



Technews

**National Dairy Development Board
For Efficient Dairy Plant Operation**

May-July 2009

No.80

NEW CODEX STANDARDS RELEVANT TO DAIRY INDUSTRY

This bulletin includes technical information based on latest developments on products, systems, techniques etc. reported in journals, companies' leaflets and books and based on studies and experience. The technical information in different issues is on different areas of plant operation. It is hoped that the information contained herein will be useful to readers.

The theme of information in this issue is **New Codex Standards Relevant to Dairy Industry**. It may be understood that the information given here is by no means complete.

In this issue:

- **Introduction**
- **New standards adopted / major decisions**
- **Standard advanced to step 5 for further consideration**
- **Standards revoked**
- **News Section**

This Issue No.80, which normally would have been May-June 2009 issue, is being released as May-July 2009 issue to include the important decisions of the Codex Alimentarius Commission taken in its 32nd Session held at Rome during 30 June – 4 July 2009, so that these could be reported to the dairy industry promptly.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Codex standards, codes of practice and guidelines are recognized as reference points in international trade by the World Trade Organization (WTO). Codex standards and other related texts are developed by the different Committees of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) through a specific procedure and finally approved by the Commission in its sessions. As described in *Technews* Issue 22 (September-October 1999), the Codex standards are developed through an 8-step procedure. For final adoption, the Codex Committees may submit to the Commission draft standards at Step 8, Step 5/8 (which means that Steps 6 and 7 are recommended to be omitted); or at Step 5 Accelerated where there is urgency, in which case the final endorsement is made at Step 5 itself. The proposed standards are also submitted to the Commission at regular Step 5, at which the Commission may adopt them provisionally as draft standards and these would then be further considered by the respective Committees.

The important decisions of the 31st Session of the Commission (Geneva, 30 June – 4 July 2008) were reported in *Technews* Issue 75 (July-August 2008).

The 32nd Session of the Commission was held in Rome during 30 June – 4 July 2009. The important decisions of the Commission, relevant to the dairy sector, are presented in this issue.

2. NEW STANDARDS ADOPTED / MAJOR DECISIONS

a) Use of the Lactoperoxidase System (LPS) for Milk and Milk Products in International Trade (ALINORM 09/32/REP, Paragraph 185)

The Commission considered the issue related to removing the restriction on the use of the lactoperoxidase system (LPS) in milk and milk products intended for international trade (refer *Technews* issues 70, September-October 2007 and 75, July-August 2008). The Commission agreed to lift the restriction with imposition of the following condition:

"Any trade in milk treated by the lactoperoxidase system should only be on the basis of mutual agreement between countries concerned, and without prejudice to trade with other countries."

b) Microbiological Criteria for *Listeria monocytogenes* in Ready-to-Eat Foods (Annex II to the *Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of Listeria monocytogenes in Ready-to-Eat Foods (CAC/GL- 61-2007)*) (ALINORM 09/32/13, Appendix II)

The Commission adopted the Annex, which provides microbiological criteria applicable to two categories of the ready-to-eat foods as follows:

- Foods in which growth of *Listeria monocytogenes* will not occur:

Listeria monocytogenes - Not more than 100 colony forming units per gram.

- Foods in which growth of *Listeria monocytogenes* can occur:

Listeria monocytogenes - Absent in 25 grams (<0.04 colony forming units per gram).

These microbiological criteria can be used to assess the acceptability of ready-to-eat foods in international trade for imported products, at end of manufacture (finished product) for domestic products, and at the points of their sale, storage and use.

The adopted Annex forms Annex II to the existing *Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of Listeria monocytogenes in Ready-to-Eat Foods (CAC/GL-61-2007)*.

c) Microbiological Criteria for Powdered Follow-up Formulae and Formulae for Special Medical Purposes for Young Children (Annex II to the Code of Hygienic Practice for Powdered Formulae for Infants and Young Children (CAC/RCP 66-2008)) (ALINORM 09/32/13, Appendix III)

The Commission adopted the Annex, which provides two sets of microbiological criteria for powdered follow-up formulae and formulae for special medical purposes for young children as follows:

- Pathogenic bacteria *Salmonella* – Absent in 25 grams.

