
Definitions and technical criteria for food ingredients to be considered as natural

*Définitions et critères techniques permettant de considérer un
ingrédient alimentaire comme naturel*

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Food products*.

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Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide the technical criteria for food ingredients to be considered as natural for use by the food and beverage industry at a global level.

The document offers technical criteria to all food and beverage companies, applicable to all organizations, regardless of size or complexity. This document is intended for use in business-to-business communications and relationships in the global food supply chain.

Conformity to this document helps to assure a level-playing field and fair practices in business-to-business relationships.

This document is not intended to provide information to consumers about natural food ingredients as consumer expectations vary widely around the world and from product to product.

NOTE Legally required information, claims or labelling, or other applicable legal requirements can apply.

Food ingredient sectors may find it beneficial to develop a sector specific interpretation of these technical criteria for food ingredients to be considered as natural, consistent with this document.

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