

**CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD**  
**17<sup>th</sup> Session**

**Panama City, 15-19 April 2024**

**European Union comments on**

**Agenda Item 10:**

**Discussion paper on pyrrolizidine alkaloids in food and feed**

**(CX/CF 24/17/10)**

*Mixed Competence*  
*European Union Vote*

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) welcome and appreciate the work of the Electronic Working Group to prepare the discussion paper CX/CF 24/17/10 on pyrrolizidine alkaloids in food and feed.

The EUMS support the new work on updating the Codex Alimentarius Code of practice for weed control to prevent and reduce pyrrolizidine alkaloid contamination in food and feed (CXC 74-2014) and to complement the Code of Practice, if appropriate, with specific Annexes for tea, herbs, herbal infusions, food supplements and spices and agrees to forward the project document as outlined in Appendix II to CCEXEC and the CAC for approval as new work.

While acknowledging that the prevention and reduction of pyrrolizidine alkaloids in honey might require specific measures, the EUMS are of the opinion that it is appropriate to include the specific measures applicable to the prevention and reduction of the presence of pyrrolizidine alkaloids in honey in a specific Annex for honey to the Code of Practice and are not in favour of developing a separate Code of Practice for the prevention and reduction of the presence of pyrrolizidine alkaloids in honey.

The EUMS are in favour of preparing a document prepared by the EWG providing a guidance on sampling and analysis of the presence of pyrrolizidine alkaloids in feed and food for consideration by CCCF18 in view of issuing a future call for data on the presence of pyrrolizidine alkaloids in food and feed.

In preparation of the guidance document, it would be appropriate that the EWG elaborates an overview of:

- the currently available occurrence data, with information on the way the results are reported (individual pyrrolizidine alkaloids, sum of pyrrolizidine alkaloids) and on the methods of analysis (including the LOQ of the method), if available, used to generate the occurrence data.

- the currently applicable regulatory requirements in member countries and regions for pyrrolizidine alkaloids in feed and food.

This information would be useful to identify, if needed, minimum analytical requirements and the feed and food that should be targeted for monitoring and providing occurrence data and this in function of the purpose of collecting new data.