

FORMAT FOR CODEX COMMODITY STANDARDS INCLUDING STANDARDS ELABORATED UNDER THE CODE OF PRINCIPLES CONCERNING MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS

Introduction

The format is also intended for use as a guide by the subsidiary bodies of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in presenting their standards, with the object of achieving, as far as possible, a uniform presentation of commodity standards. The format also indicates the statements which should be included in standards as appropriate under the relevant headings of the standard. The sections of the format required to be completed for a standard are only those provisions that are appropriate to an international standard for the food in question.

Name of the Standard

Scope

Description

Essential Composition and Quality Factors

Food Additives

Contaminants

Hygiene

Weights and Measures

Labelling

Methods of Analysis and Sampling

Format for Codex Standards

Name of the Standard

The name of the standard should be clear and as concise as possible. It should usually be the common name by which the food covered by the standard is known or, if more than one food is dealt with in the standard, by a generic name covering them all. If a fully informative title is inordinately long, a subtitle could be added.

Scope

This section should contain a clear, concise statement as to the food or foods to which the standard is applicable unless the name of the standard clearly and concisely identifies the food or foods. A generic standard covering more than one specific product should clearly identify the specific products to which the standard applies.

Description

This section should contain a definition of the product or products with an indication, where appropriate, of the raw materials from which the product or products are derived and any necessary references to processes of manufacture. The description may also include references to types and styles of product and to type of pack. The description may also include additional definitions when these additional definitions are required to clarify the meaning of the standard.

Essential Composition and Quality Factors

This section should contain all quantitative and other requirements as to composition including, where necessary, identity characteristics, provisions on packing media and requirements as to compulsory and optional ingredients. It should also include quality factors which are essential for the designation, definition, or composition of the product concerned. Such factors could

include the quality of the raw material, with the object of protecting the health of the consumer, provisions on taste, odor, color, and texture which may be apprehended by the senses, and basic quality criteria for the finished products, with the object of preventing fraud. This section may refer to tolerances for defects, such as blemishes or imperfect material, but this information should be contained in appendix to the standard or in another advisory text.

Food Additives

This section should contain the names of the additives permitted and, where appropriate, the maximum amount permitted in the food. It should be prepared in accordance with guidance given on pages 93 to 96 of the Codex Procedural Manual and may take the following form:

"The following provisions in respect of food additives and their specifications as contained in section * * * of the Codex Alimentarius are subject to endorsement [have been endorsed] by the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants."

A tabulation should then follow, viz.:

"Name of additive, maximum level (in percentage or mg/kg)."

Contaminants

(a) *Pesticide Residues*: This section should include, by reference, any levels for pesticide residues that have been established by the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues for the product concerned.

(b) *Other Contaminants*: In addition, this section should contain the names of other contaminants and where appropriate the maximum level permitted in the food, and the text to appear in the standard may take the following form:

"The following provisions in respect of contaminants, other than pesticide residues, are subject to endorsement [have been endorsed] by the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants."

A tabulation should then follow, viz.:

"Name of contaminant, maximum level (in percentage or mg/kg)."

Hygiene

Any specific mandatory hygiene provisions considered necessary should be included in this section. They should be prepared in accordance with the guidance given on pages 96 to 98 of the Codex Procedural Manual. Reference should also be made to applicable codes of hygienic practice. Any parts of such codes, including in particular any end-product specifications, should be set out in the standard, if it is considered necessary that they should be made mandatory. The following statement should also appear:

"The following provisions in respect of the food hygiene of the product are subject to endorsement [have been endorsed] by the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene."

Weights and Measures

This section should include all provisions, other than labelling provisions, relating to weights and measures, e.g. where appropriate, fill of container, weight, measure or count of units determined by an appropriate method of sampling and

analysis. Weights and measures should be expressed in S.I. units. In the case of standards which include provisions for the sale of products in standardized amounts, e.g. multiples of 100 grams, S.I. units should be used, but this would not preclude additional statements in the standards of these standardized amounts in approximately similar amounts in other systems of weights and measures.

Labelling

This section should include all the labelling provisions contained in the standard and should be prepared in accordance with the guidance given on pages 91 to 93 of the Codex Procedural Manual. Provisions should be included by reference to the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods. The section may also contain provisions which are exemptions from, additions to, or which are necessary for the interpretation of the General Standard in respect of the product concerned provided that these can be justified fully. The following statement should also appear:

"The following provisions in respect of the labelling of this product are subject to endorsement [have been endorsed] by the Codex Committee on Food Labelling."

Methods of Analysis and Sampling

This section should include, either specifically or by reference, all methods of analysis and sampling considered necessary and should be prepared in accordance with the guidance given on pages 99 to 102 of the Codex Procedural Manual. If two or more methods have been proved to be equivalent by the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling, these could be regarded as alternative and included in this section either specifically or by reference.

The following statement should also appear:

"The methods of analysis and sampling described hereunder are to be endorsed [have been endorsed] by the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling."

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BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Special Provision for Frozen Concentrated Orange Juice Under the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service.

