

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of
the United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 6 and 10

ASIA/19 CRD12

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR ASIA

Nineteenth Session

Tokyo, Japan, 3-7 November 2014

COMMENTS OF THAILAND

Agenda Item 6 Proposed Draft Regional Standard for Non-fermented Soybean Products

Thailand appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Proposed Draft Regional Standard for Non-fermented Soybean Products as follows:

2. DESCRIPTION

2.2 Classification

2.2.1 Soybean Milk and Related Products

Refer to the General Standard for Use of Dairy Terms (GSUDT) in section 4.6.2 stated that

“4.6.2 However, the provision in Section 4.6.1 shall not apply to the name of a product 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 product.”

Thus, the term of “Soybean Milk” can be used because it is general word which described a characteristic of liquid soybean product, and their products are traditional usage and understood for the region. Moreover, Codex General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA) in category 6.8.1 also showed detail of product as follow;

“Products prepared from dried soybeans that are soaked in water, pureed, boiled and strained, or prepared from soybean flour, soybean concentrate, or soybean isolate. In a number of countries this category includes products referred to as soybean milk.”

Consequently, Thailand would like to retain the word “Soybean Milk”

In 2.2.1 Soybean Milk and Related Products, the word “milky liquid”, this is suitable for explain the characteristic of soybean milk. Also, it is an adjective to explain physical characteristic of the liquid.

Thailand would like to seek clarification on the meaning of word “semi-finished soybean milk” indicated in 2.2.2.1 and 2.2.4

8. LABELLING

We agree with the amendment from CCFL suggestion as follow;

- Revise second paragraph which specified on GMO labelling to read: “If genetically modified soybean is used in the process consideration shall be given to the Compilation of Codex texts relevant to the labelling of foods derived from modern biotechnology (CAC/GL 76-2011).”
- Delete the sentence “If the product is meant to be sold as vegetarian food, the type of oil and fat added should be indicated with regards to its origin.”

8.1 The Name of the Product

We would like to amend the word for consistency of sentences in Codex standards as follow;

“The product ~~shall~~ ~~should~~ be designated with the appropriate term in section 2.2 or other names in accordance with the composition and the law and custom of the country in which the product is sold and in the manner not to mislead the consumer.”

Agenda Item 10 Codex Issues Relevant to the Region

Addition Issue on Table 1 - Summary of issues of interests and/or concerns replied from members

The 27th session on Codex committee on Processed Fruit and Vegetables (CCPFV) agreed to converse the draft Regional Standard for Ginseng Products to worldwide standard and to forward to the Codex Alimentarius Commission for adoption at Step 5/8. However, Thailand believe that there are some issues of this Draft Standard that be considered by CCASIA.

No	Issue of Interest and/or concern	Subsidiary body	Reason	Status of work	Proposal for actions/collaboration
1	Proposed Draft Standard for Ginseng Product	CCPFV	In Thailand dried raw ginseng and ginseng extract are regulated as medicine. Only ginseng less than 2 g. based on daily consumption are allowed to add in food product. In addition, given the lack of evidence about ginseng safety as food, ginseng is not recommended for children or for women who are pregnant or breastfeeding.	Step 5/8	Member to consider the scope of standard because some countries consider ginseng as a medicine.