Safety evaluation of the food enzyme α-amylase from a genetically modified Aspergillus niger (strain NZYM-SB)

EFSA Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, Flavourings and Processing Aids (CEF), Vittorio Silano, Claudia Bolognesi, Laurence Castle, Kevin Chipman, Jean-Pierre Cravedi, Paul Fowler, Roland Franz, Konrad Grob, Rainer Gurtler, Trine Husøy, Sirpa Kärenlampi, Wim Mennes, Maria Rosaria Milana, Karla Pfaff, Gilles Riviere, Jannavi Srinivasan, Maria de Fátima Tavares Poças, Christina Tlustos, Detlef Wölfle, Holger Zorn, Andrew Chesson, Boet Glandorf, Lieve Herman, Klaus-Dieter Jany, Francesca Marcon, André Penninks, Andrew Smith, Henk Van Loveren, Davor Zelježić, Margarita Aguilera-Gómez, Magdalena Andrýszkiewicz, Davide Arcella, Natália Kovalková, Yi Liu and Karl-Heinz Engel

Abstract

The food enzyme is an α-amylase (4-α-D-glucan glucanohydrolase; EC 3.2.1.1), produced with the genetically modified Aspergillus niger strain NZYM-SB by Novozymes A/S. The food enzyme does not contain the production organism or its DNA; therefore, there is no safety concern for the environment. The α-amylase is intended for use in starch processing, beverage alcohol (distilling) processes and baking processes. Residual amounts of total organic solids (TOS) are removed by distillation and by the purification steps applied during the production of glucose syrups (by > 99%). Consequently, dietary exposure was not calculated for these two uses. Based on the maximum use levels recommended for the baking processes and individual consumption data from the EFSA Comprehensive European Food Consumption Database, dietary exposure to the food enzyme–TOS was estimated to be up to 3.075 mg TOS/kg body weight per day in European populations. The food enzyme did not induce gene mutations in bacteria or micronuclei in human lymphocytes. Subchronic toxicity was assessed by means of a repeated-dose 90-day oral toxicity study in rodents. A no observed adverse effect level (NOAEL) was derived that, compared with the dietary exposure, resulted in a sufficiently high margin of exposure (MOE). Similarity of the amino acid sequence to those of known allergens was searched and two matches were found. The Panel considered that the risk of allergic sensitisation and elicitation reactions by dietary exposure cannot be excluded, but the likelihood is considered low. Based on the genetic modifications, the manufacturing process, the compositional and biochemical data, the findings in the toxicological and genotoxicity studies, as well as the estimated dietary exposure, the Panel concluded that this food enzyme does not give rise to safety concerns under the intended conditions of use.

© 2018 European Food Safety Authority. EFSA Journal published by John Wiley and Sons Ltd on behalf of European Food Safety Authority.

Keywords: food enzyme, α-amylase, 4-α-D-glucan glucanohydrolase, EC 3.2.1.1, Aspergillus niger, NZYM-SB, genetically modified microorganism

Requestor: European Commission

Question number: EFSA-Q-2014-00413

Correspondence: fip@efsa.europa.eu
Panel members: Vittorio Silano, Claudia Bolognesi, Laurence Castle, Kevin Chipman, Jean-Pierre Cravedi, Karl-Heinz Engel, Paul Fowler, Roland Franz, Konrad Grob, Rainer Gürtler, Trine Husøy, Sirpa Kärenlampi, Wim Mennes, Maria Rosaria Milana, Karla Pfaff, Gilles Riviere, Jannavi Srinivasan, Maria de Fatima Tavares Poças, Christina Tlustos, Detlef Wölfle and Holger Zorn.

Note: The full opinion will be published in accordance with Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No. 1331/2008 once the decision on confidentiality will be received from the European Commission.

Acknowledgements: The Panel wishes to thank EFSA staff members: Jaime Aguilera, Ana Gomes, Christine Horn, Joaquim Maia and Annamaria Rossi for the support provided to this scientific output.

Suggested citation: EFSA CEF Panel (EFSA Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, Flavourings and Processing Aids), Silano V, Bolognesi C, Castle L, Chipman K, Cravedi J-P, Fowler P, Franz R, Grob K, Gürtler R, Husøy T, Kärenlampi S, Mennes W, Milana MR, Pfaff K, Riviere G, Srinivasan J, Tavares Poças MF, Tlustos C, Wölfle D, Zorn H, Chesson A, Glandorf B, Herman L, Jany K-D, Marcon F, Penninks A, Smith A, Van Loveren H, Željezić D, Aguilera-Gómez M, Andryszkiewicz M, Arcella D, Kovalkovicová N, Liu Y and Engel K-H, 2018. Scientific Opinion on the safety evaluation of the food enzyme α-amylase from a genetically modified Aspergillus niger (strain NZYM-SB). EFSA Journal 2018;16(7):5320, 21 pp. https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2018.5320

ISSN: 1831-4732

© 2018 European Food Safety Authority. EFSA Journal published by John Wiley and Sons Ltd on behalf of European Food Safety Authority.

This is an open access article under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NoDerivs License, which permits use and distribution in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited and no modifications or adaptations are made.

The EFSA Journal is a publication of the European Food Safety Authority, an agency of the European Union.
Table of contents

Abstract...................................................................................................................................................... 1
1. Introduction............................................................................................................................................. 4
1.1. Background and Terms of Reference as provided by the requestor.................................................. 4
1.1.1. Background as provided by the European Commission .................................................................. 4
1.1.2. Terms of Reference ...................................................................................................................... 4
1.2. Interpretation of the Terms of Reference.......................................................................................... 5
1.3. Information on existing authorisations and evaluations..................................................................... 5
2. Data and methodologies....................................................................................................................... 5
2.1. Data................................................................................................................................................... 5
2.2. Methodologies.............................................................................................................................. 5
3. Assessment............................................................................................................................................ 5
3.1. Technical data................................................................................................................................... 5
3.1.1. Identity of the food enzyme........................................................................................................... 5
3.1.2. Chemical parameters.................................................................................................................... 5
3.1.3. Properties of the food enzyme...................................................................................................... 6
3.1.4. Information of the microbial source material ................................................................................ 7
3.1.4.1. Information on the genetically modified microorganism............................................................ 7
3.1.4.2. Characteristics of the parental and recipient microorganisms.................................................... 7
3.1.4.3. Characteristics of introduced sequences .................................................................................. 7
3.1.4.4. Description of the genetic modification process ...................................................................... 7
3.1.4.5. Safety aspects of the genetic modification .............................................................................. 8
3.1.5. Manufacturing process................................................................................................................ 8
3.1.6. Safety for the environment........................................................................................................... 8
3.1.7. Case of need and intended conditions of use................................................................................ 8
3.1.8. Reaction and fate in food............................................................................................................. 9
3.2. Dietary exposure............................................................................................................................. 9
3.2.1. EFSA Comprehensive European Food Consumption Database ................................................... 10
3.2.2. Exposure assessment methodology............................................................................................. 10
3.2.3. Exposure to food enzyme-TOS according to the intended use proposed by the applicant........ 10
3.2.4. Uncertainty analysis.................................................................................................................... 11
3.3. Toxicological analysis.................................................................................................................... 11
3.3.1. Genotoxicity............................................................................................................................... 12
3.3.1.1. Bacterial reverse mutation test................................................................................................... 12
3.3.1.2. In vitro mammalian cell micronucleus test................................................................................ 12
3.3.2. Repeated-dose 90-day oral toxicity study in rodents .................................................................... 12
3.4. Allergenicity....................................................................................................................................... 13
Conclusions............................................................................................................................................... 14
References............................................................................................................................................... 14
Abbreviations............................................................................................................................................ 16
Appendix A – Population groups considered for the exposure assessment......................................... 17
Appendix B – FoodEx categories used to derive exposure estimates for the food enzyme-TOS and the respective conversion factors .................................................................................. 18
Appendix C – Dietary exposure estimates to the food enzyme-TOS in details...................................... 21
1. Introduction

