

Summary of the application: Hermetia meal

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The application of the novel food, Hermetia meal (based on dried, ground meal of whole *Hermetia illucens* larvae), is submitted pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2015/2283 of the European Parliament.

Hermetia meal is intended for use as an ingredient, at maximum 10% w/w, in two food categories: 1) Bakery wares and 2) Potato-, cereal-, flour or starch-based snacks.

The identity of the novel food is the insect *Hermetia illucens* (Linnaeus, 1758), also known by the popular name Black Soldier Fly. It is a common and widespread fly of the family Stratiomyidae that has become a cosmopolitan species over recent decades, with current natural populations in Southern and Central Europe.

Hermetia meal has a high nutritional value comprised by approximately 30-45% protein and 25-40% fat (on a dry matter basis). Microbiological and chemical analysis have demonstrated to be within the limits of EU food safety criteria as well as in accordance with Codex Alimentarius of FAO/WHO. The production process of *Hermetia illucens* larvae and Hermetia meal ensures the safety of the commercialized product by respecting Good Hygiene Practices, traceability, compulsory notification and labelling requirements, management of chemical and microbiological hazards and a self-control system based on the HACCP-principles. Traditionally, consumption of *Hermetia illucens* is known from Malaysia.

Hazard (toxicological) and risk assessment provided in the novel food dossier support the overall safety of using Hermetia meal in the proposed food categories at an inclusion level of 10%. However, consumers allergic to crustaceans and house-dust mites should avoid consuming products containing *Hermetia illucens* (or other insect-based foods) due to risk of an allergic cross-reaction. Hence, an allergy warning is needed on the labelling of products containing Hermetia meal.