

8th INTERNATIONAL  
GRADUATE COURSE

*on Production and Use of  
Food Composition Data  
in Nutrition*

Announcement

February 2007

FoodComp 2007

1-13 October 2007

*Wageningen, The Netherlands*

Organised by



WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY  
AGROTECHNOLOGY AND  
FOOD SCIENCES GROUP

*Graduate School VLAG (Advanced Studies in Food Technology, Agrobiotechnology, Nutrition and Health Sciences) and the Division of Human Nutrition of Wageningen University*

In co-operation with



United Nations University  
(Food and Nutrition  
Programme for Human and  
Social Development)



Food and Agriculture  
Organisation of the United Nations  
(Food Policy and  
Nutrition Division)



## Background

Compilations of data on the nutritional composition of foods are essential tools for nutritionists, especially those concerned with monitoring adequacy of dietary intake, for linking diet to health and disease, for planning and prescription, education, food security, and for trade, export and legislation. A two-week training course on the production and use of food composition data in nutrition is offered by Graduate School VLAG and the Division of Human Nutrition in cooperation with United Nations University (UNU), Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), and the European Food Information Resource Network (EuroFIR) in Wageningen, The Netherlands from 1-13 October 2007 (FoodComp 2007). Earlier courses in Wageningen were organised by the FLAIR Eurofoods-Enfant Project of the European Community and by VLAG-UNU-FAO-IUNS-COST 99 in 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2001, 2003 and 2005. Regional courses were organised in Chile in 1995; in Argentina in 1996; South Africa in 1997, 1999 and 2002; in Jamaica in 2001; in Thailand in 2002, in India and in Slovak Republic in 2006.

## Objectives of course

The aim of FoodComp 2007 is to show how the quality and usefulness of food composition data is determined by the quality of the production of analytical data for nutrients in foods, and the compilation of these and other data into food composition tables and nutritional databases. The course will be based on the philosophy that the preparation of nutritional databases requires close understanding of the needs of the users by both compilers and producers of analytical data. The course will show how this understanding can be achieved and the benefits that flow from the collaboration of users, analysts and compilers.

## Course structure

FoodComp 2007 will be structured around the second edition of the book 'Food Composition Data, Production, Management and Use', by Dr H. Greenfield and Professor D.A.T. Southgate. The course will cover: ways in which nutritional databases are used and how these determine the range of nutrients for which values are required; foods for which values are needed; choice and validation of analytical methods to give nutritionally relevant values; food and nutrient classification and stages in the production of a nutrient database. Participants will become familiar with rules for data documentation as well as structures for constructing computerised relational databases.

## Who should attend

FoodComp 2007 is intended for those involved in nutritional database programmes as analysts and/or compilers and will be of value to those teaching nutrition and nutritional aspects of food chemistry. Users of nutritional databases who wish to have a better understanding of how databases are prepared and the constraints upon their use will also find the course useful.

## Course content

The major elements of the course, which will comprise lectures, seminars and group work, will be:

- **Requirements and use of nutrient databases at different levels**
- **Steps in establishing a food composition database**
- **Selecting and establishing priorities for including foods, nutrients and other food components in databases**
- **Sampling of foods**
- **Methods of analysis: critical evaluation and choice of methods**
- **Data quality and evaluation**
- **Reviewing existing data**
- **Format and modes of expression**
- **Food nomenclature, classification and identification**
- **Recipe calculations**
- **Compilation of data**
- **Nutrient calculation software**
- **National and international activities in food composition issues**
- **Dissemination of data including copyright issues**
- **Documentation and database management**

## Venue and duration

FoodComp 2007 will be held at the Wageningen International Conference Centre (WICC) in Wageningen, The Netherlands for two weeks from 1 - 13 October 2007.

## Language

The language of the course is English. Therefore, fluent English is essential.

## Registration and course fee

Please register by completing the course application form below. The final registration date is June 1, 2007. The number of participants is limited to 30. The course fee, including a Euro 350 non-refundable deposit, is Euro 3400. The fee covers accommodation and meals from 1-13 October 2007 at the Wageningen International Conference Centre, a copy of the handbook and other course materials, tuition fees and excursions. It does not cover the cost of travel to the course, medical insurance and pocket money. The fee is payable on notification of acceptance for the course. A limited number of UNU fellowships for persons in developing countries will be available. Applications can be made through the Course Secretariat.