Article 3 of the Regulation (EC) No. 1332/2008 provides definition for ‘food enzyme’ and ‘food enzyme preparation’.

‘Food enzyme’ means a product obtained from plants, animals or microorganisms or products thereof including a product obtained by a fermentation process using microorganisms: (i) containing one or more enzymes capable of catalysing a specific biochemical reaction; and (ii) added to food for a technological purpose at any stage of the manufacturing, processing, preparation, treatment, packaging, transport or storage of foods.

‘Food enzyme preparation’ means a formulation consisting of one or more food enzymes in which substances such as food additives and/or other food ingredients are incorporated to facilitate their storage, sale, standardisation, dilution or dissolution.

Before January 2009, food enzymes other than those used as food additives were not regulated or were regulated as processing aids under the legislation of the Member States. On 20 January 2009, Regulation (EC) No. 1332/2008 on food enzymes came into force. This Regulation applies to enzymes that are added to food to perform a technological function in the manufacture, processing, preparation, treatment, packaging, transport or storage of such food, including enzymes used as processing aids. Regulation (EC) No. 1331/2008 established the European Union (EU) procedures for the safety assessment and the authorisation procedure of food additives, food enzymes and food flavourings. The use of a food enzyme shall be authorised only if it is demonstrated that:

- it does not pose a safety concern to the health of the consumer at the level of use proposed;
- there is a reasonable technological need;
- its use does not mislead the consumer.

All food enzymes currently on the EU market and intended to remain on that market, as well as all new food enzymes, shall be subjected to a safety evaluation by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and approval via an EU Community list.

The ‘Guidance on submission of a dossier on food enzymes for safety evaluation’ (EFSA CEF Panel, 2009) lays down the administrative, technical and toxicological data required.

1.1. Background and Terms of Reference as provided by the requestor

1.1.1. Background as provided by the European Commission

Only food enzymes included in the Union list may be placed on the market as such and used in foods, in accordance with the specifications and conditions of use provided for in Article 7 (2) of Regulation (EC) No. 1332/2008 on food enzymes.

Two applications have been put forward by the company ‘Novozymes A/S’ for the authorisation of the food enzymes serine protease (with trypsin specificity) from a genetically modified strain of Fusarium venenatum (strain NZYM-FG) and α-amylase from a genetically modified strain of Aspergillus niger (strain NZYM-SB).

Following the requirements of Article 12.1 of Commission Regulation (EU) No. 234/2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No. 1331/2008, the Commission has verified that the two applications fall within the scope of the food enzyme Regulation and contain all the items required under Chapter II of that Regulation.

1.1.2. Terms of Reference

The European Commission (EC) requests the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) to carry out the safety assessments on the food enzymes serine protease (with trypsin specificity) from a genetically modified strain of Fusarium venenatum (strain NZYM-FG) and α-amylase from a genetically modified strain of Aspergillus niger (strain NZYM-SB).
modified strain of *Aspergillus niger* (strain NZYM-SB) in accordance with Article 17.3 of Regulation (EC) No. 1332/2008 on food enzymes.

1.2. Interpretation of the Terms of Reference

The present scientific opinion addresses the European Commission’s request to carry out the safety assessment of the food enzyme α-amylase from a genetically modified (GM) strain of *A. niger* (strain NZYM-SB).

1.3. Information on existing authorisations and evaluations

The applicant reports that Danish and French authorities have not yet evaluated and authorised the use of α-amylase from a GM strain of *A. niger* (strain NZYM-SB).

2. Data and methodologies

2.1. Data

The applicant has submitted a dossier in support of the application for authorisation of the food enzyme α-amylase from a GM *A. niger* (strain NZYM-SB). The food enzyme is intended to be used in starch processing for the production of glucose syrups, distilled alcohol production and baking processes.

2.2. Methodologies

The assessment was conducted in line with the principles described in the EFSA ‘Guidance on transparency in the scientific aspects of risk assessment’ (EFSA, 2009) and following the relevant existing Guidances from the EFSA Scientific Committee.

The current ‘Guidance on the submission of a dossier on food enzymes for safety evaluation’ (EFSA CEF Panel, 2009) has been followed for the evaluation of the application with the exception of the exposure assessment, which was carried out in accordance to the methodology described in the CEF Panel statement on the exposure assessment of food enzymes (EFSA CEF Panel, 2016).

3. Assessment

3.1. Technical data

3.1.1. Identity of the food enzyme

IUBMB nomenclature: α-Amylase
Systematic name: 4-α-D-Glucan glucanohydrolase
Synonyms: Endo-α-amylase, 1,4-α-D-glucan glucanohydrolase
IUBMB No.: EC 3.2.1.1
CAS No.: 9000-90-2
EINECS No.: 232-565-6.

3.1.2. Chemical parameters

The α-amylase produced with the GM *A. niger* (strain NZYM-SB) consists of a single-polypeptide chain of 580 amino acids. The molecular mass, derived from the amino acid sequence, was calculated to be 63.2 kDa. The protein pattern of the food enzyme was investigated by sodium dodecyl sulfate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) analysis. The gels presented for the four food enzyme batches are comparable, showing multiple protein bands including a band in the 63 kDa region.

The food enzyme was tested for other enzyme activities. Lipase and protease activities were below the detection limits of the employed methods, but glucoamylase activity was detected. However, the Panel did not consider this of being of safety concern.4

4 LODs: glucoamylase = 0.825 AGU/g; lipase = 0.02 KLU/g; protease = 196 HUT/g.
Data on the chemical parameters of the food enzyme have been provided for four food enzyme batches, three batches used for commercialisation and one batch used for the toxicological tests (Table 1). The average total organic solids (TOS) content of the three commercial enzyme batches was 10.4% (w/w); the values ranged from 7.5 to 13.9% (Table 1).

