

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD
HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



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CX 5/95.2

**CL 2008/22-FFV
July 2008**

TO: Codex Contact Points
Interested International Organizations

FROM: Secretary, Codex Alimentarius Commission,
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme,
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy

SUBJECT: **Request for comments at Step 6 on the draft Codex Standard for Apples
(ALINORM 08/31/35, Appendix IV)**

DEADLINE: **31 October 2008**

COMMENTS: To:
Secretary
Codex Alimentarius Commission
Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00153 Rome, Italy
Fax: +39 06 5705 4593
E-mail: codex@fao.org (*preferably*)

BACKGROUND

1. The last session of the Committee had a thorough discussion of the Standard and several improvements and progress have been made although several issues remain unresolved. These refer, amongst others, to the inclusion of firmness as a minimum requirement since it is generally considered as being an essential quality attribute for fresh fruits and vegetables; classification by colour in relation to the importance of colour as a quality requirement and feasibility of implementing this provision at inspection level; sizing in relation to maturity, especially Brix levels for small apples, tolerances and uniformity; quality defects and their tolerances, especially those linked to the point of application of the Standard in terms of perishability of the product, changes in physiological development (internal breakdown) or biological contamination (decay), etc. In order to meet the timeframe for completion of work (2010), the Committee made a commitment to make every effort and to work in a spirit of compromise to finalize the Standard at its 15th Session (2009) for final adoption by the 33rd Session of the Commission in 2010.¹

2. The 31st Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (July 2008) adopted the proposed draft Standard for Apples as proposed by the Committee.²

Request for comments

3. Codex Members and Observers wishing to submit comments at Step 6 on the draft Standard for Apples are invited to do so in conformity with the Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts (Codex Alimentarius Commission Procedural Manual) as indicated above. Particular attention should be paid to those sections in square brackets in order to facilitate the finalization of the Standard.

¹ ALINORM 08/31/35, paras 66 – 92 and Appendix IV.

² ALINORM 08/31/REP, Appendix VIII.