

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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CX 5/70.2

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TO: Codex Contact Points
International Organisations

FROM: Secretary, Codex Alimentarius Commission,
FAO, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy

SUBJECT: **Request for Comments on the Elaboration of a Standard for Products in Which Milk Components are Substituted by Non-Milk Components**

DEADLINE: 1 October 2001

COMMENTS:

To:

Copies to:

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BACKGROUND

1. The 4th Session of the Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products (CCMMP) agreed that pending justification, it would request the 47th Session of the Executive Committee (CCEXEC) to approve the elaboration of worldwide Codex Standards for *Evaporated Skimmed Milk with Vegetable Fat*, *Sweetened Condensed Milk with Vegetable Fat* and *Skimmed Milk Powder with Vegetable Fat* as new work, with the understanding that the titles of the standards would be further deliberated in the course of their elaboration.

2. It was also concluded that pending the approval of the CCEXEC, a drafting group consisting of Australia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Thailand and the International Dairy Federation would commence work on the three proposed draft standards. It was also understood that the group would gather information as required by the Codex Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities, as well as information on current product names and national legislation in the regard, in parallel to the elaboration of the standards.¹

¹ ALINORM 01/11, paras. 28 and 30

3. Subsequent to the 4th Session of the CCMMP, the 47th Session of the CCEXEC approved² the elaboration of the subject standards, with the understanding that the name of the food needed to be addressed by the CCMMP.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

4. Governments and international organisations are invited to comment and provide information and/or data on the attached Questionnaire on Proposed Draft Codex Standards for Products in Which the Milkfat is Substituted by Vegetable Fat (Annex 1) and the attached Codex Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities (Annex 2).

² ALINORM 01/3, para. 43 and Appendix III

**Questionnaire On Proposed Codex Draft Standards For Products
In Which Milkfat Is Substituted By Vegetable Fat**

INTRODUCTION

1. Skimmed milk products with vegetable fat, also known as filled milk products in a number of countries, are a technological innovation of the milk industries where the milkfat of the milk has been replaced wholly or partially with edible vegetable oil or edible vegetable fat or a combination of these. Skimmed milk products with vegetable fat provide a variety of products for consumers' choice especially as economical alternatives. These products have widespread market acceptance and a long history of use in several countries and national legislation has already been provided for in these countries.

2. The following questionnaire is intended to obtain information on production, import, export, consumption, current product names and national legislation of three types of these products, i.e. sweetened condensed skimmed milk with vegetable fat, evaporated skimmed milk with vegetable fat and skimmed milk powder with vegetable fat, to justify the necessity for the development of worldwide Codex standards.

DATA ON PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION AND TRADE

3. What is the annual volume in metric tons in terms of production, consumption, import and export of each of the three products covered by the proposed draft standards in Codex document CX/MMP 00/4¹ in your country?

3a. Proposed Draft Standard for Sweetened Condensed Skimmed Milk with Vegetable Fat (tentative title proposed by the CCMMP); Proposed Draft Standard for Sweetened Condensed Filled Milk (tentative title proposed by the CCASIA); Minimum total fat 7-8 % m/m. *(The product is described in Codex document CX/MMP 00/4 on pages 4 – 6)*

	1998	1999
Production (in metric tons)		
Consumption (in metric tons)		
Import (in metric tons)		
Export (in metric tons)		

3b. Proposed Draft Standard for Evaporated Skimmed Milk with Vegetable Fat (tentative title proposed by the CCMMP); Proposed Draft Standard for Evaporated Filled Milk (tentative title proposed by the CCASIA); Minimum total fat 6-8 % m/m. *(The product is described in Codex document CX/MMP 00/4 on pages 7 – 9)*

	1998	1999
Production (in metric tons)		
Consumption (in metric tons)		
Import (in metric tons)		
Export (in metric tons)		

¹ Document CX/MMP 00/4 (Elaboration of a Standard for Products in Which Milk Components are Substituted for Non-Milk Components) is available from the Codex Secretariat or can be consulted and/or downloaded online at: <ftp://ftp.fao.org/codex/ccmmp4/>

3c. Proposed Draft Standard for Skimmed Milk Powder with Vegetable Fat (tentative title proposed by the CCMMP); Proposed Draft Standard for Filled Milk Powders (tentative title proposed by the CCASIA); Minimum total fat 26 % m/m. (*The product is described in Codex document CX/MMP 00/4 on pages 10 – 13*)