The enzyme activity/mg TOS ratio of the three food enzyme batches ranged from 0.46 to 0.71 Fungal \( \alpha \)-Amylase Units (FAU(F))/mg TOS (Table 1). The average value of 0.58 FAU(F)/mg TOS was used for subsequent calculations.

The lead content in the three commercial batches (not more than 5 mg/kg), complies with the specification for lead as laid down in the general specifications and considerations for enzymes used in food processing (FAO/WHO, 2006). In addition, the levels of arsenic, cadmium and mercury were below the limits of detection of the employed methodologies.

No antimicrobial activity was detected in any of these batches (FAO/WHO, 2006).

Mycotoxins ochratoxin A and fumonisins are of major concern in species of \( A. \) niger (Blumenthal, 2004; Frisvad et al., 2007, 2011; EFSA, 2017). The presence of the mycotoxins ochratoxin A and fumonisin B2 was examined in the four food enzyme batches and they were below the limits of detection of the applied analytical methods.

The food enzyme complies with the microbiological criteria as laid down in the general specifications and considerations for enzymes used in food processing (FAO/WHO, 2006), which stipulate that \( Escherichia \) coli and \( Salmonella \) species are absent in 25 g of sample and total coliforms should not exceed 30 colony-forming units (CFU) per gram.

The applicant has provided information on the identities of the antifoam agents used. Taking into account the nature and properties of the antifoam agents, the manufacturing process and the quality assurance system implemented by the applicant, the Panel considers their use as of no safety concern.

The Panel considered the compositional data provided for the food enzyme as sufficient.

### 3.1.3. Properties of the food enzyme

The \( \alpha \)-amylase catalyses the hydrolysis of 1,4-\( \alpha \)-glycosidic linkages in starch (amylose and amylopectin), resulting in the production of soluble dextrans and other malto-oligosaccharides.

The analytical principle to determine \( \alpha \)-amylase activity is based on hydrolysis of the substrate 4,6-ethylidene\( (G_7) \)\( -p \)-nitrophenyl\( (G_1) \)\( -\alpha \),\( \beta \)-maltoheptaoside, which is cleaved to glucose and \( p \)-nitrophenol (reaction conditions: pH 7.15, temperature 37°C, reaction time 5 min). The enzymatic activity is determined by measuring the formation of \( p \)-nitrophenol spectrophotometrically at 405 nm. The \( \alpha \)-amylase activity is measured relative to an internal enzyme standard and expressed in fungal \( \alpha \)-amylase units/g (FAU(F)/g).

The \( \alpha \)-amylase enzyme has been characterised under different temperature and pH conditions. The \( \alpha \)-amylase is active at temperatures up to 80°C (with an optimum of 46–62°C at pH 5.5) and within a pH range of 2–10 (with an optimum of about pH 3 at 30°C).

The thermostability of the \( \alpha \)-amylase was tested over the range of 30–90°C after a pre-incubation at the different temperatures at pH 5.5 for 30 min. The activity itself was measured at 30°C and pH

### Table 1: Compositional data of the food enzyme

| Parameter                  | Unit                  | Batches       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| \( \alpha \)-Amylase activity | FAU(F)/g batch\(^{(b)}\) | 63.6, 55.9, 53.3, 53.3 |
| Protein                    | %                     | 9.3, 7.9, 7.6, 7.8 |
| Ash                        | %                     | 0.4, 0.9, 0.8, 0.7 |
| Water                      | %                     | 85.7, 89.4, 91.7, 87.6 |
| Total organic solids (TOS)\(^{(c)}\) | %       | 13.9, 9.7, 7.5, 11.7 |
| \( \alpha \)-Amylase activity/mg TOS | FAU(F)/mg TOS | 0.46, 0.58, 0.71, 0.46 |

\(^{(a)}\) Batch used for the toxicological tests.

\(^{(b)}\) FAU(F): fungal alpha-amylase units (relative to an internal standard ‘F’) (see Section 3.1.3).

\(^{(c)}\) TOS calculated as 100% – % water – % ash.

5 LODs: Pb = 0.5 mg/kg; As = 0.1 mg/kg; Cd = 0.05 mg/kg; Hg = 0.03 mg/kg.

6 LODs: ochratoxin A and fumonisin B2 = 0.0003 mg/kg.
5.5 using an insoluble blue-dyed cross-linked starch as substrate. The enzyme shows about 100% activity up to approximately 40°C, less than 50% residual activity above 70°C and no activity remains at 80°C after 30 min.

3.1.4. Information of the microbial source material

3.1.4.1. Information on the genetically modified microorganism

The technical dossier contains detailed information on the recipient microorganism, the donor organism and the genetic modification process.

The α-amylase production organism *A. niger* NZYM-SB is deposited at the [deposit number] with deposit number.

3.1.4.2. Characteristics of the parental and recipient microorganisms

Some strains of *A. niger* have a long history of use in the production of food enzymes (Schuster et al., 2002; van Dijck et al., 2003; Park et al., 2017). The parental strain is *A. niger*.

The first intermediate strain was derived from the parental strain by [insert method]. Strain was found not to produce [insert evidence]. Strain was identified as *A. niger* by [insert method].

Recipient strain *A. niger* was derived from by [insert method].

3.1.4.3. Characteristics of introduced sequences

3.1.4.4. Description of the genetic modification process
3.1.4.5. Safety aspects of the genetic modification

The recipient strain *A. niger* differs from the parental strain.

The production strain *A. niger* NZYM-SB differs from the recipient strain.

The absence of antibiotic resistance genes used during the genetic modification was confirmed by further analysis.

Phenotypic stability of the *A. niger* NZYM-SB strain was confirmed by repeated experiments.

The genetic stability of the production strain *A. niger* NZYM-SB was demonstrated by long-term cultivation.

3.1.5. Manufacturing process

The food enzyme is manufactured according to the Food Hygiene Regulation (EC) No. 852/2004, with food safety procedures based on Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP), and in accordance with current Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP).

The food enzyme is produced by a pure culture in a contained fermentation system with conventional process controls in place. The identity and purity of the culture are checked at each transfer step from frozen vials until the end of fermentation.

The food enzyme produced is recovered from the fermentation broth after biomass separation using filtration. Further purification and concentration involve a series of filtration steps, including membrane filtration and diafiltration. After stabilisation with certain preservatives, the food enzyme preparation is commercialised in a liquid or in a solid form.

The absence of the production strain in the food enzyme was demonstrated by DNA analysis.

No DNA was detected.

The Panel considered the information provided on the raw materials and the manufacturing process as sufficient.

3.1.6. Safety for the environment

The production strain and its DNA were not detected in the final product. The Panel concluded that there is no safety concern for the environment.

3.1.7. Case of need and intended conditions of use

The original uses proposed by the applicant were starch processing for glucose syrup production, distilled alcohol production and baking and cereal-based processes. In the course of the evaluation process, the applicant informed EFSA about withdrawal of the intended use in cereal-based processes.

The resulting intended uses and the recommended use levels are summarised in Table 2.

