



Institute for Food Laws & Regulations
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Why Codex Alimentarius is Important in the Future of Food Color

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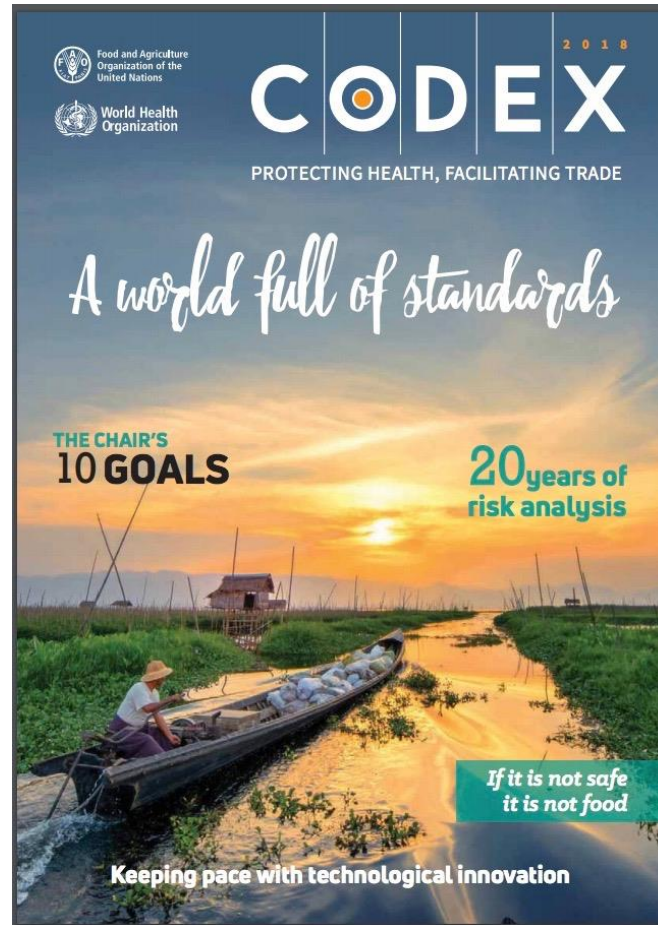
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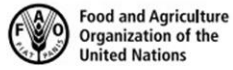
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International Association of Color Manufacturers
Washington, D.C., November 2018



