita moschata* Duchesne
- **Chinese wax gourd** (mature fruit), see Wax gourd (mature fruit), VC 2684
- **Citron melon**, see Watermelon, VC 0432  
                   *Citrullus lanatus* (Thunb.) Mansf., var. *edulis*;  
                   syn: *Citrullus edulis* Pang.
- **Cucumber, Armenian**, see Melon, Serpent
- **Cushaws**, see Pumpkins, VC 0429  
                   Mature cultivars of *Cucurbita argyrosperma* C. Huber
- **Giant pumpkin**, see Winter squash, VC 0433 or Pumpkins, VC 0429  
                   *Cucurbita moschata* Duchesne
- **Hubbard squash**, see Winter squash, VC 0433
- **Kiwano**, see African horned melon, VC 2680
- VC 2682      **Korean Melon**  
                   Hybrid cultivars of *Cucumis melo* L. subsp. *agrestis* (Naudin) Pangalo
- **Marrow** (late variety, mature fruit), see Pumpkins, VC 0429
- VC 0046      **Melons, except Watermelon**  
                   Several var. and cultivars of *Cucumis melo* L.
- **Melon, Crenshaw**, see Melons, except Watermelon, VC 0046  
                   Cultivar of *Cucumis melo* L. subsp. *melo* var. *inodorus* H. Jacq.
- **Melon, Dudaim**, see Melons, except Watermelon, VC 0046  
                   *Cucumis melo* L., var. *dudaim* (L.) Naudin.
- **Melon, Garden**, see Melons, except watermelons VC 0046
- **Melon, Honey Ball**, see Melons, except Watermelon, VC 0046  
                   Cultivar of *Cucumis melo* L., subsp. *melo* var. *cantaloupo* Ser.
- **Melon, Honeydew**, see Melons, except Watermelon, VC 0046  
                   Cultivar of *Cucumis melo* L., var. *inodorus* Naud.
- **Melon, Mango**, see Vine peach

- VC 2683      **Melon, nara**  
                   *Acanthosicyos horridus* Welw. ex Benth. & Hook. f.
- **Melon, Oriental Pickling**, see Korean Melon VC 2682  
                   *Cucumis melo* L. subsp. *agrestis* (Naudin) Pangalo var. *conomon* (Thunb.) Makino
- **Melon, Persian**, see Melons, except Watermelon, VC 0046  
                   Cultivar of *Cucumis melo* L., subsp. *melo* var. *cantaloupo* Ser.
- **Melon, Pomegranate**, see Melons, except watermelons VC 0046
- **Melon, Serpent**, see Melons, except Watermelon, VC 0046  
                   *Cucumis melo* L., var. *flexuosus* (L.) Naudin.
- **Melon, Snake**, see Melons, except Watermelon, VC 0046  
                   synonym of Melon, Serpent
- **Melon, Snap**, see Melons, except Watermelon, VC 0046  
                   *Acanthosicyos horridus* Welw. Ex Benth. & Hook. f.
- **Melon, White-skinned**, see Melons, except Watermelon, VC 0046  
                   Cultivars of *Cucumis melo* L. subsp. *melo* var. *inodorus* H. Jacq.
- **Melon, Winter**, see Melons, except Watermelon, VC 0046  
                   synonym of Melons, White-skinned, see there
- **Muskmelon**, see Melons, except Watermelon, VC 0046  
                   Cultivar of *Cucumis melo* L.; *C. melo* L. var. *melo*
- **Oriental melon**, see Korean melon, VC 2682
- **Pumpkin**, see Pumpkins, VC 0429 or Winter squash, VC 0433  
                   *Cucurbita pepo* L.; *C. pepo* L. subsp. *pepo*
- VC 0429      **Pumpkins**, see also winter squash, VC 0433  
                   Mature cultivars of *Cucurbita maxima* Duchesne; *Cucurbita argyrosperma* C. Huber; *C. moschata* Duchesne; *C. pepo* L. and *C. pepo* L. subsp. *pepo*
- **Silver Seed gourd**, see Pumpkins, VC 0429  
                   *Cucurbita argyrosperma* C. Huber
- **Spaghetti squash**, see Winter squash, VC 0433 or Pumpkins, VC 0429  
                   *Cucurbita pepo* subsp. *pepo*
- **Vine peach**, see Melons, except Watermelon, VC 0046  
                   *Cucumis melo* L. subsp. *agrestis* (Naudin) Pangalo var. *chito* (C. Morren) Naudin
- VC 0432      **Watermelon**  
                   *Citrullus lanatus* (Thunb.) Matsum. & Nakai var. *lanatus*  
                   syn: *C. vulgaris* Schrad.; *Colocynthis citrullus* (L.) O. Ktze.
- VC 2684      **Wax gourd** (mature fruit)  
                   *Benincasa hispida* (Thunb.) Cogn.;  
                   syn: *B. cerifera* Savi
- VC 0433      **Winter squash**, see also Pumpkins, VC 0429  
                   Mature cultivars of *Cucurbita maxima* Duchesne; *C. maxima* subsp. *maxima*; *C. moschata* Duchesne; *C. pepo* (L.); *Cucurbita pepo* subsp. *pepo* and *Cucurbita pepo* var. *ovifera* (L.) Harz



**APPENDIX II****LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

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**APPENDIX III**

The Classification of Food and Feed includes food commodities and animal feedstuffs for which Codex maximum residue limits will not necessarily be established.

The Classification is intended:

- to be a listing of food commodities in trade as complete as possible, classified into groups on the basis of the commodity's similar potential for pesticide residues;
- primarily to ensure the use of uniform nomenclature and secondarily to classify foods into groups and/or sub-groups for the purpose of establishing group maximum residue limits for commodities with similar characteristics and residue potential; and
- to promote harmonization of the terms used to describe commodities which are subject to maximum residue limits and of the approach to grouping commodities with similar potential for residue for which a common group maximum residue limit can be set.

The criteria for crop grouping in the Classification of Food and Feed:

1. Commodity's similar potential for pesticide residues.
2. Similar morphology.
3. Similar production practices, growth habits, etc.
4. Edible portion.
5. Similar GAP for pesticide uses.
6. Similar residue behavior.
7. To provide flexibility for setting (sub) group tolerances.