

**CODEX STANDARD
FOR COMPOSITE AND FILLED CHOCOLATE**

CODEX STAN 142-1983

1. SCOPE

This standard applies to products described in the Standard for Chocolate (CODEX STAN 87-1981) to which ingredients have been added in order to modify in a characteristic manner the organoleptic properties of the final product, and to products which have an external chocolate portion and a clearly distinct centre.

2. DESCRIPTIONS

2.1 Composite Chocolate

Composite chocolate is one of the chocolates defined under sub-sections 2.1.1 to 2.1.10 and the corresponding flavoured chocolates as defined in sub-section 2.2 of the Standard for Chocolate, to which have been added edible substances excluding flour, starch and fats unless contained in a permitted ingredient.

2.2 Filled Chocolate

Filled chocolate is a product covered with one or more of the chocolates defined under sub-sections 2.1.1 to 2.1.10 and the corresponding flavoured chocolates as defined in sub-section 2.2 of the Standard for Chocolate and composite chocolates as defined in sub-section 2.1 above, the centre of which is clearly distinct through its composition from the external coating. Filled chocolate does not include flour confectionery, pastry and biscuit products.

3. ESSENTIAL COMPOSITION AND QUALITY FACTORS

3.1 Composite Chocolate

3.1.1 Composite chocolate shall contain not less than 60 % m/m of chocolate as defined under sub-sections 2.1.1 to 2.1.10 and sub-section 2.2 of the Standard for Chocolate.

3.1.2 Composite chocolate shall contain one or more edible substances excluding those which are prohibited under sub-section 2.1.

3.1.3 Added substances are subject to the following maximum limits

3.1.3.1 Added in the form of visible and separate pieces: 40 % m/m

3.1.3.2 Added in a form so as to be in practice indiscernible: 30 % m/m

3.1.3.3 Added both in the form of visible and separate pieces and in a form so as to be in practice indiscernible: 40 %m/m

The balance of the product in each case being chocolate.

3.2 Filled Chocolate

3.2.1 Coating

3.2.1.1 The coating shall be made of chocolate that meets the requirements of one or more of the chocolate types listed in the Standard for Chocolate under sub-sections 2.1.1 to 2.1.10.

3.2.1.2 It may contain the ingredients stated under sub-section 3.2 of the Standard for Chocolate and/or under sub-section 3.1.2 of this Standard.

3.2.1.3 The amount of the chocolate component of the coating shall not be less than 40 % of the total weight of the finished product.

3.2.2 Centre

The products and/or ingredients used to make up the centre shall comply with the requirements of the Codex Standards concerning them as far as such standards exist.

4. FOOD ADDITIVES

4.1 Composite Chocolate

As permitted in the Standard for Chocolate.

4.2 Filled Chocolate

4.2.1 **Coating:** as permitted in the Standard for Chocolate.

4.2.2 **Centre:** as permitted in the standards concerning the products and/or the ingredients which constitute the centre.

4.3 Carry-over

Food additives carried over in proportion to those permitted in Codex Standards concerning the products and the permitted ingredients.

5. CONTAMINANTS

Maximum level

5.1	Arsenic (As)	1 mg/kg
5.2	Copper (Cu)	20 mg/kg
5.3	Lead (Pb)	1 mg/kg

6. HYGIENE

6.1 It is recommended that the products covered by the provisions of this Standard be prepared in accordance with the appropriate sections of the Recommended International Code of Practice - General Principles of Food Hygiene (CAC/RCP 1-1969, Rev. 2 (1985), Codex Alimentarius Volume 1).

6.2 To the extent possible in good manufacturing practice, the product shall be free from objectionable matter.

6.3 When tested by appropriate methods of sampling and examination, the products:

- (a) shall be free from micro-organisms capable of development under normal conditions of storage; and
- (b) shall not contain any substances originating from micro-organisms in amounts which may represent a hazard to health.

7. LABELLING

In addition to the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (CODEX STAN 1-1985 (Rev. 1-1991), Codex Alimentarius Volume 1), the following provisions apply:

7.1 Name of the Food

7.1.1 Composite chocolate

7.1.1.1 If the amount of each of the edible substances added in accordance with sub-section 3.1.2 is lower than 5 % of the final product, the name of the product shall be that of the chocolate component without reference to the added substances. However, the total amount of substances not mentioned in the name of the product shall not exceed 5 % m/m of the total product.

7.1.1.2 If the amount of any of the edible substances added in accordance with sub-section 3.1.2 is equal or higher than 5 % m/m of the final product, a reference to the substance or substances shall be included in the designation of the chocolate.

7.1.1.3 Addition of coffee shall be subject to a minimum of 1 % m/m ground coffee or its equivalent for declaration purposes.

7.1.1.4 Additions of spirits and liquors shall be subject to a minimum of 1 % for declaration purposes.

7.1.1.5 Composite products containing between 5 to 14 % total milk-derived solids in their natural proportions shall be labelled "a blend of chocolate and milk chocolate" or other combinations of types of chocolate covered by the Standard for Chocolate, qualified as necessary to indicate the presence of the added characterizing ingredients.

7.1.2 Filled chocolate

7.1.2.1 Products described under sub-section 2.2 and complying with the appropriate requirements of sub-section 3.2 of this Standard shall be designated *filled chocolate*.

7.1.2.2 The type of chocolate of which the external coating is made up may be specified, whereby the designations used shall be the same as stated under sub-section 7.1 of the Standard for Chocolate, except where the external coating consists of composite chocolate the type of chocolate shall be declared, whereby the designation used shall be stated under sub-section 7.1.1 of this Standard.

7.1.2.3 An appropriate statement shall inform the consumer about the nature of the centre.

7.2 Date-marking

The "date of minimum durability" (preceded by the words "best before") shall be declared by the day, month and year in uncoded numerical sequence except that for products with a shelf life of more than three months, the month and year will suffice. The month may be indicated by letters in those countries where such use will not confuse the consumer. In the case of products requiring a declaration of month and year only, and the month to be indicated is December, the expression may be stated as "end (stated year)".

8. METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING

See Codex Alimentarius Volume 13.