

## European Union reply to

## CL 2023/56/OCS-SCH

## Request for Comments, at Step 3, on the Proposed draft Standard for dried roots, rhizomes and bulbs – Turmeric

**Mixed Competence  
Member States Vote**

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) would like to thank Iran (Islamic Republic of) and India for updating the draft **Standard for dried roots, rhizomes and bulbs – Turmeric**.

The EUMS would like to submit the following comments:

PARAGRAPH	COMMENTS
<b>2.1 Product Definition</b>	<p>We suggest that the product definition is replaced by, as referred to in ISO 5562:</p> <p><b><u>"Dried or dehydrated turmeric is the product obtained from drying of the cured rhizomes of plants <i>Curcuma longa</i> L. of Zingiberaceae. The curing process is done by soaking the rhizomes in boiling water. Dried rhizomes may be in natural form, or machine polished."</u></b></p> <p>Table 1: A new column with a "<b><u>Trade name</u></b>" should be inserted to be consistent with the draft template for SCH standard and with other draft standards, such as chilli peppers and paprika..</p>
<b>8.1</b>	<p>Editorial comment: The first sentence should be presented without indicating "8.1":</p> <p><b><del>8.1</del></b> "The products covered by the provisions of this Standard shall be labelled in accordance with the General Standard for the <i>Labelling of Prepackaged Foods</i> (CXS 1-1985)."</p> <p>This is a sentence that ends in colon and is followed by sub-bullet points, that need to be renumbered accordingly, i.e.: 8.1</p>

	Name of product, 8.2 Country of origin, 8.3 Commercial identification (...) etc.
<b>8.2.3</b>	<p>The following amendment needs to be made:</p> <p>8.2.3 Trade name, variety or cultivar <b>shall</b> <del>may</del> be listed on the label.</p> <p>Rationale: as agreed at CCSCH6, see para 129 of REP22/SCH.</p>
<b>Annex I, Table 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Total Ash %w/w (max): The values of 7 to be replaced by 9 (for consistency with ISO 5562).</li> <li>- We propose to add “<b><u>on dry basis</u></b>” to the parameters: Total Ash and Acid Insoluble Ash. This would be consistent with the parameters listed in Table 4 of this draft codex standard and with ISO 5562</li> <li>- We suggest replacing “<del>Total curcuminoids % (colouring power)</del> on dry basis (min)” with <b><u>Curcuminoids content (colouring power) % w/w on dry basis (min)</u></b>. This would be consistent with the use of the term "content" throughout this draft Codex standard and would also align with ISO 5562.</li> </ul>
<b>Annex I, Table 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As a general comment, the parameters for physical characteristics are not consistent in the different standards (particularly the parameters referring to external contamination).</li> <li>- The following 5 columns should be deleted and replaced by a generic sentence (for consistency with ISO 5562 and as suggested for other standards): Mould Visible / Insect defiled / infested. % w/w (max); Whole insects, dead (by count) /100 g (max); Live insects (By count) /100 g (max); Mammalian excreta % mg/kg (max); Other Excreta<sup>3</sup> % mg/kg, (max). The generic sentence: <b><u>“Insects (live &amp; dead) and mammalian excreta &amp; hair, visible to the naked eye (corrected if needed) should aim to be zero.”</u></b></li> <li>- It should be considered aligning with ISO 5562 and use the term “defective rhizomes” instead of “damaged rhizomes”. In the ISO standard there is a parameter “defective rhizome” (maximum level 5% w/w), accompanied by a definition: “Shrivelled fingers and/or bulbs, internally damaged, hollow or porous rhizomes, rhizomes scorched by boiling and other types of damaged rhizomes shall be considered as defective.” We propose adding this definition to this draft codex standard.</li> <li>- Under Extraneous matter<sup>1</sup> for the whole style it is suggested to indicate 2% max (for consistency with ISO 5562).</li> </ul>
<b>Annex II,</b>	The following should be considered:

<b>Table 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- A method for “damaged rhizomes” (or rather “defective rhizomes” if the name is changed as mentioned above) should be added.</li><li>- Replace “Colouring power (curcuminoids content)” with “<b><u>Colouring power (curcuminoids content) on dry basis</u></b>”. Add ISO 939 in second column.</li><li>- In case the column “Dead whole insects” remains, it should be added to the table with ISO 927 standard as a method.</li></ul>
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