



Codex News- December 3, 2019

## Requests for Comments

### ***Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)***

**Food Additive Provision of the GSFA:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/40-FA) requesting proposals for new provisions and/or revisions of the Food Additive Provision of the General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA). The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) by January 3, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to [ccfa@cfsa.net.cn](mailto:ccfa@cfsa.net.cn) with a copy to [codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org) by January 15, 2020.

**Priority List of Substances:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/41-FA) requesting information and comments on the priority list of substances proposed for evaluation by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA). The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) by January 3, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to [ccfa@cfsa.net.cn](mailto:ccfa@cfsa.net.cn) with a copy to [codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org) by January 15, 2020.

### ***Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV)***

**Kiwifruit:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/106/OCS-FFV) requesting comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for kiwifruit. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](http://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by March 31, 2020.

**Garlic:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/107/OCS-FFV) requesting comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for garlic. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](http://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by March 31, 2020.

**Ware Potatoes:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/108/OCS-FFV) requesting comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for ware potatoes. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](http://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by March 31, 2020.

**Yams:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/109/OCS-FFV) requesting comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for yam. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](http://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by March 31, 2020.

**Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS) Voluntary Third-Party Assurance Programs:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/93/OCS-FICS) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft principles and guidelines for the assessment and use of voluntary Third-Party Assurance (v-TPA) programs. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Kristen Hendricks ([kristen.hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:kristen.hendricks@usda.gov)) by December 20, 2019. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](http://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by December 31, 2019.

**Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)**

**Labelling of Non-Retail Containers:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/85/OCS-FL) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft guidance for the labelling of non-retail containers. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Kristen Hendricks ([kristen.hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:kristen.hendricks@usda.gov)) by May 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](http://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by May 30, 2020.

**Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO)**

**List of Acceptable Previous Cargo:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/51/OCS-FO) requesting proposals for amendments to Appendix 2: List of Acceptable Previous Cargoes. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments

considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Kristen Hendricks ([kristen.hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:kristen.hendricks@usda.gov)) as soon as possible. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](http://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by December 15, 2019.

**Request for Data and Information on Sunflowerseed Oil:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/53-FO) requesting data and information on refractive index, saponification value, iodine values, and relative density for sunflower seed oil. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Kristen Hendricks ([kristen.hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:kristen.hendricks@usda.gov)) by January 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to [codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org) with a copy to [codex@magyp.gov.ar](mailto:codex@magyp.gov.ar), [mlarre@magyp.gob.ar](mailto:mlarre@magyp.gob.ar), [codexbrasil@inmetro.gov.br](mailto:codexbrasil@inmetro.gov.br), and [ana.peretti@anvisa.gov.br](mailto:ana.peretti@anvisa.gov.br) by January 31, 2020.

**New Work and/or Amendments to Existing Codex Standards:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/54-FO) requesting proposals for new work and/or amendments to existing Codex standards. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Kristen Hendricks ([kristen.hendricks@usda.gov](mailto:kristen.hendricks@usda.gov)) by May 19, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to [sante-codex@ec.europa.eu](mailto:sante-codex@ec.europa.eu) with a copy to [ccpr@agri.gov.cn](mailto:ccpr@agri.gov.cn), [codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org), and [hermine.reich@efsa.europa](mailto:hermine.reich@efsa.europa) by May 29, 2020.

#### ***Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH)***

**Saffron:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/94/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for saffron. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](http://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by March 31, 2020.

**Dried Floral Parts—Dried Cloves:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/95/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for dried floral parts—dried cloves. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](http://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by March 31, 2020.

**Dried Leaves—Dried Basil:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/96/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for dried leaves—dried basil. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](http://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by March 31, 2020.

**Dried Roots, Rhizomes, and Bulbs—Dried or Dehydrated Ginger:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/97/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for dried roots, rhizomes, and bulbs—dried or dehydrated ginger. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](http://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by March 31, 2020.

**Oregano:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/98/OCS-SCH) requesting comments at Step 6 on the draft standard for dried oregano. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](http://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by March 31, 2020.

