

European Union comments on
Codex Circular Letter CL 2023/45-FA
Request for proposals for change and/or addition to Section 3 of the *Class*
Names and International Numbering System for Food Additives
(CXG 36-1989)

Mixed Competence
European Union Vote

In accordance with the principles for proposals for changes to section 3 "International Numbering System - INS" the European Union and its Member States (EUMS) kindly request the inclusion of one new food additive that has recently been authorised in the EU in the INS list.

The request concerns:

E 267 Buffered vinegar used as a preservative and acidity regulator

More details are provided in the Annex.

Annex

Inclusion of **E 267 BUFFERED VINEGAR** used as a preservative and acidity regulator in the INS list.

The change is requested by the European Union.

Justification for the requested INS change in Section 3: new or additional technological purpose (only select the appropriate option and provide details in the space below)

- ✓ Evidence that the compound has been or is capable of being used effectively for the technological purpose proposed.
- A Codex Commodity standard has provisions for the use of the compound.
- The JECFA specification monograph lists the technological purpose under the heading “Functional Uses”.
- ✓ A national food authority has permitted such a use.
- ✓ The food industry is currently using a substance for the technological purpose proposed.
- Other justification, what?

Details: Buffered vinegar was included in the European Union list of food additives approved for use in foods in September 2023¹. The technological need and function were scrutinised. Buffered vinegar is used as an alternative to other authorised preservatives or acidity regulators, in particular to acetic acid and its salts (E / INS 260-263). Buffering increases pH and allows the use as a preservative or acidity regulator in many food categories without impacting the quality of foods.

¹ Regulation authorising the use of buffered vinegar as a new food additive should be adopted and published in the first half of September 2023. The reference to this Regulation will be included here.

In case this Regulation is not published by the deadline for submitting comments to CL 2023/45-FA, the EU draft comments will be revised accordingly – i.e., informing that the draft Regulation received a favourable opinion of the Standing Committee of 24 April 2023 and buffered vinegar used as a food additive should be included in the European Union list of food additives approved for use in foods in the very near future.