

INFORMATION ON RECENT ACTIVITIES OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF DRY AND DRIED PRODUCE

Background

1. Standardization of dry and dried produce as related to spices and culinary herbs is undertaken by the Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH). The terms of reference for CCSCH are:
 - a) To elaborate worldwide standards for spices and culinary herbs in their dried and dehydrated state in whole, ground, and cracked or crushed form;
 - b) To consult, as necessary, with other international organizations in the standards development process to avoid duplication.
2. The recommendations of the Fifth Session of CCSCH held virtually on 20-29 April 2021 (CCSCH5) were adopted by the Forty fourth Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC44) as follows.

Standards adopted

- 2.1 The following standards were adopted and have been published on the Codex website:
 - *Standard for dried oregano* (CXS 342-2021)
 - *Standard for dried roots, rhizomes and bulbs: Dried or dehydrated ginger* (CXS 343-2021)
 - *Standard for dried floral parts: Cloves* (CXS 344-2021)
 - *Standard for dried basil* (CXS 345-2021)

New work approved

- 2.2 The following new work proposals for the elaboration of Codex Standards for Spices and Culinary Herbs (SCH) was approved:
 - Standard for small cardamom;
 - Standard for turmeric; and
 - Group standard for spices in the form of dried fruits and berries (All spice, Juniper berry, Star anise and Vanilla)

Ongoing work

3. CCSCH also agreed to continue discussions on the following draft standards
 - Draft standard for Saffron;
 - Draft standard for dried nutmeg; and
 - The proposed draft standard for dried chili pepper and paprika

Meetings

4. Forthcoming meetings in relation to the dry and dried produce include:
 - The Sixth Session of the Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs scheduled to take place from 26-29 September and 3rd October for report adoption.
 - The Forty fifth Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission scheduled to take place in November/December 2022.

The current and upcoming meetings for 2022/2023 can be accessed through the following link:

<https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/en/>