**New Work:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/100-SCH) requesting proposals for new work for CCSC. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Doreen Chen-Moulec ([doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@usda.gov)) by May 21, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP to [codex-india@nic.in](mailto:codex-india@nic.in), [dinesh.bish899@nic.in](mailto:dinesh.bish899@nic.in), and [codex.sb-ker@gov.in](mailto:codex.sb-ker@gov.in), with a copy to [codex@fao.org](mailto:codex@fao.org) by May 31, 2020.

***Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC)***

**Statements of Principles Concerning the Role of Science:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/99/OCS-EXEC) requesting input to the development of practical guidance for Codex subsidiary bodies and their chairpersons on the operationalization of the Statements of Principle Concerning the Role of Science. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Mary Frances Lowe ([maryfrances.lowe@usda.gov](mailto:maryfrances.lowe@usda.gov)) as soon as possible. Comments by other

observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by December 5, 2019.

### **FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA)**

**Cassava-Based Products:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/102/OCS-AFRICA) requesting comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for fermented cooked cassava-based products. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) by March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by March 31, 2020.

**Gnetum Spp:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/103/OCS-AFRICA) requesting comments at Step 8 on the draft standard for fresh leaves of *Gnetum* Spp. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) by March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by March 31, 2020.

**Dried Meat:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/104/OCS-AFRICA) requesting comments at Step 5 on the draft standard for dried meat. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) by March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by March 31, 2020.

**Shea Butter:** The Codex Secretariat issued a Circular Letter (CL 2019/105/OCS-AFRICA) requesting comments on the proposed amendments to Sections 3.2.2 and 3.4 of the regional Standard for Shea Butter. The CL is available in English at the following link: [www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/circular-letters/en). If you are interested in having your comments considered in the U.S. response, please send them to Ken Lowery ([ken.lowery@usda.gov](mailto:ken.lowery@usda.gov)) by March 20, 2020. Comments by other observers and countries should be submitted via their CCP using the OCS ([ocs.codexalimentarius.org](https://ocs.codexalimentarius.org)) by March 31, 2020.

### **Calls for Data**

**Call for Experts and Data:** A call for experts and data for work on STEC has been issued and is available on the following websites: [www.who.int/foodsafety/call-data/en/](http://www.who.int/foodsafety/call-data/en/) and [www.who.int/foodsafety/call-experts/en/](http://www.who.int/foodsafety/call-experts/en/). The deadline for experts passed, but the deadline for data is January 31, 2019.

**Call for Candidates for Training of New JMPR Experts:** A call for candidates for training of new experts for the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) has been issued. Experts interested in being selected to participate should send their application, including a curriculum vitae, to the WHO JMPR Secretariat by December 31, 2019. More information is available on the following website:

[www.who.int/foodsafety/Call for candidates for training of new JMPR experts final.pdf?ua=1](http://www.who.int/foodsafety/Call%20for%20candidates%20for%20training%20of%20new%20JMPR%20experts%20final.pdf?ua=1).

**Call for Data:** A call for data for the 90<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) has been issued and is available on the following websites:

[www.fao.org/food/food-safety-quality/scientific-advice/calls-data-experts/en/](http://www.fao.org/food/food-safety-quality/scientific-advice/calls-data-experts/en/) and [www.who.int/foodsafety/call-data/en/](http://www.who.int/foodsafety/call-data/en/). The deadline for data is April 15, 2020.

**Call for Data:** A call for data of the Addendum to the 9<sup>th</sup> JECFA meeting for eight enzyme preparations has been issued on the following websites:

[www.who.int/foodsafety/JECFA 89 Call for data Oct 2019 enzymes.pdf?ua=1](http://www.who.int/foodsafety/JECFA_89_Call_for_data_Oct_2019_enzymes.pdf?ua=1) and [www.fao.org/3/ca6809en/ca6809en.pdf](http://www.fao.org/3/ca6809en/ca6809en.pdf). The deadline for data is February 15, 2020.