7 Regulation (EC) No. 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the hygiene of food additives. OJ L 226, 25.6.2004, pp. 3–21.
In starch processing for glucose syrups production, the α-amylase is typically added during the saccharification step when it degrades gelatinised starch into dextrins. The α-amylase can also be used for raw starch hydrolysis where the starch is not completely gelatinised. In this case, the enzyme can be added to the feed tank, where process conditions are adapted to the temperature and pH profile of the enzyme.

In distilled alcohol production, the α-amylase is typically applied during the presaccharification together with other saccharification enzymes (e.g. glucoamylase) to degrade the dextrins to fermentable sugars. In plants using the simultaneous saccharification and fermentation (SSF) process, liquefied mash is pumped into the fermenter, where the α-amylase and other saccharification enzymes are added together with the yeast at the beginning of fermenter fill.

In baking processes, the food enzyme is added to the raw materials during the preparation of the dough. The α-amylase hydrolyses starch from granules that have been damaged during the milling and therefore releasing fermentable sugars and dextrins. These are further degraded by other enzymes. By hydrolysing damaged starch granules, α-amylase liberates water for optimal gluten development and improved gas retention.

### 3.1.8. Reaction and fate in food

The α-amylase catalyses the hydrolysis of 1,4-α-glycosidic linkages in starch (amylose and amylopectin) resulting in the generation of dextrins and other malto-oligosaccharides.

Experimental data have been provided on the removal (> 99%) of protein in the course of distilled alcohol production and starch processing for the production of glucose syrups (Documentation provided to EFSA No. 5). The Panel considered the evidence as sufficient to conclude that residual amounts of TOS (including substances other than proteins) are removed by distillation. In addition, when taking into account the purification steps applied to the production of glucose syrups i.e. filtration, ion exchange chromatography, treatment with active carbon, the Panel also considers that the amount of TOS in the final glucose syrup is removed to a similar degree.

The data and the information provided indicate that the α-amylase is inactivated during the baking processes under the intended conditions of use.

### 3.2. Dietary exposure

As residual amounts of TOS are removed by distillation and by the purification steps applied during the production of glucose syrups (by > 99%), a dietary exposure to the food enzyme resulting from these intended uses was not calculated.

For baking processes, dietary exposure estimates were calculated using the methodology described in the CEF Panel statement on the exposure assessment of food enzymes (EFSA CEF Panel, 2016). The assessment of the food processes covered in this opinion involved the selection of relevant food groups and application of process and technical conversion factors (Appendix B). These input data were subject to a stakeholder consultation through open calls and adjusted in accordance with feedback received.

---

http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/data/call/161110
3.2.1. EFSA Comprehensive European Food Consumption Database

Since 2010, the EFSA Comprehensive European Food Consumption Database (hereafter the EFSA Comprehensive Database9) has been populated with detailed national data on food consumption. Competent authorities in European countries provide EFSA with data on the level of food consumption by individual consumers, as taken from the most recent national dietary survey in their country (EFSA, 2011a).

The food consumption data gathered by EFSA were collected using different methodologies, and thus, direct country-to-country comparisons should be made with caution. Depending on the food category and the level of detail used in exposure calculations, uncertainties might be introduced owing to subjects underreporting and/or misreporting of consumption amounts. Nevertheless, the EFSA Comprehensive Database is the best available source of food consumption data across Europe.

Food consumption data from the population groups, infants, toddlers, children, adolescents, adults and the elderly, were used for the exposure assessment. For the present assessment, food consumption data were available from 33 different dietary surveys carried out in 19 European countries (Appendix A).

Consumption records were codified according to the standardised food classification and description system (FoodEx) (EFSA, 2011b).

3.2.2. Exposure assessment methodology

Chronic exposure was calculated based on individual consumption data, averaged over the total survey period, excluding surveys with only 1 day per subject. High-level exposure/intake was calculated for only those population groups, in which the sample size was sufficiently large to allow calculation of the 95th percentile (EFSA, 2011a).

The exposure per FoodEx category (Appendix B) was subsequently added to derive an individual total exposure per day. Finally, these exposure estimates were averaged over the number of survey days and normalised for individual body weight (bw), resulting in an individual average exposure/day per kg bw for the survey period. This was carried out for all individuals in the survey and per age class, resulting in distributions of individual average exposure per survey and age class. Based on these distributions, the mean and 95th percentile exposures were calculated per survey for the total population and per age class.

3.2.3. Exposure to food enzyme−TOS according to the intended use proposed by the applicant

Exposure to the food enzyme−TOS was based on intended use and the recommended maximum use levels of the food enzyme−TOS provided by the applicant (Section 3.1.7). Foods/ingredients derived through distilled alcohol production and starch processing were excluded from the analysis as the Panel considered the presence of residual amounts of TOS in distilled alcohol and glucose syrups as negligible (see Section 3.1.8). Therefore, dietary exposure to food enzyme−TOS was calculated from foods produced involving a baking process only.

Relevant food groups and/or individual foods were selected from the Comprehensive Database and were assumed to always contain the food enzyme−TOS at the maximum recommended use level. This will result in an overestimation of exposure to food enzyme−TOS.

To facilitate matching of the reported use levels for baking processes with foods identified in the Comprehensive Database, the selected foods were disaggregated to ingredient level as appropriate and converted into the corresponding raw material i.e. flour and malted barley/starch, via the application of conversion factors (Appendix B). For example, consumption of 100 g of bread was converted into an intake of 70 g flour (recipe fraction of 0.7) and then multiplied by 274 mg TOS/kg flour (Table 2) to arrive at an exposure of 19.18 mg TOS/100 g bread.

Exposure to the food enzyme−TOS was calculated by multiplying values reported for each food category by their respective consumption amount per kilogram of body weight (kg bw) separately for each individual in the database. Table 3 provides an overview of the derived exposure estimates. Average and 95th percentile exposure to the food enzyme−TOS per age class, country and survey are reported in Appendix C – Table 1. The contribution of the food enzyme−TOS from each FoodEx category to the total dietary exposure is indicated in Appendix C – Table 2.

9 http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/food-consumption/comprehensive-database
3.2.4. Uncertainty analysis

In accordance with the guidance provided in the EFSA Opinion of the Scientific Committee related to uncertainties in dietary exposure assessment (EFSA, 2007), the following sources of uncertainties have been considered and are summarised in Table 4.

