

Comments from the Victorian Departments of Health & Human Services and Economic Development, Jobs, Transport & Resources

Due date of submission – 2 November 2016

The Victorian Departments of Health & Human Services and Economic Development, Jobs, Transport & Resources (the departments) welcome the opportunity to provide comments on Application A1121 – Oryzin (Protease) from *Aspergillus melleus* as a Processing Aid (Enzyme).

From the Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) assessment report it is understood that:

- The purpose of the application is to permit the use of Oryzin (protease) from *Aspergillus melleus* as an enzyme for use in baking, flavouring production and dairy, egg, meat, fish, protein and yeast processing.
- The effect of the enzyme Oryzin is to catalyse the conversion of the substrate protein and peptides in a range of food raw materials. During food processing, the use of Oryzin is intended to result in the improvement of:
 - organoleptic properties (taste and flavour);
 - physiological properties (foamability);
 - emulsifying ability, heat stability and viscosity); and
 - nutritional properties (absorptivity and digestibility).
- Oryzin is an enzyme of microbial origin where the use of *A. melleus* as the production organism for a number of processing aids such as Oryzin has a history of safe use overseas.
- There are currently no permissions in Schedule 18 of the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code for an enzyme processing aid produced using *A. melleus*. This application seeks to amend Schedule 18 to permit the use of this new enzyme.

FSANZ's risk assessment identifies that the use of *A. melleus* as a production organism is not toxigenic or pathogenic and that any residual Oryzin present in the final food is susceptible to digestion like other dietary proteins.

FSANZ's risk assessment conclusions provide evidence that there are no safety risks from the use of the enzyme as a processing aid. The use of the enzyme is technologically justified.

On the basis of this information, the departments support the progression of the Application.