- Process hygiene indicators:
 - Mesophilic aerobic bacteria - Not more than 5000 per gram
 - *Enterobacteriaceae* - Absent in 10 grams

The adopted Annex forms Annex II to the existing *Code of Hygienic Practice for Powdered Formulae for Infants and Young Children (CAC/RCP 66-2008)*.

d) Generic Model Official Certificate (Annex to the Guidelines for Design, Production, Issuance and Use of Generic Official Certificate (CAC/GL 38-2001)) (ALINORM 09/32/30, Appendix II)

The Commission adopted the generic model official certificate. The Certificate is to be issued by the Competent Authorities of the exporting country. Some of the important features of the generic certificate are provided below:

- Country of origin (*name of the country in which the products were produced, manufactured or packaged*) is to be indicated;
- Identification of food products, among others includes information on the region or compartment of origin (*only for products affected by regionalisation measures or by the setting up of approved zones or compartments*); and
- Attestation includes information indicating compliance with the relevant regulation(s) of the importing or exporting countries in accordance with the recommendations, as appropriate, of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

The adopted generic certificate forms the Annex to the *Guidelines for Design, Production, Issuance and Use of Generic Official Certificate (CAC/GL 38-2001)*.

e) Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides (ALINORM 09/32/24, Appendices II and III)

The Commission adopted maximum residue limits (MRLs) for 12 pesticides in milks and/or milk fats, in some cases to replace the existing MRLs. These MRLs are provided below:

S. no.	Pesticide	MRL, mg/kg (mg/kg=ppm)
1.	Azoxystrobin	0.01, Milks
		0.03, Milk fats
2.	Buprofezin	0.01, Milks
3.	Chlorantraniliprole	0.01, Milks
		0.10, Milk fats
4.	Chlorpropham	0.01, Milks
		0.02, Milk fats
5.	Cyhalothrin (including lambda cyhalothrin)	0.20, Milks
6.	Cypermethrin (including alpha – and zeta-cypermethrin)	0.50, Milk fats
7.	Diphenylamine	0.01, Milks
		0.01, Milk fats
8.	Imidacloprid	0.10, Milks
9.	Prothioconazole	0.004, Milks
10.	Spinetoram	0.01, Milks
		0.10, Milk fats
11.	Spirotetramate	0.005, Milks
12.	Tebuconazole	0.01, Milks

f) Maximum Residue Limits for Veterinary Drugs (ALINORM 09/32/31, Appendices II and III)

The Commission adopted maximum residue limits (MRLs) for 3 veterinary drugs in cattle milk. These MRLs are provided below:

S. no.	Veterinary Drug	MRL in milk, µg/kg (µg/kg = ppb)
1.	Dexamethasone (Glucocorticosteroid)	0.3 (expressed as(µg/l)
2.	Monensin	2
3.	Tylosin	100

g) Guidelines for the Design and Implementation of National Regulatory Food Safety Assurance Programmes Associated with the Use of Veterinary Drugs in Food Producing Animals (ALINORM 09/32/31, Appendix IV)

The adopted Guidelines provide overarching principles and guidance for governments on the design and implementation of national and trade related food safety assurance programmes for residues of veterinary drugs. It includes guidance on analytical methods for residue control and two annexes that provide guidance on sampling strategy and sampling of commodities.

The adopted Guidelines replace the *Guidelines for the Establishment of a Regulatory Programme for Control of Veterinary Drug Residues in Foods* (CAC/GL 16-1993) and

Code of Practice for Control of the Use of Veterinary Drugs (CAC/RCP 38-1993).

3. STANDARD ADVANCED TO STEP 5 FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

Draft Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides (ALINORM 09/32/31, Appendix IV)

The Commission adopted the draft MRL for the pesticide haloxyfop in milk as 0.3 µg/kg at step 5.