Table 3: Summary of estimated dietary exposure to food enzyme-TOS in six population groups

| Estimated exposure (mg/kg bw per day) |
|--------------------------------------|
| Population group                     |
| Infants                              |
| Toddlers                             |
| Children                             |
| Adolescents                          |
| Adults                               |
| The elderly                          |
| Age range                            |
| 3–11 months                          |
| 12–35 months                         |
| 3–9 years                            |
| 10–17 years                          |
| 18–64 years                          |
| ≥ 65 years                           |
| Min–max mean (number of surveys)     |
| 0.191–0.836 (6)                      |
| 0.717–1.731 (10)                     |
| 0.752–1.635 (18)                     |
| 0.449–1.090 (17)                     |
| 0.325–0.662 (17)                     |
| 0.312–0.575 (14)                     |
| Min–max 95th percentile (number of surveys) |
| 1.114–2.355 (5)                      |
| 1.627–2.919 (7)                      |
| 1.407–3.075 (18)                     |
| 0.803–2.153 (17)                     |
| 0.631–1.302 (17)                     |
| 0.590–1.035 (14)                     |
| bw: body weight.                     |

3.3. Toxicological assessment

A battery of toxicological tests that includes bacterial gene mutation assay (Ames test), in vitro mammalian cell micronucleus test and a repeated-dose 90-day oral toxicity study in rats has been provided. The batch used for toxicological testing (Table 1, batch 4) was considered as suitable by the Panel.
3.3.1. Genotoxicity

3.3.1.1. Bacterial reverse mutation test

To investigate the potential of α-amylase to induce gene mutations, a bacterial reverse mutation assay (Ames test) was performed according to Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Test Guideline 471 (OECD, 1997) and following Good Laboratory Practice (GLP), in four strains of Salmonella Typhimurium (TA98, TA100, TA1535 and TA1537) and E. coli WP2uvrA pKM101 in the presence and absence of metabolic activation applying the `treat and plate’ assay. Two experiments were carried out in triplicate plating using six different concentrations of the food enzyme (156, 313, 625, 1,250, 2,500, 5,000 µg dry matter/plate, corresponding to approximately 147, 295, 590, 1,179, 2,359, 4,718 µg TOS/plate), appropriate positive controls and sterile deionised water as a negative control. All positive control chemicals showed a significant increase of induced revertant colony numbers, confirming the sensitivity of the tests and the efficacy of the S9-mix. Negative and positive control values were within the historical control ranges. No toxicity was observed at any concentration level of the test substance. Growth stimulation measured as increased viable count was observed in some tested conditions after treatment with the food enzyme; the increase did not result in noticeable increase in the corresponding number of revertant colonies. On treatment with the food enzyme, the numbers of the revertant colonies were comparable to the values observed in the vehicle control groups in any tester strain both in the presence and absence of metabolic activation. The Panel concluded that the food enzyme α-amylase did not induce gene mutations in the bacterial reverse mutation assay under the test conditions employed for this study.

3.3.1.2. In vitro mammalian cell micronucleus test

The in vitro mammalian cell micronucleus test was carried out according to OECD Test Guideline 487 (OECD, 2010) and following GLP. Whole blood cultures were treated with purified water (negative control), the food enzyme or appropriate positive controls both in the presence and absence of metabolic activation. Based on the results obtained in a cytotoxicity-range finding test, the cells were treated with 3,000, 4,000 and 5,000 µg food enzyme/mL (corresponding to 351, 468, 585 µg TOS/mL), applying a short-term treatment (3 h followed by 21 h of recovery) in the presence and absence of S9-mix, and a continuous treatment (24 + 24 h of recovery) in the absence of S9-mix. No significant changes in osmolarity and pH were detected. Two thousand cells were scored per experimental point. The positive controls induced statistically significant increases in micronucleus frequency and the system was considered sensitive and valid. Negative controls were within the historical vehicle control ranges. No significant increase of cytotoxicity was observed at the highest concentration tested (4, 0 and 0% after short-term treatment with or without S9-mix, and continuous treatment, respectively). No statistically significant increase in the frequency of micronuclei was observed in the treated cultures compared to the negative controls in all the tested conditions. The Panel concluded that the food enzyme α-amylase did not induce micronuclei under the test conditions employed for this study.

The Panel concludes on the basis of the in vitro studies that there is no concern for genotoxicity for the food enzyme tested.

3.3.2. Repeated-dose 90-day oral toxicity study in rodents

The repeated-dose 90-day oral toxicity study in rodents was performed in accordance with OECD Test Guideline 408 (OECD, 1998) and following GLP. Groups of 10 male and 10 female Sprague–Dawley (Crl:CD(SD)) rats received via oral gavage the food enzyme (batch 4) at dose levels of 122, 400 or 1,220 mg TOS/kg bw per day for 90 days. Controls received the vehicle (water).

One high-dose female was sacrificed for welfare reasons, necropsy showed some findings that were not treatment related.

Group mean high-beam scores (rearing activity) for high-dose males were statistically significantly decreased at 24 min. There was no corresponding decrease in low-beam scores (cage floor activity), which were, in contrast, higher than those of controls for all treated males (18 min). Motor activity scores for all treated females showed a statistically significant decrease in group mean high- and low-beam scores at 48 min. These effects were incidental and not considered to be of safety concern.

Statistically significant increases in haematocrit (4.85%), haemoglobin concentration (4.3%) and eosinophil counts (50%) were observed in high-dose females. These changes were considered as not toxicologically relevant and within historical control ranges.
No other significant effects were observed. Overall, the Panel derived a No observed adverse effect level (NOAEL) at the high-dose level of 1,220 mg TOS/kg bw per day for both males and females.

A comparison of the NOAEL (1,220 mg TOS/kg bw per day) from the 90-day study with the derived exposure estimates in six human population groups of 0.191–1.731 mg TOS/kg bw per day at the mean and 0.590–3.075 mg TOS/kg bw per day at the 95th percentile, resulted in a margin of exposure (MOE) of at least 397, indicating that there is no toxicological concern.

3.4. Allergenicity

The allergenicity assessment considers only the food enzyme and not any carrier or other excipient which may be used in the final formulation.

The potential allergenicity of the α-amylase produced with the GM A. niger (strain NZYM-SB) was assessed by comparing its amino acid sequence with those of known allergens according to the scientific opinion on the assessment of allergenicity of GM plants and microorganisms and derived food and feed of the Scientific Panel on Genetically Modified Organisms (EFSA GMO Panel, 2010). Using higher than 35% identity in a sliding window of 80 amino acids as the criterion, two matches were found. The matching allergens are Asp o 21, an α-amylase produced by Aspergillus oryzae and Sch c 1, a glucoamylase produced by Schizophyllum commune.

Both glucoamylase from S. commune (Toyotome et al., 2014) and α-amylase from A. oryzae (Brisman and Belin, 1991; Quirce et al., 1992, 2002; Sander et al., 1998; Brisman, 2002) are known as occupational respiratory allergens associated with baker’s asthma. However, several studies have shown that adults with occupational asthma to a food enzyme (as described for α-amylase from A. oryzae) can ingest respiratory allergens without acquiring clinical symptoms of food allergy (Cullinan et al., 1997; Poulsen, 2004; Armentia et al., 2009). Taking into account the wide use of α-amylase as food enzyme, only a low number of case reports has been described in literature that focused on allergic reactions upon oral exposure to α-amylase in individuals respiratory sensitised to α-amylase (Losada et al., 1992; Quirce et al., 1992; Baur and Czuppon, 1995; Kanny and Moneret-Vautrin, 1995; Moreno-Ancillo et al., 2004). Such information has not been reported for glucoamylase.

