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Report Name: National Food Safety Standard of Cereal-based Complementary Foods for Infants and Young Children Notified to WTO

Country: China - People's Republic of

Post: Beijing

Report Category: FAIRS Subject Report, Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Narrative, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, WTO Notifications

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Report Highlights:

On March 6, 2023, China notified an updated National Food Safety Standard of Cereal-based Complementary Foods for Infants and Young Children to the World Trade Organization (WTO) under G/SPS/N/CHN/1269. The deadline for comment submission is May 5, 2023. The proposed date of entry into force is to be determined. Comments may be submitted by email to China's SPS Enquiry Point at sps@customs.gov.cn. This report provides an unofficial translation of the draft standard.

Summary:

On March 6, 2023, China notified an updated National Food Safety Standard of Cereal-based Complementary Foods for Infants and Young Children to the WTO under G/SPS/N/CHN/1269. The deadline for comment submission is May 5, 2023. The proposed date of entry into force is to be determined. Comments may be submitted by email to China's SPS Enquiry Point at sps@customs.gov.cn.

The notified standard is an update of the current National Food Safety Standard of Cereal-based Complementary Foods for Infants and Young Children (GB 10769-2010) (link in Chinese), which went into effect in April 2011. This report provides an unofficial translation of the draft standard.

BEGIN TRANSLATION

National Food Safety Standard
Cereal-based complementary foods for infants and young children
(Draft for comments)

Foreword

This standard replaces GB 10769-2010 National Food Safety Standard Cereal-based Complementary Foods for Infants and Young Children. Compared with GB10769-2010, the main changes in this standard are as follows:

- The scope, terminology, definition, and description of product classifications are revised,
- Maximum values of some nutrients are added,
- Vitamin C is changed from optional nutritional ingredients to basic nutritional ingredients, magnesium is added as optional nutritional ingredient and iodine is deleted as optional nutritional ingredient,
- Honey should not be used and the regulations on the amount of sugar are revised,
- General standards are referenced for maximum limits of contaminants, mycotoxins, and pathogenic bacteria,
- The standard number of testing methods is updated,
- The description of packaging media is added.

1 Scope

This standard is applicable to cereal-based supplementary foods for older infants and young children aged 6 to 36 months.

2 Terms and Definitions

2.1 Older infants

Refers to infants aged 6 to 12 months.

2.2 Young children
Refers to children aged 12 to 36 months.

2.3 Cereal-based complementary foods for infants and young children
Complementary foods suitable for older infants and young children aged 6-36 months, which are processed with one or more kinds of cereals (such as rice, wheat, millet, etc.) as the main ingredients, and the dry substances of cereals account for 50% or more of the total dry composition with a proper amount of nutritional fortifiers and/or other food ingredients added.

3 Product Classification

3.1 Cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children
It can be consumed after being brewed with milk or other protein containing liquid or ready-to-eat cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children.

3.2 High-protein cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children
It adds high protein ingredients and can be consumed after being brewed with water or other liquid without protein, or ready-to-eat cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children.

3.3 Raw cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children
Cereal-based supplementary food for infants and young children that can be consumed only after cooking.

3.4 Other cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children
Cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children, such as biscuits, teething biscuits and others, which can be consumed directly or after being crushed and brewed with water (or milk or other proper liquid).

4 Technical Requirements

4.1 Ingredients Requirements
Ingredients used in products shall comply with corresponding safety standards and/or relevant provisions to protect safety of infants and young children. The ingredients shall ensure the safety, fresh and high quality, and nutritious to the infants and young children. The raw materials which will cause harm to nutrition and health for infants shall not be used.

Hydrogenated oil and fat shall not be used.
Ingredients treated with radiation shall not be used. Honey shall not be used.

4.2 Sensory Requirements
Sensory indicators should comply with provisions in Table 1.

Table 1: Sensory Requirements

Item	Requirements
Color	Must be consistent with characteristics of corresponding products.
Taste and smell	Must be consistent with characteristics of corresponding products.
Texture	Must be consistent with characteristics of corresponding products, and there should be no visible foreign objects.
Brewing	Must be consistent with characteristics of corresponding products.

4.3 Basic nutritional ingredient indicators

The basic nutritional ingredients indicators in the product should meet the requirements in Table 2.

