

# CODEX ALIMENTARIUS

INTERNATIONAL FOOD STANDARDS



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of  
the United Nations



World Health  
Organization

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## REGIONAL STANDARD FOR TEHENA<sup>1</sup>

(Near East)<sup>2</sup>

CXS 259R-2007

Adopted in 2007.

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<sup>1</sup> Section on Methods of Analysis would be considered by the Commission after their endorsement by the Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling.

<sup>2</sup> Members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in the region of Near East are indicated on the Codex website at <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius>.

## 1. SCOPE

This Standard applies to Tehena as defined in Section 2 below and offered for direct consumption.

## 2. DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 Product definition

Tehena is a product obtained by grinding mature, roasted and husked sesame seeds of the species *Sesame indicum* L.

## 3. ESSENTIAL COMPOSITION AND QUALITY FACTORS

### 3.1 Basic Ingredients

Sesame seeds.

### 3.2 Quality factors – General

The end product shall meet the following general requirements:

**3.2.1** Sesame seeds used in processing “Tehena” shall comply with its standard and be safe and suitable for human consumption.

**3.2.2** The product shall have a distinctive natural flavour and be free from rancidity.

**3.2.3** The product colour and texture shall become homogeneous and free from agglomeration.

**3.2.4** The product shall be free from extraneous and foreign matter.

**3.2.5** The product shall be free from artificial flavour, filling agent, colouring and bleaching agents (i.e.: titanium dioxide).

### 3.3 Quality factors – Specific

The following requirements apply to the final product when prepared ready for consumption in accordance with the instructions for use.

**3.3.1** The maximum content of moisture is 1.5%.

**3.3.2** The minimum content of protein is 25%.

**3.3.3** The minimum content of fat is 45%, as sesame oil only

**3.3.4** The maximum content of total ash is 3.5%.

**3.3.5** The maximum content of acid insoluble ash is 0.3% (m/m).

**3.3.6** The maximum content of extracted oil acidity is 1.8%, as oleic acid.

## 4. CONTAMINANTS

The product covered by this Standard shall comply with the maximum limits for contaminants and the maximum residues limits for pesticides established by the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

## 5. HYGIENE

**5.1** 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 *General Principles of Food Hygiene* (CXC 1-1969), and other relevant Codex texts such as Codes of Hygienic Practice and Codes of Practice.

**5.2** The products should comply with any microbiological criteria established in accordance with the *Principles and Guidelines for the Establishment and Application of Microbiological Criteria Related to Foods* (CXG 21-1997).

## 6. PACKAGING AND STORAGE

**6.1** The product shall be packed in containers, which will safeguard the hygienic, nutritional and organoleptic quality of the end product.

**6.2** The product shall be stored in a well-ventilated store, protected against direct heat and contamination.

**7. WEIGHTS AND MEASURES****7.1 Fill of the Container****7.1.1 Minimum Fill**

The container shall be well filled with the product and the product shall 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.

**8. LABELLING**

The product shall be labelled in accordance with the *General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985):

**8.1 Name of the Food**

The name of the food shall be "Tehena".

**9. METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING<sup>3</sup>**

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<sup>3</sup> To be finalized