No information is available on oral and respiratory sensitisation or elicitation reactions of this α-amylase.

The Panel noted that an allergic reaction upon oral ingestion of this α-amylase produced with the GM A. niger strain NZYM-SB, in individuals respiratory sensitised to α-amylase or to glucoamylase cannot be ruled out, but the likelihood of such a reaction to occur is considered to be low.

According to the information provided, substances or products that may cause allergies (10) or intolerances (Regulation EU 1169/201110) are used as raw materials in the growth medium of the production organism. However, during the fermentation, these products will be degraded and utilised by the fungus for cell growth, cell maintenance and production of enzyme protein. In addition, the fungal biomass and fermentation solids will be removed. Taking into account the fermentation process and downstream processing, the Panel considered that potentially allergenic residues of these foods employed as protein sources are not expected to be present.

Quantifying the risk for allergenicity is not possible in view of the individual susceptibility to food allergens. Allergenicity can be ruled out only if the proteins are fully removed (e.g. in distilled alcohol production). In the starch processing for the production of glucose syrups, although experimental data showed a significant removal (> 99%) of protein, traces amount of protein, estimated to be about 0.5 mg/kg, could be present in glucose syrup. Products such as candy and ice creams can contain about 50% and 40% glucose syrup, respectively, and therefore, proteins could be present in a quantity sufficient to elicit an allergic reaction.

The Panel considers that under the intended condition of use the risk of allergic sensitisation and elicitation reactions upon dietary exposure to this food enzyme cannot be excluded but the likelihood of such reactions to occur is considered to be low.

---

10 Regulation (EU) No. 1169/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2011 on the provision of food information to consumers, amending Regulations (EC) No. 1924/2006 and (EC) No. 1925/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and repealing Commission Directive 87/250/EEC, Council Directive 90/496/EEC, Commission Directive 1999/10/EC, Directive 2000/13/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, Commission Directives 2002/67/EC and 2008/S/EC and Commission Regulation (EC) No. 608/2004.
Conclusions

Based on the genetic modifications performed, the data provided on the manufacturing process, the compositional and biochemical data provided, the dietary exposure assessment as well as the findings in the toxicological studies, the Panel concludes that the food enzyme α-amylase produced with the GM A. niger (strain NZYM-SB) by Novozymes A/S does not give rise to safety concerns under the intended conditions of use.

Regarding the allergenicity assessment, the risk of allergic sensitisation and elicitation reactions upon dietary exposure to this food enzyme cannot be excluded, but the likelihood of such reaction can be considered to be low.

Documentation provided to EFSA

1) Dossier ‘Application for authorisation of α-amylase produced by a genetically modified strain of Aspergillus niger (strain NZYM-SB)’. 15 May 2014. Submitted by Novozymes A/S.
2) Summary report on toxicological data for α-amylase produced by a genetically modified strain of Aspergillus niger (strain NZYM-SB). Delivered by FoBiG GmbH (Freiburg, Germany) on 3 December 2014.
3) Additional information received by 5 October 2017. Submitted by Novozymes A/S.
4) Additional information received by 22 February 2018. Submitted by Novozymes A/S.
5) AMFEP (Association of Manufacturers and Formulators of Enzyme Products), 2017. ‘Food enzyme removal during the production of cereal based distilled alcoholic beverages’ and ‘Food enzyme carry-over in glucose syrups’. 22 February 2017. Unpublished document.

References

Armentia A, Diaz-Perales A, Castrodeza J, Dueñas-Laita A, Palacin A and Fernández S, 2009. Why can patients with baker’s asthma tolerate wheat flour ingestion? Is wheat pollen allergen relevant? Allergologia et Immunopathologia, 37, 203-204. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aller.2009.05.001
Baur X and Czuppon AB, 1995. Allergic reaction after eating alpha-amylase (Asp o 2)-containing bread. A case report. Allergy, 50, 85-87.
Blumenthal CZ, 2004. Production of toxic metabolites in Aspergillus niger, Aspergillus oryzae and Trichoderma reesei: justification of mycotoxin testing in food grade enzyme preparations derived from the three fungi.
Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology, 39, 214–228. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.yrtph.2003.09.002
Brisman J, 2002. Baker’s asthma. Occupational and Environmental Medicine, 59, 498–502, quiz 502, 426.
Brisman J and Belin L, 1991. Clinical and immunological responses to occupational exposure to alpha-amylase in the baking industry. British Journal of Industrial Medicine, 48, 604–608.
Cullinan P, Cook A, Jones M, Cannon J, Fitzgerald B and Taylor AJ, 1997. Clinical responses to ingested fungal alpha-amylase and hemicellulase in persons sensitized to Aspergillus fumigatus? Allergy, 52, 346–349.
vander Dijck PW, Selten GC and Hempenius RA, 2003. On the safety of a new generation of DSM Aspergillus niger enzyme production strains. Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology, 38, 27–35. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0273-2300(03)00049-7
EFSA (European Food Safety Authority), 2007. Opinion of the Scientific Committee related to Uncertainties in Dietary Exposure Assessment. EFSA Journal 2007;5(1):438, 54 pp. https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2007.438
EFSA (European Food Safety Authority), 2009. Guidance of EFSA prepared by the Scientific Committee on transparency in scientific aspects of risk assessments carried out by EFSA. Part 2: General principles. EFSA Journal 2009;7(5):1051, 22 pp. https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2009.1051
EFSA (European Food Safety Authority), 2011a. Evaluation of the FoodEx, the food classification system applied to the development of the EFSA Comprehensive European Food Consumption Database. EFSA Journal 2011;9(3):1970, 27 pp. https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2011.1970
EFSA (European Food Safety Authority), 2011b. Use of the EFSA Comprehensive European Food Consumption Database in Exposure Assessment. EFSA Journal 2011;9(3):2097, 34 pp. https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2011.2097
EFSA CEF Panel (EFSA Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, Flavourings and Processing Aids), 2009. Guidance of the Scientific Panel of Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, Flavourings and Processing Aids (CEF) on the Submission of a Dossier on Food Enzymes for Safety Evaluation by the Scientific Panel of Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, Flavourings and Processing Aids. EFSA Journal 2009;7(8):1305, 26 pp. https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2009.1305. Updated on May 2013
EFSA CEF Panel (EFSA Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, Flavourings and Processing Aids), Silano V, Bolognesi C, Castle L, Cravedi J-P, Fowler P, Franz R, Grob K, Gürtler R, Husoy T, Kärenlampi S, Mennes W, Milana MR, Penninks A, Smith A, Tavares Poças MF, Tiustos C, Wolfe D, Zorn H, Zugravu C-A, Arcella D, Liu Y
Safety of α-amylase from Aspergillus niger (NZYM-SB)

and Engel K-H, 2016. Panel statement on the exposure assessment of food enzymes. EFSA Journal 2016;14 (11):4581, 9 pp. https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2016.4581

EFSA GMO Panel (EFSA Panel on Genetically Modified Organisms), 2010. Scientific opinion on the assessment of allergenicity of GM plants and microorganisms and derived food and feed. EFSA Journal 2010;8(7):1700, 168 pp. https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2010.1700

EFSA (European Food Safety Authority), de Benito A, Ibáñez C, Moncho W, Martínez D, Vettorazzi A and de López Cerain A, 2017. Database on the taxonomical characterisation and potential toxigenic capacities of microorganisms used for the industrial production of food enzymes and feed additives, which do not have a recommendation for Qualified Presumption of Safety. EFSA supporting publication 2017:14(7):EN-1274, 185 pp. https://doi.org/10.2903/sp.efsa.2016.en-1274

FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations), 2000. Technical Conversion Factors for Agricultural Commodities. 782 pp. Available online: www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/ess/documents/methodology/tcf.pdf. This latest electronic publication updates two earlier printed versions of the publication produced in 1960 and revised in 1972, by the Statistics Division of FAO.

