Testing Method Recommendations for the Detection of Filth in Tamarind Products on IA 21-07

Date: 11-8-2024

Please note, this recommendation is intended to provide supplemental general information to private laboratories on methods of analysis and test portion sizes of tamarind products. This document **does not outline all of the analytical method or worksheet requirements for packages being submitted for FDA review. **

Please refer to the current FDA Laboratory Manual, Volume III, Section 7 for comprehensive information on private laboratory package requirements and the review process: https://www.fda.gov/media/73540/download

Sample Collection:

Samples should consist of 6 subsamples/test portions for official analysis.

- Pods: See IOM Chapter 4, Sample Schedule Chart 14, Sample Sizes for Filth Analysis (link).
- Products other than pods: 6 subsamples, each with a minimum of 1 lb.

Analytical Protocol:

The table below serves as a guide for analyzing common tamarind products.

Tamarind Product(s)	Test portion	Method of analysis
Fresh and Dried Pods	100 pods	MPM V-9 F Method for Dried Fruits
Chutney, Concentrate, Paste, Pulp, Sauce, Slab, Syrup, Jam, and Candy with fruit paste	100 grams	AOAC Official Method 964.23 Filth in Fig and Fruit Paste
Chutney, Concentrate, Paste, Pulp, Sauce, Slab, Syrup, Jam, and Candy with fruit paste (with spices/chili powder)	100 grams	LIB 2635 Extraction and Analysis of Light Filth In Vegetarian Pate
Candy (without fruit paste)	225 grams	AOAC Official Method 971.34 Filth in Candy
Tamarind Gum (from tamarind seed)	100-200 grams	MPM V-5 Miscellaneous Food Products, Especially Plant Gums
Tamarind covered in salt and chili powder	142 grams	LIB 3174 Light Filth Method for Preserved Plums

Count all filth elements and report findings according to AOAC 970.66. Note that other extraneous materials (e.g., fibers, paint chips, etc.) need to be described and reported by type and appropriate quantitative figure.

Quality Assurance:
Laboratory must follow the methodology specified in the private laboratory package submission. Any method modifications or deviations to the cited method must be explained and validation must be documented.

FDA does not endorse any private laboratory firms, nor requires specific methods to be used for Private Laboratory Analytical Packages (PLAPs). Information herein is provided as a courtesy, but private laboratories are not required to use them. The requirements state the method should be locally validated and should adequately identify and or quantitate the violative analyte(s). The information herein may also provide supplementary sampling, method information and/or sample preparation information to assist private laboratories who are analyzing products being held under Detention Without Physical Examination (DWPE) as part of an Import Alert to assist private laboratories with submitting scientifically sounds PLAPS as testimony pursuant to FD&C Act section 801 and 21 CFR 1.94 or FD&C Act section 422(b) and 21 CFR 1.1107.