Consultation request for the determination of the novel food status ARTICLE 4 of Regulation (EU) 2015/2283

Consultation request to determine the novel food status of Rice protein

Recipient Member State: the Czech Republic, Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic

Name and description of the novel food:

The request concerns rice protein produced from cereals of the species *Oryza sativa* L. The manufacturing process starts with dehusking the grain, followed by soaking in water, grinding and hydrolysis of the starches by amylase. The hydrolysed starches are removed, the acquired crude protein is purified. The rice protein is intended to be used in a powdered, liquid form or capsules in food supplements.

Novel food status

The ingredient is considered as **not novel food**.

Justification

According to the information of Italian competent authorities, rice protein is not considered as novel food (a history of use in foods for special medical purposes for infants has been established).

The Czech Republic is also aware of information from Belgian, Austrian, German and Irish competent authorities, who do not consider rice protein as novel in foods.

The production process of rice protein includes common used production practices / process technologies used before 15th May 1997 and does not give rise to significant changes in the composition or structure of a food, affecting its nutritional value, metabolism or level of undesirable substances. The molecular structure is not new or intentionally modified.