

## 23rd Meeting of the Codex Contact Points in the Arab Region

ANALYSIS OF AGENDA ITEMS IN PREPARATION FOR THE 17th SESSION OF THE  
CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD  
(CCCF17)

*April 4, 2024*

# 14

## Agenda Item 14:

DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A  
CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE PREVENTION AND  
REDUCTION OF AFLATOXIN CONTAMINATION IN  
PEANUTS

CX/CF 24/17/14



# Background : Agenda Item 14

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DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE PREVENTION AND REDUCTION OF AFLATOXIN CONTAMINATION IN PEANUTS

<b>JECFA49 (1998)</b>	It was concluded that aflatoxins are human liver carcinogens with AFB1 as the most potent one. No tolerable daily intake was proposed since aflatoxins were considered genotoxic carcinogens. Thus, adoption of the ALARA (as low as reasonably achievable) principle was recommended to reduce the potential risk.
<b>JECFA83 (2017)</b>	JECFA 83 re-evaluated toxicological data and dietary exposure to AFs and reaffirmed the conclusions of the JECFA49 meeting.
<b>CCCF16 (2023)</b>	The COP for the Prevention and Reduction of Aflatoxin Contamination in Peanuts (CXC 55-2004) was identified for possible review and agreed to establish an Electronic Working Group (EWG) chaired by Brazil.

Knowing that there is already a maximum limit (ML) of 15 µg/kg for peanuts for further processing adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) and a proposed ML for ready-to-eat (RTE) peanuts under consideration by CCCF.

# The updated Code of Practice (CoP) for aflatoxin management in peanuts

- Added information to review the use of soil amendments
- New insights on the impact of water stress on fungal growth.
- Clarification on the critical period of crop growth for drought stress,
- Inclusion of biological control methods

Incorporation of an illustration to explain the stages of peanut reproductive growth

**Transport to Processing Facility**

- Clean Transportation:
- Preservation of moisture and temperature fluctuations.

**Segregation of Aflatoxin Contaminated Lots:**

- Implementation of sorting and testing

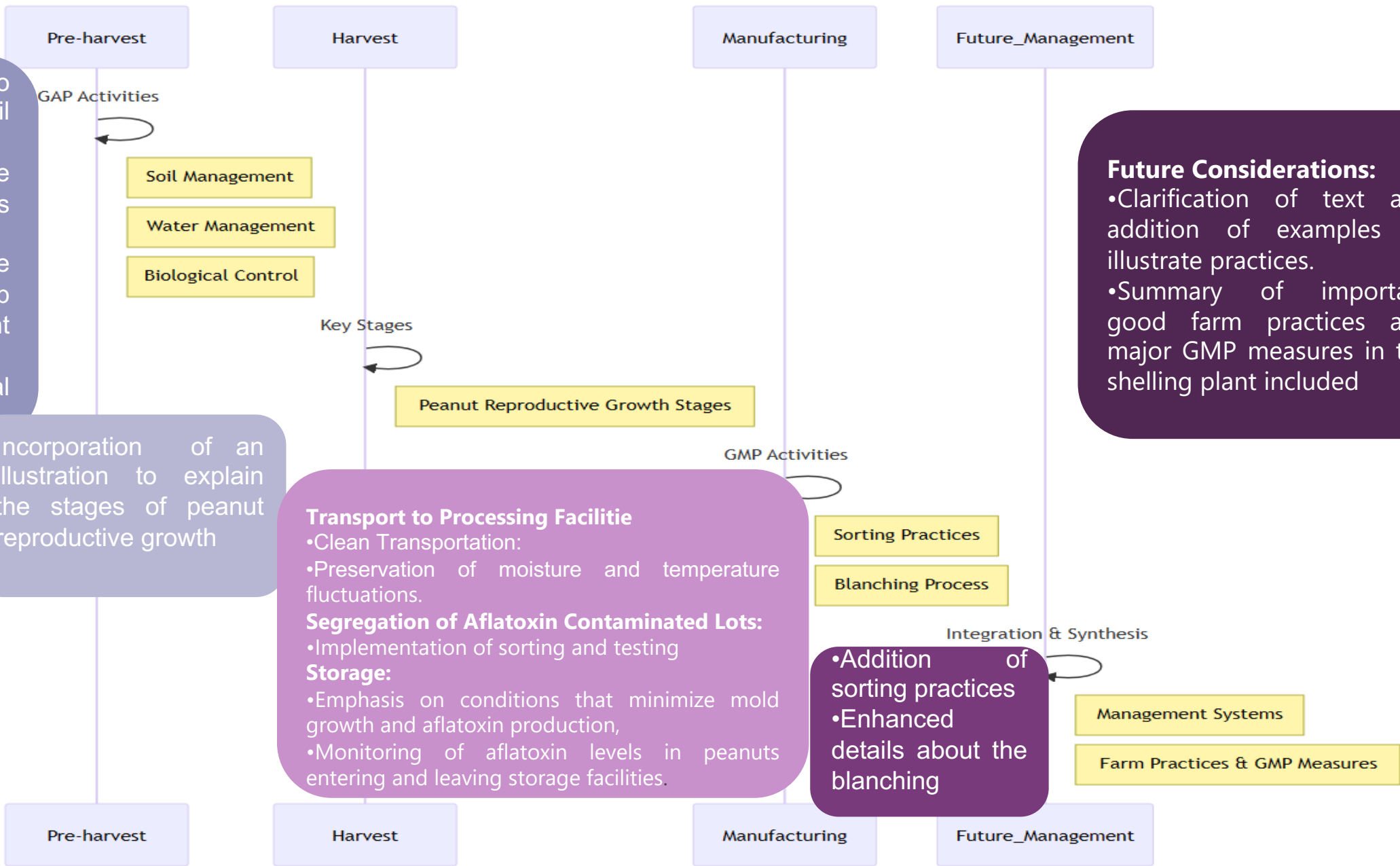
**Storage:**

- Emphasis on conditions that minimize mold growth and aflatoxin production,
- Monitoring of aflatoxin levels in peanuts entering and leaving storage facilities.

- Addition of sorting practices
- Enhanced details about the blanching

**Future Considerations:**

- Clarification of text and addition of examples to illustrate practices.
- Summary of important good farm practices and major GMP measures in the shelling plant included





The Arab codex delegations might support the recommendations of the EWG to update the CoP with new scientific data and effective measures for aflatoxin management in peanuts, reflecting advancements in research and current applications across regions.



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