Table 2: Basic Nutritional Ingredient Indicators

Item	Cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children[a]	High protein cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children[a]	Raw cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children[b]	Other cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children[c]	Testing methods
Energy[d]/(kJ(kcal)/100g) ≥	1,250 (299)	1,506 (360)	1,250(299)	1,250 (299)	-
Protein /(0100kJ(100kcal)) ≥	0.33 (1.4)	0.66 (2.8)	0.33 (1.4)	0.33 (1.4)	GB 5009.5
Fat /(g/100 kJ(100kcal)) ≤	0.8 (3.3)	1.1 (4.6)	0.8 (3.3)	0.8 (3.3)	GB 5009.6
In which[e]: linoleic acid (g/100 kJ(100kcal))	-	0.07-0.29 (0.29-1.21)	-	-	GB5009.168
Vitamin A/(μgRE/100 kJ(100kcal))	14-43 (59-180)			-	GB5009.82
Vitamin D/(μg/100 kJ(100kcal))	0.25 -0.75 (1.05-3.14)			-	GB5009.82
Vitamin B_1/(μg/100 kJ(100kcal))	12.5 -119.5 (52.3 -500)				GB 5009.84
Vitamin C/(mg/100 kJ(100kcal))	1.4 -7.65 (5.9 -32)		-	-	GB 5413.18
Ca/(mg/100 kJ(100kcal))	12.0-43.0 (50.2-180)	20.0-43.0 (83.7-180)	12.0-43.0 (50.2-180)	12.0 -43.0 (50.2-180)	GB 5009.92
Fe/(mg/100 kJ(100kcal))	0.25-0.50 (1.05-2.09)			-	GB 5009.90
Zn/(mg/100 kJ(100kcal))	0.17-0.46(0.71-1.92)			-	GB 5009.14
Na/mg/100kJ(100kcal) ≤	24.0 (100.4)				GB 5009.91

a When this kind of food is ready to eat (liquid or semi-solid), its energy value should be N335 kJ/100g (80kcal/100g).
[b] If vitamin C is added to raw cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children, its content should meet the requirements of cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children in Table 2.
[c] If vitamin A, vitamin D, vitamins C, iron, and zinc are added to other cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children, their contents should meet the requirements of cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children in Table 2.
[d] Energy is calculated by multiplying the content of protein, fat, and carbohydrate in every 100g products by the energy coefficients of 17 kJ/g, 37 kJ/g and 17 kJ/g respectively (the energy coefficient of dietary fiber is 8 kJ/g), and the sum obtained is in kilojoule/100g (kJ/100g), and then divided by 4.184, which is in kcal/100g.
Wherein, A_1, the content of carbohydrate, is calculated according to formula (1):

$$A_1 = 100 - (A_2 + A_3 + A_4 + A_5 + A_6) \quad \text{.....(1)}$$

Where:

A_1 - carbohydrate content, g/100g,
A_2 - protein content, g/100g,
A_3 - fat content, g/100g,
A_4 - moisture content, g/100g,
A_5 - ash content, g/100g,
A_6 - dietary fiber content, g/100g.
Carbohydrate content can also be calculated by addition method by adding the contents of starch and sugar after determination.
When dietary fiber is not marked in the nutrition label, it is unnecessary to subtract dietary fiber in the calculation of carbohydrate.
[e] Only applies to products with fat > 0.8 g/100 kJ, both lauric acid and myristic acid are equal to or less than 15% of total fat.

4.4 Optional nutritional ingredient indicators
In addition to the basic nutritional ingredient indicators specified in 4.3, if one or more ingredients listed in Table 3 are added to the product or are marked on the label, the content shall comply with the provisions in Table 3.

If substances are added into products other than specified in 4.3 and Table 3, they shall comply with relevant national regulations.