FAO/WHO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations/World Health Organization), 2006. General specifications and considerations for enzyme preparations used in food processing in Compendium of food additive specifications. 6th meeting. FAO JECFA Monographs 3, 63–67. Available online: ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/009/a0675e/a0675e00.pdf

Frisvad JC, Smedsgaard J, Samson RA, Larsen TO and Thrane U, 2007. Fumonisin production by Aspergillus niger. Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry, 55, 9727–9732. https://doi.org/10.1021/jf0718906

Frisvad JC, Larsen TO, Thrane U, Meijer M, Varga J, Samson RA and Nielsen KF, 2011. Fumonisin and ochratoxin production in industrial Aspergillus niger strains. PLoS ONE, 6, e23496. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0023496

Kanny G and Moneret-Vautrin DA, 1995. Alpha-amylase contained in bread can induce food allergy. Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, 95(1 Pt 1), 132–133.

Losada E, Hinojosa M, Quirce S, Fernández-Cano M and Moneo I, 1992. Occupational asthma caused by alpha-amylase inhalation: clinical and immunologic findings and bronchial response patterns. Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, 89(1 Pt 1), 118–125.

Mintel Global New Products Database, 2018. Available online: http://www.mintel.com/global-new-products-database

Moreno-Ancillo A, Dominguez-Noche C, Gil-Adrados AC and Cosmes PM, 2004. Bread eating induced oral angioedema due to alpha-amylase allergy. Journal of Investigational Allergology and Clinical Immunology, 14, 346–347.

OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development), 1997. Bacterial Reverse Mutation Test. Guideline 471, adopted 21.07.1997. Available online: http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/technical-biological-studies/test-no-471-bacterial-reverse-mutation-test_9789264071247-enjisessionid=9f2gzu35paqx-oecd-live-01

OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development), 1998. Repeated Dose 90-day Oral Toxicity Study in Rodents. Guideline 408, adopted 21.09.1998. Available online: http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/test-no-408-repeated-dose-90-day-oral-toxicity-study-in-rodents9789264070707-en

OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development), 2010. Genetic Toxicology: OECD Guideline for the Testing of Chemicals. Guideline 487, adopted 22.07.2010. Draft proposal for a new Guideline 487: In vitro Micronucleus Test. Available online: http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/test-no-487-in-vitro-mammalian-cell-micronucleus-test_9789264091016-en

Park HS, Jun SC, Han KH, Hong SB and Yu JH, 2017. Diversity, application, and synthetic biology of industrially important Aspergillus fungi. Advances in Applied Microbiology, 100, 161–202. https://doi.org/10.1016/bs.aamb.s.2017.03.001

Poulsen LK, 2004. Allergy assessment of foods or ingredients derived from biotechnology, gene-modified organisms, or novel foods. Molecular Nutrition and Food Research, 48, 413–423. https://doi.org/10.1002/mnfr.200400029

Quirce S, Cuevas M, Díez-Gómez M, Fernández-Rivas M, Hinojosa M, González R and Losada E, 1992. Respiratory allergy to Aspergillus-derived enzymes in bakers’ asthma. Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, 90(6 Pt 1), 970–978.

Quirce S, Fernández-Nieto M, Bartolome B, Bombín C, Cuevas M and Sastre J, 2002. Glucoamylase: another fungal enzyme associated with baker’s asthma. Annal of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, 89, 197–202. https://doi.org/10.1016/S1081-1206(10)61938-2

Sander I, Raufl-Heimsoth M, Siethoff C, Lohaus C, Meyer HE and Baur X, 1998. Allergy to Aspergillus-derived enzymes in the baking industry: identification of beta-xilosidase from Aspergillus niger as a new allergen (Asp n 14). Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, 102, 256–264. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0091-6749(98)70109-5

Schuster E, Dunn-Coleman N, Frisvad JC and van Dijck PWM, 2002. On the safety of Aspergillus niger – a review. Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology, 59, 426–435. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00253-002-1032-6

Toyotome T, Satoh M, Yahiro M, Watanabe A, Nomura F and Kamei K, 2014. Glucoamylase is a major allergen of Schizophyllum commune. Clinical and Experimental Allergy, 44, 450–457. https://doi.org/10.1111/cea.12260
| Abbreviation | Definition |
|--------------|------------|
| AMFEP | Association of Manufacturers and Formulators of Enzyme Products |
| bp | a base pair |
| bw | body weight |
| CAS | Chemical Abstracts Service |
| CEF | EFSA Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, Flavourings and Processing Aids |
| CFU | Colony-forming units |
| EINECS | European Inventory of Existing Commercial Chemical Substances |
| FAO | Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations |
| FAU(F) | Fungal α-amylase units (F standard) |
| FoodEx | A standardised food classification and description system |
| FOA | 5-Fluoro-orotic acid |
| GLP | Good laboratory practice |
| GM | Genetically modified |
| GMO | Genetically modified organisms |
| GMP | Good manufacturing practice |
| HACCP | Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points |
| IUBMB | International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology |
| kDa | kiloDalton |
| MOE | Margin of exposure |
| NOAEL | No observed adverse effect level |
| OECD | Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development |
| PCR | Polymerase chain reaction |
| S9 | Metabolic activation |
| SDS-PAGE | Sodium dodecyl sulfate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis |
| SSF | Simultaneous Saccharification and Fermentation |
| TOS | Total organic solids |
| WHO | World Health Organisation |
| w/w | weight for weight |
Appendix A – Population groups considered for the exposure assessment

| Population  | Age range                                      | Countries with food consumption surveys covering more than one day |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Infants**     | From 12 weeks on up to and including 11 months of age | Bulgaria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, United Kingdom          |
| **Toddlers**    | From 12 months up to and including 35 months of age   | Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, United Kingdom |
| **Children**(a) | From 36 months up to and including 9 years of age | Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom |
| **Adolescents** | From 10 years up to and including 17 years of age | Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom |
| **Adults**      | From 18 years up to and including 64 years of age    | Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Netherlands, Romania, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom |
| **The elderly**(a) | From 65 years of age and older | Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Romania, Sweden, United Kingdom |

