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الكسكس المحضر من قمح الديورم
COUSCOUS PREPARED FROM DURUM WHEAT

Prepared by:

Gulf technical committee for standards of food and agriculture products

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Foreword

Standardization Organization for GCC (GSO) is a regional Organization which consists of the National Standards Bodies of GCC member States. One of GSO main functions is to issue Gulf Standards / Technical regulation through specialized technical committees (TCs).

GSO through the technical program of committee TC No.:5... "food and agriculture committee " has prepared this Standard . The Draft Standard has been prepared by (kingdome of saudi arabia)

The draft Standard has been prepared based on relevant ADMO, International and National foreign Standards and references.

This standard has been approved as Gulf (Standard / Technical Regulation) by GSO Board of Directors in its meeting No.../....
.....held on / / H , / / G

COUSCOUS PREPARED FROM DURUM WHEAT

1- SCOPE AND FIELD OF APPLICATION

The term “couscous”, as defined in section 3.1 below, refers to processed couscous destined for direct human consumption. This standard does not apply to couscous intended for the same use but prepared from cereals other than durum wheat.

2- COMPLEMENTARY REFERENCES

- 2.1 GSO 9 “Labelling of Prepackaged Foods”.
- 2.2 GSO 21 “Hygienic Regulations for Food Plants and Their Personnel”.
- 2.3 GSO 245 “Cereals - Sampling (as grains)”.
- 2.4 GSO 327 “Methods of Test for Wheat Grains”.
- 2.5 GSO 382 “Maximum Limits for Pesticide Residues in Agricultural and Food Products - Part 1”.
- 2.6 GSO 383 “Maximum Limits for Pesticide Residues in Agricultural and Food Products - Part 2”.
- 2.7 GSO 168 “Conditions of Storage Facilities for Dry and Canned Foodstuffs”.
- 2.8 GSO 790 “Grains and Their Products - Determination of Moisture Content (Reference Method)”.
- 2.9 GSO 839 “Packages of Food Products - Part 1: General Requirements”.
- 2.10 GSO 841 “Maximum Limits of Omycotoxins Permitted in Foods and Animal Feeds - Aflatoxins”.
- 2.11 GSO 988 “Limits of Radiation Levels Permitted in Foodstuffs”.
- 2.12 GSO 1016 “Permissible Microbiological Limits in Foodstuffs”.
- 2.13 Gulf standards which shall be approved by the Organization concerning the following:
 - 2.13.1 “Permissible Maximum Limits of Heavy Metals in Foodstuffs”.
 - 2.13.2 “Storage of Cereals and Pulses - Part 1: General Recommendations”.
 - 2.13.3 “Storage of Cereals and Pulses - Part 2: General Regulations”.
 - 2.13.4 “Food Packages - Part II: Plastic Packages, General Regulations”.
 - 2.13.5 “Expiration Periods for Food Products”.

3- DEFINITIONS

3.1 Couscous

Product prepared from coarse medium semolina or a mixture of coarse and fine durum wheat semolina (*Triticum durum*), the elements of which are bound by adding potable water and which has undergone physical treatment such as cooking and drying.

3.2 Semolina

Particles prepared from grain of wheat by milling processes in which the bran and germ are essentially removed and the remainder is comminuted to a suitable degree of fineness.

4- REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements shall be met in couscous:

4.1 It shall be clean, safe and fit for human consumption. The product shall be free from objectionable matter such as stones, sand, dust, straw, insect, rodent and bird residues to the extent possible in good manufacturing practice.

4.2 It shall be free from fungus growth and living insects or their living stages.

4.3 It shall be free from harmful or toxic substances.

4.4 It shall be free from abnormal taste and odours.

4.5 It shall be prepared from crude materials that meet their Saudi standard specifications.

4.6 It shall be processed without changing the nutritional and technological qualities of the product.

4.7 No food additives shall be added during industrial processing.

4.8 It shall have an expiry date according to GSO (2.13.5).

4.9 The moisture content shall not exceed 13.5% by mass.

4.10 It shall be processed according to GSO mentioned in 2.2.

4.11 It shall not exceed the limits of pesticide residues prescribed in GSO mentioned in 2.5 and 2.6.

4.12 It shall not exceed the limits of fungal toxins (aflatoxins) prescribed in GSO mentioned in 2.10.

4.13 It shall not exceed the limits of radiation prescribed in GSO mentioned in 2.11.

4.14 It shall not exceed the microbiological limits prescribed in GSO mentioned in 2.12.

4.15 It shall not exceed the limits of heavy metals prescribed in GSO mentioned in 2.13.1

5- SAMPLING

Samples shall be taken as prescribed in GSO mentioned in 2.3.

6- METHODS OF TEST

Samples taken in accordance with item 5 are tested according to tests prescribed in GSO mentioned in 2.4. Moisture shall be determined according to GSO mentioned in 2.8.

7- PACKAGING

Subject to the provision of GSO mentioned in Sections 2.9 and 2.13.4 couscous shall be packaged in suitable containers which will safeguard the hygienic, nutritional and technological qualities of the product. They shall not impart any toxic substance or undesirable odour or taste to the product.

8- TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE

Subject to the provision of GSO mentioned in 2.7, 2.13.2 and 2.13.3 couscous shall be transported and stored in such a suitable way as to safeguard the hygienic, nutritional and technological qualities of the product. It shall not impart any toxic substance or undesirable odour or taste to the product.

9- LABELLING

Subject to the provision of GSO mentioned in 2.1 the following information shall be declared on the package:

- 9.1 Name of the product "Couscous".
- 9.2 Name of cereal when product prepared from cereals other than durum wheat.
- 9.3 Method of cooking.
- 9.4 Production and expiration dates.

REFERENCES

Main Reference

Codex Alimentarius Volume (7) 1995, Couscous Codex Standard No. 202, 1995.

FOR STUDY PURPOSES