2.2 Classification

2.2.1 Soybean milk Soy(a)milk and Related Products

Soybean milk Soy(a)milk is the milky liquid, prepared from soybeans with eluting protein and other components in hot/cold water or other physical means, without adding optional ingredients. Fibres can be removed from the products.

2.2.2 Composite/ flavoured Soy(a)milk

Composite/flavoured Soy(a)milk is the milky liquid, prepared by adding optional ingredients to Soybean milk Soy(a)milk. It includes products such as Soybean milk Soy(a)milk sweetened with sugar, spiced Soybean milk Soy(a)milk, salted Soybean milk Soy(a)milk.

2.2.3 Soybean-based beverages

Soybean-based beverage is the milky liquid products prepared by adding optional ingredients to Soybean milk Soy(a)milk, with lower protein content than composite/flavoured Soybean milk Soy(a)milk (2.2.1.2).

2.2.4 Dehydrated Soy(a)milk Film

Dehydrated Soy(a)milk film is obtained from the uncovered still surface of semi-finished Soybean milk Soy(a)milk, with or without folding up, which will be dehydrated. It may be dipped in salt solution prior to dehydration.

Rationale

1. China agrees that the food category descriptors of the GSFA are not intended form labelling purposes and section 8.4 of the proposed draft standard is not related to the GSFA.

2. With regard to the General Standard for the Use of Dairy Terms (GSUDT) (CODEX STAN 206-1999), the GSUDT allows the use of dairy terms for other foods under the condition that “the exact nature of which is clear from traditional usage or when the name is clearly used to describe a characteristic quality of the non-milk products”. As “soybean milk” couldn’t be accepted by all regional countries, we propose to use “soy(a)milk” instead of “soybean milk”. Soy(a)milk, as one word, has been used all over the world for several decades. It clearly reflects the characteristic quality of the products. It is completely different from the phrase “soybean milk”. There will be no confusion when using the word.

3. Searching the word “soy(a)milk” in Google, there are 17,000,000 entries appeared. This indicates that
the word “soy(a)milk” has been used widely by manufacturing industries and consumers.

4. According to the statistic data, the word “soymilk” written as one word was used in English papers, at least 9 times during 1960s, 31 times during 1970s, 84 times during 1980s. So we believe that the word “soymilk” written as one word has been used widely in the world for a long time.

5. Soymilk also has been used in the standards issued by the Soyfoods Association of America.