



3 December 2014
Ref. 14SPEC370

FEDIOL STATEMENT IMPORT OF GROUNDNUT OIL

The members of the European Oil Industry are facing an issue with the supply of crude groundnut oil related to the fatty acid profile.

Although some years ago, peanuts/groundnuts with a higher oleic content were only limited in plantings, production of this type of peanut cultivars increased over the last years (especially in Argentina).

Currently in Argentina - the main and most regular crude groundnut oil exporter worldwide – new groundnut varieties plantings with a higher oleic content are already approximately 50 to 60% of the total groundnut crop, and this percentage is expected to further increase in the coming years (due to the better intrinsic quality of the groundnuts and the groundnut oil). This has of course consequences on the fatty acid profile as well as on the sterol content of the peanut oil as an article of commerce. This leads to a discrepancy with the Codex Alimentarius Standard for Named Vegetable Oils, especially regarding the composition of the fatty acids C16:0, C18:1, C18:2, C18:3, C20:0, C20:1, and C22:1 and the delta 5 avenasterol content. The differences are presented below with the specifications the suppliers can commit to.

Fatty acids	Specification suppliers can commit to	CODEX-STAN 210 (2005 amendment)
C16:0	5.0 – 14.0	8.0 – 14.0
C16:1	ND-0.2	ND-0.2
C18:0	1 - 4.5	1.0 – 4.5
C18:1	35 - 80	35 – 69
C18:2	4 - 43	12 – 43
C18:3	ND – 0.5	ND – 0.3
C20:0	0.7-2.0	1.0-2.0
C20:1	0.7-3.2	0.7-1.7
C22:0	1.5-4.5	1.5-4.5
C22:1	ND-0.55	ND-0.3
C24:0	0.5-2.5	0.5-2.5
C24:1	ND-0.3	ND-0.3

ND – non detectable, defined as 0.05%.

Delta 5 avenasterol	4.0-18.8	5.0-18.8
Iodine Value	77-107	86-107
Relative Density	0.909 – 0.920 X = 20°C	0.912 – 0.920 X = 20°C

Considering the health benefits resulting from the higher level of monounsaturates of this type of peanut cultivar, availability and supply on the market of such new profile will increase in the coming years as opposed to the current Codex profile. The FEDIOL member companies support as from now that these values are considered as a basis for the identification of commercial groundnut oil.

(Revised statement repealing 12TRA046 of 28 February 2012)

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