

REVISED CODEX STANDARD FOR CANNED APPLESAUCE**CODEX STAN 017-1981, Rev.1-2001****1 SCOPE**

This Standard applies to canned applesauce as defined in Section 2 below and offered for direct consumption including for catering purposes or for repacking if required. It does not apply to the product when indicated as being intended for further processing.

2 DESCRIPTION**2.1 PRODUCT DEFINITION**

Canned applesauce is the comminuted or chopped product:

- a) prepared from washed, clean apples, conforming to the characteristics of the fruit of *Malus domestica Borkhausen* which may have been peeled and which after trimming are sound;
- b) prepared with or without other permitted ingredients as described in Section 3.1.2; and
- c) heat processed in an appropriate manner before or after being hermetically sealed in containers so as to prevent spoilage.

2.2 STYLES

2.2.1 Sweetened - with sugars and/or other carbohydrate sweeteners such as honey; not less than 16.5% total soluble solids (16.5° Brix).

2.2.2 Unsweetened - without added sweeteners; not less than 9% total soluble solids (9.0° Brix).

2.2.3 Other Styles

Any other presentation of the product should be permitted provided that the product:

- a) is sufficiently distinctive from other forms of presentation laid down in this Standard;
- b) meets all other requirements of the standard, as applicable; and
- c) is adequately described on the label to avoid confusing or misleading the consumer.

3 ESSENTIAL COMPOSITION AND QUALITY FACTORS**3.1 COMPOSITION****3.1.1 Basic Ingredients**

Apples as defined in Section 2.1(a).

3.1.2 Other Permitted Ingredients

- a) water;
- b) salt (sodium chloride);
- c) sugars as defined in the Codex Alimentarius and/or other carbohydrate sweeteners such as honey;
- d) spices.

3.2 QUALITY CRITERIA**3.2.1 Colour, Texture and Flavour**

Applesauce shall have normal flavour, odour and colour and shall possess texture characteristic of the product. The number, size, and prominence of defects (such as seeds or particles thereof, peel, carpel tissue, bruised apple particles, dark particles, and any other extraneous material of like nature) should not seriously affect the appearance or the eating quality of the product. Any container that fails to meet one or

more of the applicable quality requirements, or total solids requirements as set out in Section 2.2 should be considered as a “defective”.

3.3 LOT ACCEPTANCE

A lot should be considered as meeting the applicable quality requirements for total solids in Section 2.2, and the quality criteria in Section 3.2, when the number of “defectives” does not exceed the acceptance number (c) of the appropriate sampling plan in the Codex Alimentarius Sampling Plans for Pre-packaged Foods (AQL 6.5).

4 FOOD ADDITIVES

No.	Name of Food Additive	Maximum Level
4.1 ACIDIFYING AGENTS		
296	Malic acid	Limited by GMP
330	Citric acid	
4.2 ANTIOXIDANTS		
300	Ascorbic acid	Limited by GMP (singly or in combination)
315	Erythorbic Acid	
4.3 FLAVOURINGS		
	Natural and artificial flavours except those which reproduce the flavour of apples.	Limited by GMP

5. CONTAMINANTS

5.1 HEAVY METALS

The products covered by the provisions of this Standard shall comply with those maximum levels for heavy metals established by the Codex Alimentarius Commission for these products.

5.2 PESTICIDE RESIDUES

The products covered by the provisions of this Standard shall comply with those maximum residue limits established by the Codex Alimentarius Commission for these products.

6 HYGIENE

6.1 It is recommended that the products covered by the provisions of this Standard be prepared and handled in accordance with the appropriate sections of the Recommended International Code of Practice – General Principles of Food Hygiene (CAC/RCP 1-1969, Rev. 3-1997), and other relevant Codex texts such as Codes of Hygienic Practice and Codes of Practice.

6.2 The products should comply with any microbiological criteria established in accordance with the Principles for the Establishment and Application of Microbiological Criteria for Foods (CAC/GL 21-1997).

7 WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

7.1 FILL OF CONTAINER

7.1.1 *Minimum Fill*

The container should be well filled with applesauce and the product should occupy not less than 90% of the water capacity of the container. The water capacity of the container is the volume of distilled water at 20°C which the sealed container will hold when completely filled.

7.1.2 *Classification of “Defectives”*

A container that fails to meet the requirement for minimum fill (90% container capacity) of Section 7.1.1 should be considered a “defective”.

7.1.3 Lot Acceptance

A lot should be considered as meeting the requirement of Section 7.1.1 when the number of “defectives”, as defined in Section 7.1.2, does not exceed the acceptance number (c) of the appropriate sampling plan in the Codex Alimentarius Sampling Plans for Pre-packaged Foods (AQL 6.5).

8. LABELLING

8.1 Canned applesauce shall be labelled in accordance with the Codex General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CODEX STAN 1-1985, Rev. 1-1991).

8.2 THE NAME OF THE PRODUCT

8.2.1 The name of the product shall be “Applesauce”.

8.2.2 If the product has been sweetened in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.2.1, the name of the product shall be accompanied by the designation “Sweetened” in close proximity to the name of the food.

8.2.3 If the product has not been sweetened and conforms with the requirements of Section 2.2.2, the designation “Unsweetened” may be used in close proximity to the name of the food.

8.2.4 The name of the product shall be accompanied in close proximity by a declaration of any seasoning or flavouring which characterizes the product, e.g., “with X” as appropriate.

8.2.5 If the product is produced in accordance with the other styles provision (Section 2.2.3), the label should contain in close proximity to the name of the product such additional words or phrases that will avoid misleading or confusing the consumer.

8.3 LABELLING OF NON-RETAIL CONTAINERS

Information for non-retail containers shall be given either on the container or in accompanying documents, except that the name of the product, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor and/or importer, as well as storage instructions, shall appear on the container. However, lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor and/or importer may be replaced by an identification mark, provided that such a mark is clearly identifiable with the accompanying documents.

9 METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING

See Codex Alimentarius Volume 13.