

Special Program "Sugar Labeling"

During the 6th Rare Sugar Congress, Special Program regarding "Sugar Labeling" was held on Nov 24, 2016. Problems for sugar labeling were identified in the Session I by three presenters: C. Kuraishi, (The Coca-Cola Company, USA), O. Roger, (Nestlé Ltd, Switzerland) and Y. Fujita, (Mitsubishi Corp, Japan) representing North America, EU, and Asia, respectively.

Present products containing an artificial non-calorie sweetener are indicated by a label of "non-sugar". Although D-allulose, one of rare sugars, is also non-calorie, D-allulose is categorized as a sugar academically; labeling as a non-sugar is not considered to be suitable.

In the Session II of Special Program, Y. Tani, (D-Allulose Working Group Chair, Calorie Control Council (CCC), USA) moderated a panel discussion for this nomenclature problem with multiple panelists including; E.J. Vandamme, (Ghent University, Belgium), G.W.J. Fleet, (Oxford University, UK), K. Izumori, (Kagawa University, Japan), A. Bär, (Tooth Friendly Association, Switzerland), M. Landa (Former Director of CFSAN, FDA ,USA), S. Cho, (NutraSource, Inc., USA), S. Lumyong, (Chiang Mai University, Thailand), Oku, T. (University of Nagasaki, Japan), and H. Hamano, (International Life Science Institute, Japan).

After exchanging various opinions on the basis of a wide discussion, the following proposal was agreed as a unified opinion. D-Allulose should be labeled in a different category to Sugar (sucrose) category to avoid any confusion of the consumer. However, an appropriate category should be defined by each country or region sharing a similar labeling concept. Dietary fibers, sugar alcohols, and other carbohydrates would be good references to assign as the category for D-allulose.

Ken Zunne

Ken Izumori, President International Society of Rare Sugars Faculty of Agriculture, Kagawa University, Miki, Kagawa 761-0795 JAPAN izumori@ag.kagawa-u.ac.jp (Email)