

33rd Meeting of the Codex Contact Points in the Arab Region

PREPARATION FOR THE 55th SESSION OF THE CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD ADDITIVES

(CCFA55)

Presenter Name, Country

March 4, 2025

55th session of Codex Committee on food additives

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - E-mail: codex@fao.org - www.codexalimentarius.org



Agenda item 7

CX/FA 25/55/10

CX/FA 25/55/10 Add.1

Proposals for additions and changes to the
Priority List of Substances proposed for
evaluation by JECFA (replies to CL 2024/59-FA)

Toxicological Data

- Metabolic and pharmacokinetic studies.
- Short-term toxicity, long-term toxicity/carcinogenicity, reproductive toxicity, and developmental toxicity studies in animals and genotoxicity studies.
- Epidemiological and/or clinical studies and special considerations.

Technological data

- Specifications for the identity and purity of the listed substances.
- Technological and nutritional considerations relating to the manufacture and use of the listed substance.

Dietary exposure assessment data

- Levels of the listed substance used in food or expected to be used in food based on technological function and the range of foods in which they are used.
- Estimation of dietary exposures based on food consumption data for foods in which the substance may be used.

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - E-mail: codex@fao.org - www.codexalimentarius.org



Agenda item 8

CX/FA 25/55/11



Standard for baker's yeast (Step 4)

CCFA55
(2025)



BACKGROUND

At the 44th Session of CAC (2021)

New work proposal

China introduced a proposal for developing a Codex standard for yeast

The purpose would be to protect consumer health, and promote fair international trade by removing trade barriers in line with the Codex Strategic Plan.



Request for guidance

China sought CAC44's advice on identifying the appropriate Codex committee to handle this work, as yeast falls outside the Terms of Reference (ToRs) of existing committees.



CAC44 decision



Adoption of the Yeast Standard Discussion Paper for CCFA



It was agreed that the discussion paper on the development of a standard for yeast should be discussed at the Codex Committee on Food Additives.

China has revised the work proposal based on CAC44's recommendations to include yeast-containing cultures for kefir in the Standard for Fermented Milks (CXS 243-2003). The revision also considers ISO's work on microbial food cultures, including yeast, and suggests excluding yeast used in alcoholic beverages.



BACKGROUND

At the CCFA53 (2023)

China presented the discussion paper emphasizing the need to establish a standard for yeast



Key Observations and Recommendations

- No health or trade issues identified due to lack of an international yeast standard.
- Proposal needs refining, focusing on baker's yeast and excluding it as a food additive.
- Edible yeast should be excluded to avoid overlap with new food source discussions.
- Scope may be limited to live baker's yeast, excluding gassing power to prevent trade barriers.
- ISO is developing a standard for yeast, and Codex and ISO should coordinate to prevent duplication.

CCFA53's Decisions



Proposal by China:

- Exclude edible yeast from the scope of the standard.
- Further discussion on the scope during the development of the standard.



CCFA Decision:

- Request China, France, and other interested Members to prepare a discussion paper.
- Include the discussion paper on the agenda of CCFA54 for further deliberation.

At the CCFA54 (2025)

General support to refine the project document, focusing on baker's yeast and incorporating feedback from the session.



Revisions by the EWG (led by China)



- China collaborated with France, Japan, Turkey, and the Confederation of European Yeast Producers to conduct a comprehensive review of the project document.
- Incorporated comments and feedback received by CAC44, CCFA53.

CCFA54 (2024)



Observation and discussion



- Members questioned the need for a Codex standard for baker's yeast, as no health or trade issues were identified.
- ISO is developing a standard for yeast, and some questioned the necessity of Codex involvement to avoid duplication.
- China explained the differences between Codex and ISO standards, emphasizing Codex's WTO recognition.
- CCFA54 supported the new work and amended the product definition to exclude "as example" to clarify the scope.



At the CCFA54 (2025)

GENERAL SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSED NEW WORK ON BAKER'S YEAST



Agreed actions

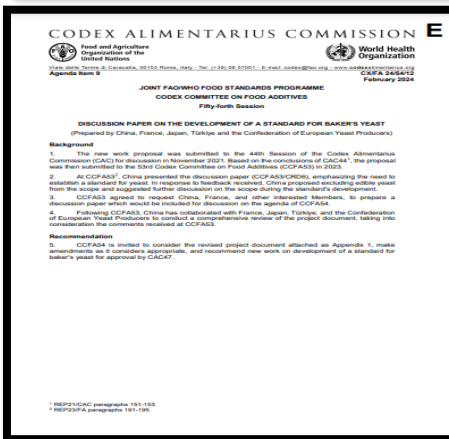
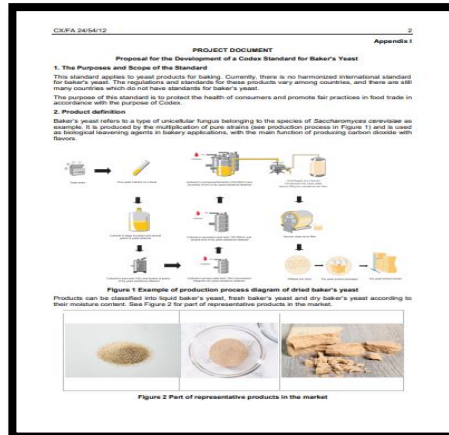
- Submit the project document for a baker's yeast standard to CAC47 for new work approval.
- Form an EWG, chaired by China and co-chaired by France and Turkey, to draft the standard for Step 3 circulation and discussion at the next session, pending approval of the new work.

CAC47 have approved the proposal for new work for baker's yeast standard.

At the CCFA55 (2025)



Discussion of the proposal for Codex Standard for Baker's Yeast



•Purpose & Scope:

Establish a global standard for baker's yeast to protect consumer health and ensure fair trade practices.

•Product Overview:

Yeast from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, used in baking for leavening. Types: Liquid, Fresh, Dry.

•Market Relevance:

Global trade valued at \$1.73 billion/year (2018-2021). Key exporters: China, France, Turkey. Major importers: US, France, Brazil.

•Need for Standard:

Prevent trade barriers; align with Codex's food safety goals; support yeast consumption & trade growth.

•Timeline:

Development to be completed in 3 Codex sessions or less.

(Prepared by China, France, Japan, Turkey and the Confederation of European Yeast Producers)

RECOMMENDATION



1

Given the significant role yeast plays in the region's food systems, Arab Codex delegations might give their support to advancing Codex Standard for Baker's Yeast

The development process must involve input from the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF) and the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH), ensuring that all safety aspects are thoroughly addressed in the final standard.

