Summary of the application: Yellow tomato extract

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The novel food application concerns the authorisation of an extract from yellow tomatoes, referred to as yellow tomato extract. The novel food is extracted and purified from yellow tomato cultivars. The tomatoes used for producing the yellow tomato extract are a common crop in Europe since the 18th century. The yellow tomatoes as a raw material have been cultivated using traditional breeding techniques, and they have a history of safe food use. The yellow tomato extract is derived from the dried yellow tomato pulp which is obtained by traditional physical techniques (separation, drying) from raw yellow tomatoes. The supercritical CO₂ procedure for the extraction process is known to be safe for the consumer, and no solvents are involved in the process. Samples from five independent batches of the yellow tomato extract were used for the compositional analysis. The yellow tomato extract is an oil fraction and contains only negligible amounts of protein, carbohydrate and sugars. The components in the yellow tomato extract are qualitatively the same as in the approved novel extract from red tomatoes - Lyc-O-Mato 6% oleoresin. The Lyc-O-Mato® tomato extract has an established use as an ingredient in food supplements and as a food colour (E160d) in the EU and as a novel food source of lycopene in food products other than food supplements. Lycored wish to market the yellow tomato extract as an ingredient for use in food supplement products intended to be consumed by the general adult population in the EU aged 18 years and older to provide a daily dose of 10-13 mg of total carotenoids per day, along with 7 - 10 mg of the carotenoids phytoene and phytofluene and 0.1 – 0.4 mg lycopene. Tier 1 genotoxicity testing was conducted on the yellow tomato extract, and it was observed as non-mutagenic, and non-clastogenic and non-aneugenic to human lymphocytes in vitro. Collectively, the studies performed on the yellow tomato extract and on Lyc-O-Mato[®] (i.e. acute toxicity, subchronic toxicity, irritation, and sensitisation studies, along with clinical studies), support human health safety of the components found in the yellow tomato extract.