

**ALLEGATO A-4**

**M.1. Weight of incremental sample and method of sampling**

The sampling procedure provided for food supplements as capsules/pills is based on retail packages containing usually 30 to 120 capsules/pills per retail package.

| <b>Lot size<br/>(number of<br/>retail<br/>packages)</b> | <b>Number of retail<br/>packages to be<br/>taken for sample</b> | <b>Sample size (minimum amount of the aggregate<br/>sample)</b>  |
|---|---|--|
| 1-50  | 1   | Food supplements as capsules/pills: Total content of the retail package  |
|   |   | Other forms of food supplements – incremental samples of approx. 20 g or 20 ml<br>- 100 g for food supplements containing herbal ingredients including extracts (minimum 5 incremental samples)<br>- 50 g or 50 ml for other food supplements (minimum 3 incremental samples)    |
| 51-250  | 2   | Food supplements as capsules/pills: total content of the two retail packages   |
|   |   | Other forms of food supplements – incremental samples of approx. 20 g or 20 ml<br>- 200 g for food supplements containing herbal ingredients including extracts (minimum 10 incremental samples)<br>- 100 g or 100 ml for other food supplements (minimum 5 incremental samples) |
| 251-1 000   | 4   | Food supplements as capsules/pills: from each retail package taken for sample, half of the capsules/pills  |
|   |   | Other forms of food supplements – incremental samples of approx. 20 g or 20 ml<br>- 200 g for food supplements containing herbal ingredients including extracts (minimum 10 incremental samples)<br>- 100 g or 100 ml for other food supplements (minimum 5 incremental samples) |

|                   |  |   |
|-------------------|--|---|
| <p>&gt; 1 000</p> | <p>4 + 1 retail package per 1 000 retail packages with a maximum of 25 retail packages</p> | <p>Food supplements as capsules and/pills:</p> <p>≤ 10 retail packages: from each retail package, half of the capsules</p> <p>&gt; 10 retail packages: from each retail package, an equal number of capsules is taken to result in a sample with the equivalent of the content of retail 5 packages</p>   |
|                   |  | <p>Other forms of food supplements – incremental samples of approx. 20 g or 20 ml</p> <p>≤ 10 retail packages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 200 g for food supplements containing herbal ingredients including extracts (minimum 10 incremental samples)</li> <li>- 100 g or 100 ml for other food supplements (minimum 5 incremental samples)</li> </ul> <p>&gt; 10 retail packages – per 5 retail packages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 100 g for food supplements containing herbal ingredients including extracts (minimum 5 incremental samples)</li> <li>- 50 g or 50 ml for other food supplements (minimum 3 incremental samples)</li> </ul> |

## M.2. Sampling at retail

Sampling of food supplements at the retail stage shall be done where possible in accordance with the sampling provisions set out in this part .

Where that is not possible, an alternative method of sampling at retail stage may be used provided that it ensures that the aggregate sample is sufficiently representative of the sampled lot and is fully described and documented. In any case, the aggregate sample shall be at least 0,05 kg.

### N.1. Weight of the incremental sample

The weight of the incremental sample shall be about 20 grams, unless otherwise defined in this part. In the case of lots in retail packings, the weight of the incremental sample depends on the weight of the retail packing.

In the case of retail packs of > 20 grams, this will result in aggregate samples weighing more than 0.5 kg. If the weight of a single retail pack is >> 20 grams, then 20 grams shall be taken from each individual retail pack as an incremental sample. This can be done either when the sample is taken or in the laboratory. However, in cases where such method of sampling would lead to unacceptable commercial consequences resulting from damage to the lot (because of packaging forms, means of transport, etc.), then an alternative method of sampling can be applied. For example, in case where a valuable product is marketed in retail packs of 500 grams or 1 kg, the aggregate sample can be obtained by the aggregation of a number of incremental samples that is smaller than the number indicated in Tables 1 and 2, on the condition that the weight of the aggregate sample corresponds to the required weight of the aggregate sample mentioned in Tables 1 and 2.

Where the retail pack is less than 20 grams and if the difference is not very large, one retail pack shall be considered as one incremental sample, resulting in an aggregate sample of less than 0.5 kg. If the weight of the retail pack is much less than 20 grams, one incremental sample shall consist of two or more retail packs, whereby the 20 grams are approximated as closely as possible.

### N.2. General survey of the method of sampling for dried herbs, herbal infusions (dried product) and teas (dried product)

Table 1. Subdivision of lots into sublots depending on product and lot weight

| Commodity  | Lot weight (tonnes) | Weight or number of sublots | Number of incremental samples | Aggregate sample Weight (kg) |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| dried herbs, herbal infusions (dried product) and teas (dried product) | ≥ 15                | 25 tonnes                   | 25                            | 0.5                          |
|  | < 15                | —                           | 3 – 25 (*)                    | 0,1 - 0.5                    |

(\*) Depending on the lot weight — see Table 2.

### N.3. Method of sampling for dried herbs, herbal infusions (dried product) and teas (dried product) (lots ≥ 15 tonnes)

— On condition that the subplot can be separated physically, each lot shall be subdivided into sublots following Table 1. Taking into account that the weight of the lot is not always an exact multiple of the weight of the sublots, the weight of the subplot may exceed the mentioned weight by a maximum of 20 %.

— Each subplot shall be sampled separately.

— Number of incremental samples: 25. Weight of the aggregate sample = 0.5 kg.

— If it is not possible to carry out the method of sampling described above because of the unacceptable commercial consequences resulting from damage to the lot (because of packaging forms, means of transport, etc.) an alternative method of sampling may be applied provided that it is as representative as possible and is fully described and documented.

**N.4. Method of sampling for dried herbs, herbal infusions (dried product) and teas (dried product) (lots < 15 tonnes)**

For lots of dried herbs, herbal infusions (dried product) and teas (dried product) less than 15 tonnes the sampling plan shall be used with 5 to 25 incremental samples, depending on the lot weight, resulting in an aggregate sample of 0,1 to 0.5 kg.

The figures in the following Table can be used to determine the number of incremental samples to be taken.

Table 2. Minimum number of incremental samples to be taken depending on the weight of the lot of dried herbs, herbal infusions (dried product) and teas (dried product)

| <b>Lot weight (tonnes)</b> | <b>Minimum number of incremental samples</b> | <b>Minimum aggregate sample of weight (kg)</b> |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| ≤ 0,1                      | 5  | 0,1  |
| > 0,1 - ≤ 0,5              | 10   | 0.2  |
| > 0.5 - ≤ 5,0              | 15   | 0.3  |
| > 5,0 - ≤ 10,0             | 20   | 0.4  |
| > 10,0 - ≤ 15,0            | 25   | 0.5  |

## **N.5. Sampling at retail stage**

Sampling of foodstuffs at the retail stage shall be done where possible in accordance with the sampling provisions set out in this part.

Where that is not possible, an alternative method of sampling at retail stage may be used provided that it ensures that the aggregate sample is sufficiently representative of the sampled lot and is fully described and documented. In any case, the aggregate sample shall be at least 0,1 kg.