

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD HYGIENE
(Fifty-fourth Session)
Nairobi, Kenya
11 – 15 March December 2024

European Union Comments on

Agenda item 5.2:

Proposed draft Annex IV on sprouts of the Guidelines for the control of Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC) in raw beef, fresh leafy vegetables, raw milk and raw milk cheeses, and sprouts (CXG 99-2023)
(Prepared by the Electronic Working Group chaired by Chile and the United States of America)

CX/FH 24/54/6
(Reply to CL 2024/22-FH)

Mixed Competence
European Union Vote

In response to the request for comments, the European Union and its Member States (EUMS) would like to make the following comments.

I. General Comments

The EUMS would like to thank and congratulate Chile and the United States of America with the proposed revision of the Guidelines on the draft Annex IV on sprouts of the Guidelines for the control of Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC) in raw beef, fresh leafy vegetables, raw milk and raw milk cheeses, and sprouts. The EUMS generally support the draft, subject to the considerations of the comments made below and the outcome of the discussions at CCFH54.

II. Specific comments

- Paragraph 43: the EUMS propose the following change: “Seeds should be rinsed thoroughly to remove dirt or debris before any ~~antimicrobial~~ treatment is applied.” Rationale: the word “antimicrobial” may be understood as using antimicrobials which is not correct. The possible treatments are extensively explained in paragraphs 46 to 48, so no details are needed here.