CODEX: Protecting Health, Facilitating Trade. A World Full of Standards





Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION

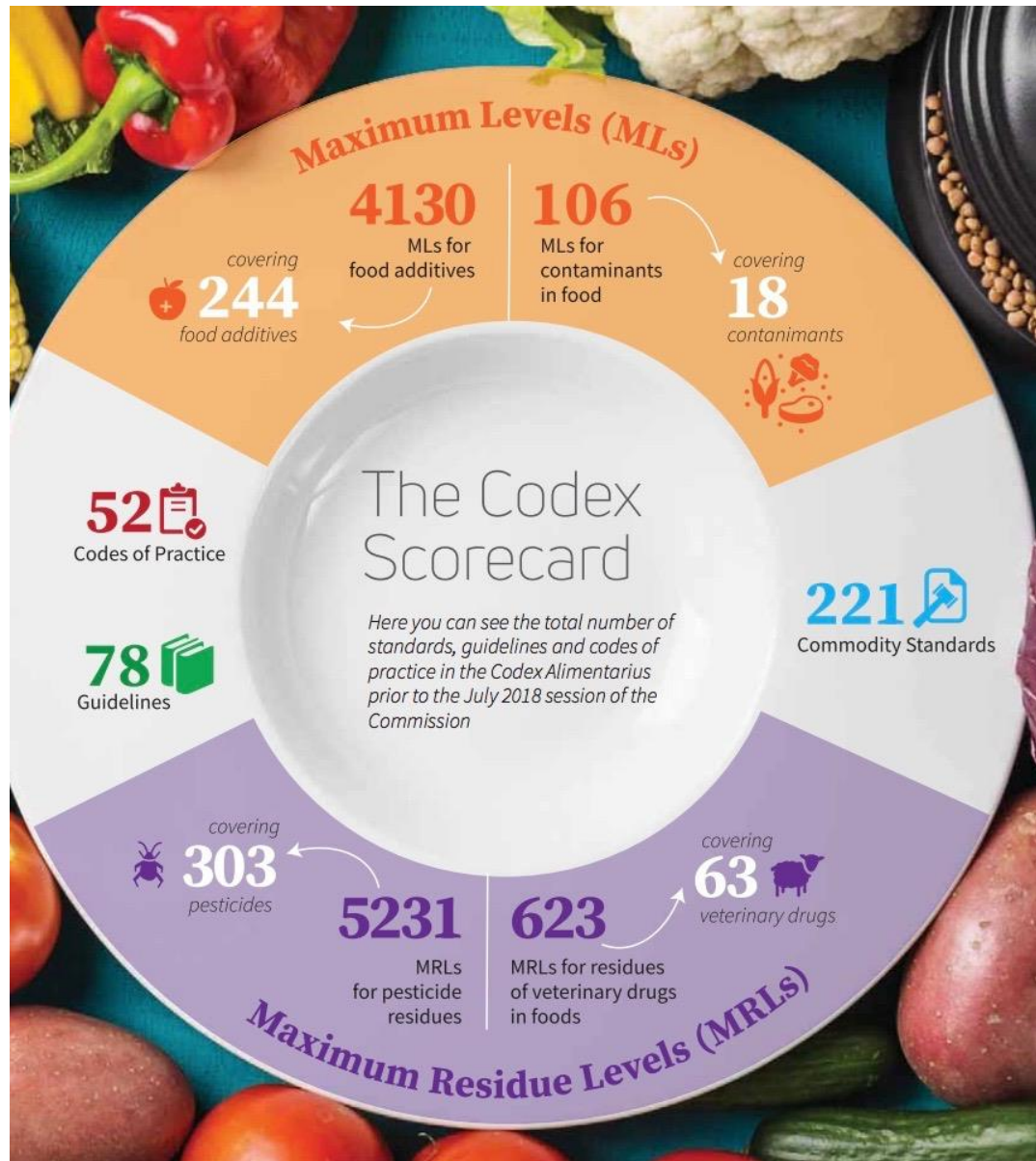
TRADE AND FOOD STANDARDS





Codex Mandate







Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

Terms of Reference:

- Permitted maximum levels for individual food additives
- Priority lists of food additives for risk assessment by JECFA
- Assign functional classes to individual food additives
- Specifications of identity and purity for food additives
- Methods of analysis --- additives in food
- Standards/codes --- labelling of food additives when sold as such



Codex and Colour

www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/%20GSFA-online%20/Functional-Classes/en

GSFA = Codex General Standard for Food Additives

Food additive functional classes:

Colour = “a food additive, which adds
or restores colour in a food”

- ✓ Colour
- ✓ Decorative pigment
- ✓ Surface colorant



Codex and Colour (Continued)

Color retention agent = a food additive, which stabilizes, retains or intensifies the colour of a food

- ✓ Colour adjunct
- ✓ Colour fixative
- ✓ Colour retention agent
- ✓ Colour stabilizer



Codex: General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA)

(Codex standard 192-1995, 475 pages)

www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/codex-texts/dbs/gsfa/en

1. Scope

- Food additives included in this standard
- Foods in which additives may be used
- Foods in which additives may not be used
- Maximum use levels for food additives

2. Definitions

3. General principles for the use of food additives

- Food additive safety
- Justification for the use of the additives
- Good manufacturing practices
- Specifications for the identity and purity of food additives



Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)

www.fao.org/3/BS727EN/bs727en.pdf

FAO Roster of Experts for JECFA (2017-2021)

- Food additives, contaminants and natural toxins
- 58 experts 27 countries

...members with chemical expertise for the identity and the purity of food additives, for the assessment of residue levels of veterinary drugs and to assess the quality of monitoring data for contaminants.

WHO takes responsibility for selecting members in order to establish acceptable daily intakes (ADIs) or to give a quantitative estimate of the health risk.