4. STANDARDS REVOKED

a) Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides (ALINORM 09/32/24, Appendix V)

The Commission revoked the following maximum residue limits (MRLs) for pesticides in milks:

S. no.	Pesticide	MRL, mg/kg (mg/kg=ppm)
1.	Carbosulfan	0.03, Milks
2.	Carbofuran	0.05, Milks
3.	Chlorpropham	0.0005, Cattle Milk
4.	Diphenylamine	0.0004, Cattle Milk
5.	Imidacloprid	0.02, Milks
6.	Tebuconazole	0.01, Cattle Milk

b) Maximum Residue Limits for Veterinary Drugs (ALINORM 09/32/31, Paragraph 72)

The Commission revoked the temporary MRL for the veterinary drug tilmicosin in sheep milk (50 µg/kg).

c) Guidelines for the Establishment of a Regulatory Programme for Control of Veterinary Drug Residues in Foods (CAC/GL 16-1993); and Code of Practice for Control of the Use of Veterinary Drugs (CAC/RCP 38-1993) (ALINORM 09/32/31, Paragraph 106)

These two guidelines have been replaced by the newly adopted *Guidelines for the Design and Implementation of National Regulatory Food Safety Assurance Programmes Associated with the Use of Veterinary Drugs in Food Producing Animals (ALINORM 09/32/31, Appendix IV)*.

* * *

NEWS SECTION

Indian Food Laws

- **Notification GSR 329(E) of 15 May 2009 of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare:** The notification is a latest corrigendum to an earlier notification GSR 356(E) of 7 June 2005 (refer *Technews* Issues 60, January–February 2006 and 61, March–April 2006). The Corrigendum indicates that the provisions in the GSR 356 (E) on the definitions, food additive provisions and microbiological specifications for a few specified dairy products (cheese, processed cheese, processed cheese

spread, ice cream/kulfi/chocolate ice cream/softy ice cream, dried ice cream mix/dried frozen dessert/confection, frozen dessert/frozen confection, milk ice/milk lolly and yoghurt) shall come into force after 4 years and three months from the date of publication of GSR 356(E). Therefore, these provisions are now likely to be applicable from 7 September 2009. All the other provisions of the notification 356(E) became effective from 7 March 2006.

- **Notification No. S.O. 1575(E) of 29 June 2009 of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare:** It appoints 29 June 2009 as the date on which the provisions under Section 99 of the Food Safety and Standards Act (FSSA), 2006 shall come into force.

The Section 99 indicates that the Milk and Milk Products Order (MMPO), 1992 issued under the Essential Commodities Act shall be deemed to the Milk and Milk Products Regulations (MMPR), 1992 issued by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) under the FSSA Act. It also provides power to the FSSAI to amend the MMPR, 1992.

The FSSAI is now in the process of amending the MMPR, 1992.

- **Notification No. S.O. 1868(E) of 31 July 2009 of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare:** It appoints 31 July 2009 as the date on which the provisions under Section 36 to 47 of the Food Safety and Standards Act (FSSA), 2006 shall come into force. These Sections pertain to the provisions on Food Safety Officer; Powers of the Food Safety Officer; Liability of the Food Safety Officer in Certain Cases; Purchaser May Have the Food Analyzed; Power of Search, Seizure, Investigation, Prosecution

and Procedure Thereof; Procedure for Launching Prosecution; Recognition and Accreditation of Laboratories, Research Institutions and Referral Food Laboratory; Recognition of Organization or Agency for Food Safety Audit; Food Analysts; and Functions of Food Analysts.

Codex Alimentarius Commission

The 18th Session of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) was held during 11-15 May 2009 in Natal, Brazil (refer *Technews* 78, January - February 2009). Some of the important agenda items discussed and the decisions of the Committee on these are provided below:

- The CCRVDF forwarded draft maximum residue limits (MRLs) for three veterinary drugs (Dexamethasone (Glucocorticosteroid), Monensin and Tylosin) in cattle milk for adoption by the Commission at Step 8.
- The Committee forwarded the draft *Guidelines for the Design and Implementation of National Regulatory Food Safety Assurance Programmes Associated with the Use of Veterinary Drugs in Food Producing Animals* for adoption by the Commission at Step 8.

International Dairy Federation (IDF)

IDF has published the following Bulletin/Standard recently:

- IDF Bulletin No.437/2009: Effects of Food-and-Mouth Disease on the Dairy Industry; and
- ISO 23623 - IDF 213: Determination of the Acidification Activity of Dairy Cultures by Continuous pH Measurement (CpH).

For purchasing the IDF publications, the following may be contacted:

Mr. Oscar Chavez
Office Manager
International Dairy Federation
Diamant Building
Boulevard Auguste Reyers 80
1030 Brussels
Belgium
E-mail: OChavez@fil-idf.org
Tel: +32 2 7069647
Fax: +32 2 7330413