Lead in food commodities

Request for data on Lead in Cereal-based food for infants and young children; canned baby food and fruit juice and herbal tea for infants and young children; tea and herbal tea (herbs/fruits for infusions); cocoa and cocoa products; seafood (except fish); processed fishes; eggs; algae and seaweeds; nuts and oilseeds; sugar and confectionery (excluding cocoa) and spices and aromatic herbs.

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Background

The 12th Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF12), held in Utrecht, Netherlands, from March 12—March 16, 2018, agreed to establish an Electronic Working Group (EWG) led by Brazil to work on a revised discussion paper and project document to propose maximum levels (MLs) for lead in food categories for inclusion in the General Standard for contaminants and toxins in food and feed (CSX 193-1995) and for consideration by CCCF13 in 2019.

We are requesting submission of new data covering approximately the last 10 years for lead in the food categories listed below. Data should be submitted no later than October 1, 2018, to allow time for data analysis and drafting and review of the paper. The call for data can also be viewed online at http://www.who.int/foodsafety/en/.

- Cereal-based food for infants and young children; canned baby food and fruit juice and herbal tea for infants and young children
- Tea and herbal tea (herbs/fruits for infusions)
- Cocoa and cocoa products
- Seafood (except fish)
- Processed fishes
- Eggs
- Algae and seaweeds
- Nuts and oilseeds
- Sugar and confectionery (excluding cocoa)
- Spices and Aromatic herbs

Date for submission

The submission of data is requested no later than 1 October 2018
This deadline applies to all data to be submitted.

WHO will be compiling data for the EWG. All new data must be submitted to WHO through the GEMS database. The GEMS database can be accessed at http://www.who.int/foodsafety/areas_work/chemical-risks/gems-food/en/. Please read the "GEMS/Food Database Manual" before attempting to submit data to GEMS. To submit data, you will need an account, and instructions on creating an account are found on page 2 of the manual. For technical questions about submitting data to GEMS, please contact Philippe Verger at WHO (vergerp@who.int) and cc Lígia Lindner Schreiner (ligia.schreiner@anvisa.gov.br) and Larissa Porto (larissa.porto@anvisa.gov.br).
Note that data already submitted to the GEMS Food Database do not need to be re-submitted.

When submitting data to the GEMS/Food database for this work, please:

- Provide complete information on the LOQ and LOD of analytical methods.
- Provide information in the “Local Food Identifier” or “Remarks” fields of the database to allow more specific categorization of samples. Also, provide information on country of origin and date of production in the "Remarks" field if possible.
- Provide individual data if available, rather than aggregate data.