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**General quality requirements for canned tuna**

金枪鱼罐头质量通则

(CODEX STAN 70-2018, Standard for canned tuna and bonito, NEQ)

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## Table of Contents

Foreword.....	3
1 Scope .....	5
2 Normative references .....	5
3 Terms and definitions .....	5
4 Product categories and codes.....	6
5. Requirements .....	7
6 Test methods .....	8
7. Inspection rules .....	9
8 Labelling, packaging, transportation and storage .....	9
Annex A (informative) Tuna raw material varieties .....	10
Bibliography .....	11

# General quality requirements for canned tuna

## 1 Scope

This document defines the terms and definitions of canned tuna. It also specifies requirements and inspection rules for raw and auxiliary materials, sensory requirements, physical and chemical indicators, as well as labeling, packaging, transportation, and storage. It also describes test methods and provides product classifications and codes for technical regulations.

This document applies to the production, inspection and sale of canned tuna.

## 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

GB/T 317, *White granulated sugar*

GB/T 1535, *Soya bean oil*

GB 5009.44, *National food safety standard -- Determination of chloride in foods*

GB/T 5461, *Edible salt*

GB 5749, *Standards for drinking water quality*

GB/T 10786, *Test methods of canned foods*

QB/T 1006, *Inspection rules for canned food*

QB/T 4631, *Packaging, labeling, transportation and storage for canned food*

QB/T 5504, *Method for identification of tuna species in canned fish. PCR method*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

### 3.1 canned tuna

Canned food that is made from tuna such as bluefin tuna and skipjack tuna, with the

addition of water, salt, cooking oil and other auxiliary materials, or processed by seasoning, smoking, etc., and then pre-processed, canned, sealed and sterilized.

### **3.2 solid**

The lean meat portion remaining after trimming.

### **3.3 chunk**

After trimming, the fish pieces shall be no less than 1.2 cm on each side and retain the original muscle structure.

### **3.4 piece**

After trimming, most of the fish fillets are less than 1.2 cm in length on each side, and the original muscle structure is retained.

### **3.5 flake**

Fish pieces that are naturally formed after trimming, but not shredded.

### **3.6 shredded**

Fish meat that has been ground into small pieces by a process or machine, but not into a paste.

## **4 Product categories and codes**

### **4.1 Product categories**

**4.1.1** Tuna can be divided into canned albacore tuna, canned yellowfin tuna and canned skipjack tuna according to the species.

**4.1.2** According to the production, processing and seasoning methods, it is divided into:

- Canned tuna in oil: made from tuna or its frozen cooked form, it undergoes pre-processing, canning, adding cooking oil, with or without adding seasonings (such as water, salt, spices, etc.), sealing, sterilization, and cooling.
- Steamed canned tuna: made from tuna or its frozen cooked flesh, it undergoes pre-processing, canning, adding water or brine, sealing, sterilization, and cooling. Based on the water used, it can be categorized as canned tuna in its original juice or canned tuna in brine.
- Seasoned canned tuna: made from tuna or its frozen cooked flesh, it undergoes pre-processing, canning, seasoning (adding ingredients such as five-spice, braised, spicy, fermented black beans, or tomato sauce), sealing, sterilization, and cooling.

**Examples:** Canned tuna with five spices, canned braised tuna, canned spicy tuna, canned tuna with fermented black beans, canned tuna with tomato sauce, etc.

- Canned smoked tuna: made from tuna or its frozen cooked flesh, it undergoes pre-processing, smoking, canning, seasoning, sealing, sterilization, and cooling.
- Canned tuna with assorted vegetables: made from tuna or its frozen cooked fish meat. After pre-processing, the tuna meat (which shall have the highest solids content) is mixed with vegetables (such as two or more of carrots, potatoes, green beans, corn, etc.), canned, seasoned, sealed, sterilized, and cooled.

## 4.2 Product codes

When necessary, the product code shall be indicated in accordance with GB/T 41900.

# 5. Requirements

## 5.1 Raw materials

### 5.1.1 Tuna

Fresh and well-frozen tuna, skipjack tuna and other tuna or frozen cooked fish made from them shall be used. The fish meat shall have a tight texture and spoiled tuna shall not be used.

Common tuna species used for canning are listed in Annex A.

### 5.1.2 Edible oil

It shall comply with the requirements of GB/T 1535 and other relevant standards.

### 5.1.3 Edible salt

It shall comply with the requirements of GB/T 5461.

### 5.1.4 White sugar

It shall comply with the requirements of GB/T 317.

### 5.1.5 Water

It shall comply with the requirements of GB 5749.

### 5.1.6 Other raw and auxiliary materials

It shall comply with the requirements of the relevant standards.

## 5.2 Sensory requirements

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