	1998	1999
Production (in metric tons)		
Consumption (in metric tons)		
Import (in metric tons)		
Export (in metric tons)		

CURRENT PRODUCT NAMES AND NATIONAL LEGISLATION

4a. Is there national legislation in force specifying the name of the food for each of the following products as per section 4.1.1.2 of the *Codex General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods*² (CODEX-STAN 1-1985; Rev. 3-1999):

PRODUCTS AS COVERED IN DOCUMENT CX/MMP 00/4	YES/NO	SPECIFIC NAME OF THE FOOD	SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO NATIONAL LEGISLATION
Proposed Draft Standard for Sweetened Condensed Skimmed Milk with Vegetable Fat (tentative title proposed by the CCMMP); Proposed Draft Standard for Sweetened Condensed Filled Milk (tentative title proposed by the CCASIA)			
Proposed Draft Standard for Evaporated Skimmed Milk with Vegetable Fat (tentative title proposed by the CCMMP); Proposed Draft Standard for Evaporated Filled Milk (tentative title proposed by the CCASIA)			
Proposed Draft Standard for Skimmed Milk Powder with Vegetable Fat (tentative title proposed by the CCMMP); Proposed Draft Standard for Filled Milk Powders (tentative title proposed by the CCASIA)			

² Section 4.1.1.2 of the Codex General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods states that: “*In other cases, the name prescribed by national legislation shall be used*”.

4b. If there are no specific names of the food laid down in your legislation what name(s) is (are) used in your country in compliance with the conditions in section 4.1.1.3 of the *Codex General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods*³ (CODEX-STAN 1-1985;Rev. 3-1999) and what relevant provisions regulate the use of these names.

PRODUCTS AS COVERED DOCUMENT CX/MMP 00/4	SPECIFIC NAME(S) OF THE FOOD	SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO NATIONAL LEGISLATION
Proposed Draft Standard for Sweetened Condensed Skimmed Milk with Vegetable Fat (tentative title proposed by the CCMMP); Proposed Draft Standard for Sweetened Condensed Filled Milk (tentative title proposed by the CCASIA)		
Proposed Draft Standard for Evaporated Skimmed Milk with Vegetable Fat (tentative title proposed by the CCMMP); Proposed Draft Standard for Evaporated Filled Milk (tentative title proposed by the CCASIA)		
Proposed Draft Standard for Skimmed Milk Powder with Vegetable Fat (tentative title proposed by the CCMMP); Proposed Draft Standard for Filled Milk Powders (tentative title proposed by the CCASIA)		

³ Section 4.1.1.3 of the Codex General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods states that: *“In the absence of any such name, either a common or usual name existing by common usage as an appropriate descriptive term which was not misleading or confusing to the consumer shall be used”*.

Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities

When a Codex Committee proposes to elaborate a standard, code of practice or related text within its terms of reference, it should first consider the priorities established by the Commission in the Medium-Term Plan of Work, any specific relevant strategic project currently being undertaken by the Commission and the prospect of completing the work within a reasonable period of time. It should also assess the proposal against the criteria set out below. If the proposal falls in an area outside the Committee's terms of reference the proposal should be reported to the Commission in writing together with proposals for such amendments to the Committee's terms of reference as may be required.

CRITERIA**Criteria applicable to general subjects**

- (a) Consumer protection from the point of view of health and fraudulent practices.
- (b) Diversification of national legislations and apparent resultant or potential impediments to international trade.
- (c) Scope of work and establishment of priorities between the various sections of the work.
- (d) Work already undertaken by other international organizations in this field.

Criteria applicable to commodities

- (a) Consumer protection from the point of view of health and fraudulent practices.
- (b) Volume of production and consumption in individual countries and volume and pattern of trade between countries.
- (c) Diversification of national legislations and apparent resultant or potential impediments to international trade.
- (d) International or regional market potential.
- (e) Amenability of the commodity to standardization.
- (f) Coverage of the main consumer protection and trade issues by existing or proposed general standards.
- (g) Number of commodities which would need separate standards indicating whether raw, semi processed or processed.
- (h) Work already undertaken by other international organizations in this field.