ACTION: Notice of determination of termination of existence of price conditions necessary for imposition of temporary duty on frozen concentrated orange juice from Mexico.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 309(a) of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act of 1993 ("NAFTA Implementation Act"), this is a notification that for 5 consecutive business days the daily price for frozen concentrated orange juice has exceeded the trigger price.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joseph Somers, Horticultural and Tropical Products Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250-1000 or telephone at (202) 720-3423.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NAFTA Implementation Act authorizes the imposition of a temporary duty (snapback) for Mexican frozen concentrated orange juice when certain conditions exist. Mexican articles falling under subheading 2009.11.00 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) are subject to the snapback duty provision.

Under Section 309(a) of the NAFTA Implementation Act, certain price conditions must exist before the United States can apply a snapback duty on imports of Mexican frozen concentrated orange juice. In addition, such imports must exceed specified amounts before the snapback duty can be applied. The price conditions exist when for each period of 5 consecutive business days the daily price for frozen concentrated orange juice is less than the trigger price.

For the purpose of this provision, the term "daily price" means the daily closing price of the New York Cotton Exchange, or any successor as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture (the "Exchange"), for the closest month in which contracts for frozen concentrated orange juice are being traded on the Exchange. The term "business day" means a day in which contracts for frozen concentrated orange juice are being traded on the Exchange.

The term "trigger price" means the average daily closing price of the Exchange for the corresponding month during the previous 5-year period, excluding the year with the highest average price for the corresponding month and the year with the lowest average price for the corresponding month.

Price conditions no longer exist when the Secretary determines that for a period of 5 consecutive business days the daily price for frozen concentrated orange juice has exceeded the trigger price. Whenever the price conditions are determined to exist or to cease to exist the Secretary is required to immediately notify the Commissioner of Customs of such determination. Whenever the determination is that the price conditions exist and the quantity of Mexican articles of frozen concentrated orange juice entered exceeds (1) 264,978,000 liters (single strength equivalent) in any of calendar years 1994 through 2002, or (2) 340,560,000 liters (single strength

equivalent) in any calendar years 2003 through 2007, the rate of duty on Mexican articles of frozen concentrated orange juice that are entered after the date on which the applicable quantity limitation is reached and before the date of publication in the **Federal Register** of the determination that the price conditions have ceased to exist shall be the lower of—(1) the column 1—General rate of duty in effect for such articles on July 1, 1991; or (2) the column 1—General rate of duty in effect on that day. For the purpose of this provision, the term "entered" means entered or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption in the customs territory of the United States.

In accordance with Section 309(a) of the NAFTA Implementation Act, it has been determined that for the period May 5-11, 1998, the daily price for frozen concentrated orange juice has exceeded the trigger price.

Issued at Washington, D.C. the 19th day of May 1998.

Timothy J. Galvin,

Acting Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.

[FR Doc. 98-14006 Filed 5-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service (RHS), USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection: comments request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Housing Service's intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the program for Farm Labor Housing Loan and Grant Policies, Procedures and Authorizations for Multi-Family Housing.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by July 27, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary Fox, Senior Loan Specialist, Multi-Family Housing Processing Division, RHS, United States Department of Agriculture, Stop 0782, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-0782, Telephone (202) 720-1606.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Farm Labor Housing Loan and Grant Policies, Procedures and Authorizations.

OMB Number: 0575-0045.

Expiration Date of Approval: July 31, 1998.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The Rural Housing Service (RHS) is authorized under Section 514, 515, 516, and 521 of Title V of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended, to make initial and subsequent loans and grants to provide housing and related facilities for domestic farm labor. A loan only can be made to a farmowner, family farm partnership, family farm corporation, or an association of farmers whose farming operations demonstrate a need for farm labor housing and that is engaged in agricultural or aquacultural farming operations and which will own the housing and operate it on a nonprofit basis. A loan and/or grant can be made to public, private nonprofit organizations for domestic farm labor in areas where need exists. In some cases, rental assistance may be provided to eligible tenants.

RHS has the responsibility of assuring the public that funds for LH projects are financed to build, buy, improve or repair farm labor housing and related facilities. The facilities financed are to have decent, safe and sanitary living conditions and are managed and operated as mandated by Congress. 7 CFR part 1944, subpart D was issued to set forth the policies and procedures and delegation of authority for making initial and subsequent insured loans under Section 514 and grants under Section 516 to provide housing and related facilities for domestic farm labor and to assure that applicable laws and authorities are carried out as intended.

With the provisions of this regulation, RHS will be able to provide the financial assistance and necessary guidance to applicants in the development of their project proposals. It provides the Agency the capacity to meaningfully evaluate the feasibility of the proposed projects. RHS will be able to assure Congress and the general public that all LH projects will be operated for purposes that are intended, and for the benefit of those they are mandated to serve.

The required information is collected on a project-by-project basis and is done so in accordance with the amended Housing Act of 1949, so that RHS can provide guidance and be assured of compliance with terms and conditions of loan, grant, and or subsidy agreements.