

**European Union comments on
Codex Circular Letter CL 2021/82-FA:
Request for general information on the availability of data related
to nitrates and nitrites**

*European Union Competence
European Union Vote*

The European Union (EU) would like to provide the following comments:

The EU's reply to the previous Circular Letter (CL 2019/49-FA) is captured in CX/FA 21/52/10¹. This reply remains valid.

In addition, since the previous reply some new relevant data has become available including the new opinion of the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety on the risks associated with the consumption of nitrites and nitrates. This opinion notably covers exposure levels of French population on nitrates/nitrites used as food additives and the exposure from drinking water and plant consumption.

The opinion is available in English² and the detailed report in French³. The section covering population exposure can be found in the report, on pages 141-146.

¹ https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/sh-proxy/en/?lnk=1&url=https%253A%252F%252Fworkspace.fao.org%252Fsites%252Fcodex%252FMeetings%252FCX-711-52%252F2021SepWD%252Ffa52_10e.pdf

² <https://www.anses.fr/en/system/files/ERCA2020SA0106EN.pdf>

³ <https://www.anses.fr/fr/system/files/ERCA2020SA0106Ra.pdf>