Veilig voedsel, bewuste kens

landbouw, natuur en voedselkwaliteit
Revision of the Codex Classification of Foods and Animal Feeds

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Codex Alimentarius Commission

- UN organisation, Joint FAO/WHO organisation
- Membership 171 countries
- Started in 1961
- ‘Umbrella’ for several Codex Committees
- Setting acceptable international standards for food
- Protect human health and promote fair trade
- Decision making in stepwise system (8 steps)
Codex Committee on Pesticides Residues (CCPR)

- CCPR advises Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) on MRLs
- Annual meeting hosted by the Netherlands
- JMPR Joint FAO/WHO meeting on Pesticides Residues, scientific body of CCPR
- CXLs for about 200 compounds
- Development of methodology (sampling, analytical methods, consumer intake models)
Codex Classification of Foods and Animal Feeds (1)

CONTENT

• 5 Classes
  • A Primary Food Commodities of Plant Origin
  • B Primary Food Commodities of Animal Origin
  • C Primary Feed Commodities
  • D Processed Food of Plant Origin
  • E Processed Food of Animal origin

• Classes are subdivided into types, types are divided into groups
• Class A, 5 types (Fruits, Vegetables, Grasses, Nuts and Seeds, Herbs and Spices) and 28 groups
Codex Classification of Foods and Animal Feeds (2)

• Type 1: Fruits
• 6 Groups:
  • FC - Citrus fruit
  • FP - Pome fruit
  • FS - Stone fruit
  • FB - Berries and other small fruit
  • FT - Tropical and sub-tropical fruits – edible peel
  • FI - Tropical and sub-tropical fruits – inedible peel
Codex Classification of Foods and Animal Feeds (3)

Example:

VO 0050  Fruiting vegetables, other than Cucurbits

VO 0440  Egg plant
           *Solanum melongena* L., …

VO 4267  Aubergine, see Egg plant
Codex Classification of Foods and Animal Feeds (4)

Objectives:
• A uniform nomenclature for individual foods
• Classify foods into groups and subgroups (classify into groups on the basis of commodities with similar potential to contain pesticides residues)
• Definitions of the parts of the foods to which the MRL applies
• A complete list of commodities in international trade

CXLS will not be adopted for commodities not listed in the Classification
Codex Classification of Foods and Animal Feeds (5)

HISTORY

• First system in 1978 (Mr. Duggan, USA): “Definition and Classification of Food and Food Crops”
• Update in 1989 by Prof. Besemer, NL: “Codex Classification of Foods and Animal Feeds”
• Revision in 1993 (modified numbering system, 4000 series numbers for synonyms)
• New revision, discussion started in 2000 in CCPR
Need for the current revision

- New commodities in international trade not listed
- Update of scientific names
- Crop grouping and subgrouping
- Expansion to the use of the Classification for contaminants
- Review the portions to which the MRLs apply
- Interest in further harmonisation of existing classifications

Mainly focussed on Class A: Primary food commodities of plant origin
Current revision

- **CCPR 2000:**
  European Commision indicated together with other delegations urgent need to update the Classification.

- **CCPR 2001-2004**
  - Agenda item
  - NL prepared discussion papers based on comments of countries on Circular Letters.
  - Several subjects discussed
Extent of the revision (1)

• **Limited or Substantial revision?**
  • **Limited:**
    • Include new commodities in international trade
    • Update of scientific names
    • Check portions to which MRLs apply
  • **Substantial:**
    • Revision of grouping and subgrouping of commodities
    • Revision of the coding system
    • Harmonisation of definitions of animal products
    • Inclusion of processed products
Extent of the revision (2)

• **CCPR 2003 decided on a limited revision, including regrouping and subgrouping**
  • NL in charge of the revision
  • Should not effect the existing CXLs

• **CCPR 2004 agreed to ask the CAC to approve new work on the limited revision**
Discussion items (1)

- **Electronic version**
  - Version of 1993 was not available in electronic form.
  - Australian version of 1989 in Microsoft Word
  - USA Microsoft access data base (IR-4)

*Availability of the Classification*

*Word version is basis*
Discussion items(2)

Criteria to include new commodities:

- Significance in regional/national diets
- Importance in international trade
- Commodities for which MRLs are established or likely to be established

Difficulties in using these criteria:

- Minor commodities – nearly no information
Discussion items(3)

Subgrouping of Spices group:
• MRLs for spices could be set on monitoring data
• Need for grouping of spices
• CCPR 2004 decided to subgroup the Spices group into 7 subgroups (seeds, bark, buds etc.)
• JMPR made MRL proposals based on monitoring data
• CXLs are adopted for spices groups by the CAC
CCPR 2005

- NL presented a proposal for amendments of the Classification based on comments of USA, Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, Brazil, Rep. of Korea, Thailand. Not ready for adoption at Step 3 by CAC
- New codes for uncoded commodities with CXLs (processed products, animal feed)
- A new Circular Letter should be circulated for comments by governments
Content of Circular Letter (1)

Part I: Serious proposals

• Proposals for new commodities to include in the Classification
  • 192 new entries (tropical fruits 108, herbs 20, spices 22)
• Proposals for subgrouping and regrouping of commodities
  • Proposals for berries, onions, Brassica vegetables, fruiting vegetables
• Synonyms and cross references
• Regrouping of commodities (tamarillo, sweet corn)
• Update scientific names
Content of Circular Letter (2)

Part II: Proposals to be considered
- Deletion of 4000 codes for synonyms
- New commodities (insufficient information)
- New groups (eg. honey products, big birds)
- New proposals for subgrouping

Part III: Proposals of the CCFAC (Codex Committee of Food additives and Contaminants) for expanding the Classification
Near future

• Await comments on the Circular letter CL 2005/27-CCPR, deadline 1 November, 2005
• On the 2006 CCPR NL will present a draft revision of the Classification for adoption at Step 3

*Input from countries is necessary in order to facilitate the work on the Codex Classification and makes it possible to harmonise national systems with Codex.*