The European Food Information Resource Network (EuroFIR) also makes a number of fellowships available for staff members of EuroFIR partners. More information will be announced on the EuroFIR website in due time.

The graduate school VLAG and the Division of Human Nutrition are not in a position to supply fellowships for the course.

## How to apply

All applicants should fill in the application form below and send it together with their curriculum vitae before 1 June 2007 to the Course Secretariat.

## Scientific Advisory Board

- Professor F.J. Kok, Division of Human Nutrition, Wageningen University
- Mr Max Bond, Executive Officer, UNU Headquarters, Tokyo, Japan
- Professor D.A.T. Southgate, formerly of BBSRC Institute of Food Research, Norwich, UK
- Professor H. Schönfeldt, University of Pretoria and ARC Animal Nutrition and Animal Products Institute, Irene, South Africa
- Mr P. Finglas, Institute of Food Research, Norwich, UK
- Dr B. Burlingame, FAO, Food and Nutrition Division, Rome, Italy

## Course director

- Mr PJM Hulshof, Division of Human Nutrition, Wageningen University, The Netherlands

## Suggested other faculty

- Dr J. Van Camp, University of Ghent, Belgium
- Dr H. van der Voet, Plant Science Group, Wageningen, The Netherlands
- Dr I. Castanheira, Instituto Nacional de Saúde Dr Ricardo Jorge, Lisbon, Portugal
- Professor P van't Veer, Division of Human Nutrition, Wageningen University, The Netherlands
- Dr V. Ollilainen, University of Helsinki, Finland
- Dr P.C.H. Hollman, RIKILT – Institute of Food Safety, Wageningen, The Netherlands
- Mrs J Holden, Nutrient Data Laboratory, United States Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, USA
- Dr J. Ireland, French Food Safety Agency, Paris, France
- Mr B Eijgenraam, Soil Quality, Wageningen University, The Netherlands
- Mr A. Møller, DanFood, Søborg, Denmark
- Ms S. Westenbrink, TNO Nutrition and Food Research, Zeist, The Netherlands
- Ms R Charrondiere, FAO, Food and Nutrition Division, Rome, Italy
- Dr W Becker, Swedish National Food Administration, Uppsala, Sweden

## Course Secretariat

Ms L.A. Duym-Brookman,  
Secretariat Foodcomp2007  
Division of Human Nutrition , Wageningen University  
P.O. Box 8129, 6700 EV Wageningen, The Netherlands  
Telephone: +31 317 48 30 54/48 25 89, Telefax: +31 317 48 33 42  
E-mail: lous.duym@wur.nl

## Application form

Eighth International Graduate Course on the Production and Use of Food Composition Data in Nutrition, 1 - 13 October 2007, Wageningen, The Netherlands.

Please complete and return this form **before 1 June 2007 together with your curriculum vitae** to:  
Course Secretariat of FoodComp 2007 (see address above). Applications can also be made by using the application form at <http://www.vlaggraduateschool.nl/courses/food-comp.pdf>

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Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms

Family name: \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ M/F \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code/City: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

EuroFIR member: Yes/No \_\_\_\_\_ Partner acronym: \_\_\_\_\_ Partner Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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Address for correspondence: \_\_\_\_\_  
(if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

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Name and address of current employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Will your employer meet the cost of you attending the course by paying for tuition fees,  
travel and allowances YES/NO

(Please attach letter confirming the above if YES)

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Invoice for tuition fees should be sent to (if not candidate or employer, then provide name and address  
of person/institute providing funds)

- Candidate for admission to course
- Employer
- Other:

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Declaration and signature of candidate seeking admission:

I declare that the information given on this form and in the attached curriculum vitae is correct. I have read and understood the arrangements for payment of tuition fees to which I will adhere. I understand that the course may be cancelled if numbers prove insufficient and that in such circumstances course fees will be refunded.

Date

Signature

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