

Article 4 Request

Regulation (EU) 2015/2283

Recipient Member State: Ireland, Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI)

Name of the Food: 'Lentil Protein'

Date: 17/10/2023

Description of the food: The food consists of at least 85% protein (dry weight) derived from red and yellow lentil seeds (*Lens culinaris*) using traditional production/processing methods. "Lentil Protein" is intended for use as a food ingredient in a range of food products (up to 30% of the product weight) on the EU market as a plant-based protein source.

Novel food status: The FSAI considers that 'Lentil Protein' is **not a novel food**.

Reasons why the food is not novel:

Evidence is provided demonstrating that certain processed food products containing 'Lentil Protein' are already on the EU market. This does not however, prove a history of consumption prior to 1997. Notwithstanding this, lentil seeds and lentil seed powder have been consumed to a significant degree within the EU prior to 1997, mainly in soups and side dishes but also in other food products. The production process for "Lentil protein" uses standard traditional processing techniques that results in an increase in the protein content (2.5-4 X) relative to that for lentil seed but does not affect the amino acid profile or the relative content of key anti-nutrients. The relative fat content in "Lentil protein" is slightly raised while the relative content of carbohydrate and fibre is reduced.

Appropriate novel food category:

Not applicable