Table 3: Optional Nutritional Ingredient Indicators

Item	Indicators	Testing Methods
Vitamin E/(mg α-TE /100 kJ(100kcal))	0.08 -1.20 (0.33 -5.02)	GB 5009.82
Vitamin B_2/(μg/100 kJ(100kcal))	13.0 -95.6(54.4 -400)	GB 5009.85

Vitamin B_6/(μg /100 kJ(100kcal))	8.4-83.6(35.1-350)	GB 5009.154
Vitamin B_{12}/(μg /100 kJ(100kcal))	0.02-0.20(0.08-0.8)	GB 5413.14
Nicotinic acid/nicotinamide/(μg /100 kJ(100kcal))	83.7-493.8(350.2-2066)	GB 5009.89
Folic acid/(μg /100 kJ(100kcal))	1.2-11.9 (5.0-50)	GB 5009.211
Pantothenic acid /(μg/100 kJ(100kcal))	50.4-358.5 (210.9-1,500)	GB 5009.210
Biotin/(μg /100 kJ(100kcal))	0.17-2.39(0.71-10)	GB 5009.259
Phosphorus/(mg/100 kJ(100kcal))	8.4 – 30.0 (35.1 – 125.5)	GB 5009.87
Potassium /(mg/100kJ(100kcal))	13-66 (56-278)	GB 5009.91
Magnesium/(mg/100kJ(100kcal))	2.08-9.56 (8.7-40)	GB 5009.241

4.5 If sucrose, fructose, glucose, or glucose syrup are added to the products, the addition amount shall meet the requirements in Table 4.

Table 4: Addition Amount of Sucrose, Fructose, Glucose and Glucose Syrup

Item	Indicators	Testing Methods
Total amount of added sucrose, fructose, glucose and glucose syrup/(g/100kJ(kcal)) ≤	0.6 (2.5)	It shall be calculated according to the added amount.

4.6 Other Indicators

Shall comply with provisions of Table 5.

Table 5: Other Indicators

Item	cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children	High protein cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children	Raw cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children	Other cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children	Testing Methods
Moisture[a]/(%) ≤	6.0		13.5	6.0	GB 5009.3
Insoluble dietary fiber /(%) ≤	5.0				GB 5413.6
[a] Moisture indicator is not applicable to ready-to-eat cereal-based supplementary foods (liquid or semi-solid).					

4.7 Contaminant Limits

Shall comply with provisions of GB 2762.

4.8 Mycotoxin Limits
Shall comply with provisions of GB 2761.

4.9 Microbial limits
Microbial indicators for solid products shall comply with provisions of GB 29921 and other microbial indicators shall comply with provisions of Table 6.

Table 6: Indicators of Microbial Limit

Item[c]	Sampling plan [a]and limits [b]				Testing methods
	n	c	m	M	
Total bacterial count[d]	5	2	1,000	10,000	GB 4789.2
Coliform	5	2	10	100	GB 4789.3 plate counting method

a Analysis and treatment of samples shall be carried out according to GB 4789.1.
b Unless otherwise specified, all are expressed in CFU/g or CFU/mL.
c Ready-to-eat cereal-based supplementary foods (liquid or semi-solid) should meet the requirements of commercial sterilization and be tested according to the method specified in GB 4789.26.
d It is not applicable to raw cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children and products with active bacteria (aerobic and facultative anaerobic bacteria) ［viable count of active probiotics shall be greater or equal to10^6CFU/g(mL).

4.10 Food Additives and Nutrition Fortifiers
4.10.1 Use of food additives and nutrition fortifiers shall comply with provisions of GB 2760 and GB 14880.
4.10.2 Quality of food additives and nutrition fortifiers shall comply with corresponding standards and relevant provisions.

4.11 Urease Activity
Urease activity in soy-based infant formulas shall be consistent with provisions of Table 7.

Table 7: Urease Activity Indicators

Item	Indicators	Testing methods
Determination of urease activity	Negative	GB 5413.31

5 Others

5.1 Labels
5.1.1 Content indicated on the labels shall comply with GB 13432 and the mark “per 100 kJ (100 kcal)” shall be indicated in the nutritional ingredient’s tables.
5.1.2 The labels shall indicate the product category names according to 3.1 to 3.4, such as “High-protein cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children.”

5.1.3 For 3.1 Cereal-based supplementary foods for infants and young children (non-ready-to-eat cereals), it shall indicate in the labels as “it can be consumed after being brewed with milk or other proper protein containing liquid” or similar languages.

5.2 Packaging
Carbon dioxide and/or nitrogen conforming to national food safety standard may serve as packaging medium.

END TRANSLATION

Attachments:

No Attachments.