

European Union comments on

CL 2024/77-CAC

Request for comments on the standards and related texts submitted by the 17th Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods for adoption by the 47th Session of the Commission

MLs for contaminants in foods for adoption at step 5/8

*European Union Competence
European Union Vote*

The European Union (EU) reiterates its reservations expressed in CCCF17 concerning certain MLs for lead in spices:

- Spices, dried celery seeds: 1.5 mg/kg
The **EU cannot agree on this ML** as a lower ML (0.9 mg/kg) would be more appropriate based on the As Low as Reasonably Achievable (ALARA) principle and the relevant available data.
- Spices, dried rhizomes, and roots (including galangal): 2.0 mg/kg
The **EU cannot agree on this ML** as, considering the ALARA principle and with a view of protecting consumer health, a lower ML of 1.5 mg/kg would be more appropriate on the basis of available data.
- Spices, dried floral parts: 2.5 mg/kg
The **EU cannot agree on this ML** considering the ALARA approach and that, based on the relevant available data for saffron and capers, an ML of 1.0 mg/kg would be more appropriate. According to EU data the concentration of lead in cloves appears to be below 0.5 mg/kg, so the few samples with concentrations above 2 mg/kg can be considered to be outliers.
- Spices, dried Sichuan pepper and star anise: 3.0 mg/kg
The **EU cannot agree on this ML**, noting that based on data available in the EU, a lower ML of 0.6 mg/kg for star anise could be established.