JECFA: FAO/WHO Roster of Experts on Exposure Assessment of Chemicals in Food

www.fao.org/3/a-br855e.pdf

- **19 experts** **9 countries**
- **Thousands of chemicals, few experts**
- WHO conflicts of interest policy for WHO experts:
www.who.int/phi/news/declarations_of_interest_cewg.ppt
- Pew study details conflicts of interest in food additives safety reviews:
www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2013/08/07/pew-study-details-conflicts-of-interest-in-food-additives-safety-reviews





Codex and U.S. Government

www.fsis.usda.gov/Codex_Alimentarius/index.asp

U.S. Codex office moved from Food Safety and Inspection Service (**FSIS**) to Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs (**TFAA**)

	2018 Budget	Staff Years (estimated)
U.S. Codex Office	\$3,796,000	9
FSIS	\$1,038,069,000	9,109
USDA	\$146 Billion	95,933



IACM Attendance:

Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA)

www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/committee/en/?committee=CCFA

All meetings of the CCFA listed below were held in the Peoples' Republic of China (ICAM attendee numbers in parenthesis).

2018 (8)

2014 (5)

2017 (2)

2013 (8)

2016 (6)

2012 (1)

2015 (8)

2011 (1)



IACM and Codex: Speaker's Search

- 2013: International Colour Regulations – Focus on Codex (webinar)
- IACM Statement on Codex GSFA

www.iacmcolor.org/color-info/iacm-statement-codex-gsfa

IACM appreciates and supports that many developing countries, as well as countries that are revising their food law, look to Codex standards for guidance. However, the Codex process is very deliberate... not all additives, including many colors that are approved in countries such as the US and the EU have made it through the Codex step process for inclusion in the GSFA.



Codex: 10 Goals

Do they Relate to IACM?

- 1. Be ready to respond to emerging food safety, quality and nutrition issues in a timely manner** to protect consumer health and ensure fair practices in the food trade.
- 2. Ensure Codex standards are based on sound scientific evidence.**
- 3. Connect with the realities of different countries**, bring countries together and build consensus at every step of the Codex standard-setting process.
- 4. Continue to promote broad participation and inclusivity**, including through the Codex Trust Fund.



Codex: 10 Goals

(continued)

5. **Raise consumer awareness and build trust in Codex standards**, acknowledging that consumer associations can help our stakeholders see issues from a public perspective.
6. **Enhance the participation in Codex work of diverse actors along the food chain** to facilitate access to healthy, nutritious food, and provide standards to guide people who depend directly on agriculture and the food system for their livelihoods.
7. **Strengthen cooperation with other international organizations related to food safety and fair practices in the food trade.**



Codex: 10 Goals

(continued)

- 8. Step up advocacy and outreach to all sectors involved in food safety and fair practices in the food trade.**
- 9. Contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals.**
- 10. Act together in Codex** – in our changing world of ever-swifter communications and scientific developments with significant implications for food safety and trade, Codex works to strengthen collaboration across different sectors, both public and private, through genuine and effective partnerships.



Codex Spelling and Dates (Important)

Dates:

2/11/2018 = 2 November, 2018 (Codex)
= 11 February, 2018 (U.S.)

Spelling:

Codex	U.S.
Colour	Color
Labelling	Labeling
Flavour	Flavor
Sulphites	Sulfites



Institute for Food Laws & Regulations

- 14 online graduate-level courses
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 - Country/region-specific courses: US, EU, Latin America, Canada, China
 - Codex Alimentarius
 - Animal Health, World Trade and Food Safety
 - Regulatory Leadership
 - Wine, Beer, Spirits Laws & Regulations
 - Food Contact Substances (Packaging)
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Online Course in Codex Alimentarius

- Offered twice/year
 - Starts at the end of August, and beginning of January
 - Approximately 12 weeks of class
- Topics include:
 - Key documents
 - Committees: general subject, commodity, and regional coordinating
 - Current official standards
 - Intergovernmental task forces
 - Food safety, WHO and Codex
 - International trade
 - Sanitary and phytosanitary measures
 - Technical barriers to trade agreements
 - Developing countries and Codex
 - Industry and Codex
 - World Bank and Codex
- Learn more at www.iflr.msu.edu



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Thank you

Go raibh maith agaibh (Irish)

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