

European Union reply to CL 2021/28/OCS-FO

Proposed Draft amendment/revision to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils (CXS 210-1999) - Inclusion of Avocado oil

Mixed Competence

Member States Vote

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) agree with the proposed draft amendment/revision to the *Standard for Named Vegetable Oils* (CXS 210-1999): Inclusion of avocado oil and thank the EWG for the valuable work.

The EUMS welcome the inclusion of avocado oil into the *Codex Standard for Named Vegetable Oils*. Regarding the new parameter "Clerosterol", the EUMS prefer option 2, i.e to insert the new parameter for "Clerosterol" to the category "Others" in Table 3. This is because also for other oils in Table 3 "Clerosterol" is not listed separately. Furthermore, oils such as rapeseed oil (0,5%), sunflower oil (1.35%) and others contain lower amounts of clerosterol which are recorded under "Others" in Table 3. Since clerosterol is also present in other oils in appreciable quantities, it is not a unique characteristic feature that can be used to prove the authenticity of avocado oil. Thus, it is not necessary for the content to be reported in contrast to the other oils listed in the standard.

The EUMS welcome the suggestion of a new work by CCFO to elaborate a standard for virgin avocado oil with its own definition of the product since the type of raw material (mesocarp or whole fruit) as well as the process of obtaining the avocado oil (raw, virgin or extra virgin) has a strong impact on the quality of the resulting oil. That is not only true for avocado oil but also for other types of vegetable oils.