(a): The terms ‘children’ and ‘the elderly’ correspond, respectively, to ‘other children’ and the merge of ‘elderly’ and ‘very elderly’ in the Guidance of EFSA on the ‘Use of the EFSA Comprehensive European Food Consumption Database in Exposure Assessment’ (EFSA, 2011a).
Appendix B – FoodEx categories used to derive exposure estimates for the food enzyme-TOS and the respective conversion factors

| FoodEx code | FoodEx category                                      | Conversion factor from FoodEx food group to raw material<sup>(a)</sup> | Recipe fraction<sup>(b)</sup> | mg TOS/kg flour |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| A.01        | Grains and grain-based products (unspecified)        | 0.8                                             | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03     | Grain milling products (unspecified)                 | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.001 | Wheat milling products (unspecified)                 | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.001.001 | Wheat flour, brown                           | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.001.002 | Wheat flour, Durum                        | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.001.003 | Wheat flour, white                      | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.001.004 | Wheat flour, wholemeal                   | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.001.005 | Graham flour                                   | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.001.006 | Wheat flour, gluten free                  | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.001.014 | Wheat starch                                   | 1.2                                             | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.002 | Rye milling products (unspecified)                | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.002.001 | Rye flour, gluten free                     | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.002.002 | Rye flour, light                               | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.002.003 | Rye flour, medium                              | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.002.004 | Rye flour, wholemeal                          | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.003 | Buckwheat milling products (unspecified)           | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.003.001 | Buckwheat flour                                | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.004 | Corn milling products (unspecified)               | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.004.001 | Corn flour                                     | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.004.003 | Corn starch                                    | 1.3                                             | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.005 | Oat milling products (unspecified)                | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.005.002 | Oat flour                                      | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.005.004 | Oat starch                                     | 1.2                                             | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.006 | Rice milling products (unspecified)               | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.006.001 | Rice flour                                     | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.006.002 | Rice flour white                               | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.006.003 | Rice flour, instant                            | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.006.004 | Rice starch                                    | 1.2                                             | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.007 | Spelt milling products                          | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.008 | Other milling products (unspecified)             | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.008.001 | Amaranth flour                                  | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.008.002 | Barley flour                                    | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.008.003 | Chapatti flour                                  | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.008.004 | Flour mix, wheat/rye/barley/oats               | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.008.005 | Millet flour                                    | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.03.008.007 | Sorghum flour                                   | 1                                               | 1                             | 274             |
| A.01.04     | Bread and rolls (unspecified)                    | 1                                               | 0.7                           | 274             |
| A.01.04.001 | Wheat bread and rolls                           | 1                                               | 0.7                           | 274             |
| A.01.04.002 | Rye bread and rolls                             | 1                                               | 0.7                           | 274             |
| A.01.04.003 | Mixed wheat and rye bread and rolls             | 1                                               | 0.7                           | 274             |
| A.01.04.004 | Multigrain bread and rolls                      | 1                                               | 0.7                           | 274             |
| A.01.04.005 | Unleavened bread, crisp bread and rusk (unspecified) | 1                                           | 0.8                           | 274             |
| FoodEx code       | FoodEx category                                      | Conversion factor from FoodEx food group to raw material (a) | Recipe fraction (b) | mg TOS/kg flour |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| A.01.04.005.001   | Crisp bread, rye wholemeal                           | 1                                                           | 0.9                 | 274             |
| A.01.04.005.002   | Crisp bread, rye, light                              | 1                                                           | 0.9                 | 274             |
| A.01.04.005.003   | Crisp bread, wheat, wholemeal                        | 1                                                           | 0.9                 | 274             |
| A.01.04.005.004   | Crisp bread, wheat, light                            | 1                                                           | 0.9                 | 274             |
| A.01.04.005.005   | Rusk, light                                          | 1                                                           | 0.9                 | 274             |
| A.01.04.005.006   | Rusk, wholemeal                                      | 1                                                           | 0.9                 | 274             |
| A.01.04.005.007   | Pita bread                                           | 1                                                           | 0.7                 | 274             |
| A.01.04.005.008   | Matzo                                                | 1                                                           | 0.9                 | 274             |
| A.01.04.005.009   | Tortilla                                             | 1                                                           | 0.7                 | 274             |
| A.01.04.006       | Other bread                                          | 1                                                           | 0.7                 | 274             |
| A.01.04.007       | Bread products                                       | 1                                                           | 0.7                 | 274             |
| A.01.07           | Fine bakery wares (unspecified)                      | 1                                                           | 0.5                 | 274             |
| A.01.07.001       | Pastries and cakes (unspecified)                     | 1                                                           | 0.5                 | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.001   | Beignets                                             | 1                                                           | 0.15                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.002   | Buns                                                 | 1                                                           | 0.7                 | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.003   | Cake from batter                                     | 1                                                           | 0.25                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.004   | Cheese cream cake                                    | 1                                                           | 0.24                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.005   | Cheese cream sponge cake                             | 1                                                           | 0.24                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.006   | Chocolate cake                                       | 1                                                           | 0.24                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.007   | Chocolate cake with fruits                            | 1                                                           | 0.24                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.008   | Cream cake                                           | 1                                                           | 0.24                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.009   | Cream cheese cake                                    | 1                                                           | 0.24                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.010   | Cream custard cake                                   | 1                                                           | 0.24                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.011   | Cream custard sponge cake                            | 1                                                           | 0.24                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.012   | Croissant                                            | 1                                                           | 0.5                 | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.013   | Croissant, filled with chocolate                     | 1                                                           | 0.5                 | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.014   | Croissant, filled with cream                         | 1                                                           | 0.5                 | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.015   | Croissant, filled with jam                           | 1                                                           | 0.5                 | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.016   | Croquembouche                                        | 1                                                           | 0.15                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.017   | Doughnuts                                             | 1                                                           | 0.24                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.018   | Clair                                                | 1                                                           | 0.15                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.019   | Flan                                                 | 1                                                           | 0.5                 | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.020   | Fruit cake                                           | 1                                                           | 0.6                 | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.021   | Fruit pie                                            | 1                                                           | 0.15                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.022   | Cheese pie                                           | 1                                                           | 0.15                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.023   | Fruit tart                                           | 1                                                           | 0.15                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.024   | Gingerbread                                          | 1                                                           | 0.6                 | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.025   | Gougère                                              | 1                                                           | 0.15                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.026   | Kringles                                             | 1                                                           | 0.25                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.027   | Nut cream cake                                       | 1                                                           | 0.24                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.028   | Pancakes                                             | 1                                                           | 0.25                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.029   | Profiterole                                           | 1                                                           | 0.15                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.030   | Pyramide                                             | 1                                                           | 0.25                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.031   | Rhubarb flan                                         | 1                                                           | 0.15                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.032   | Scone                                                | 1                                                           | 0.5                 | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.033   | Sponge dough                                         | 1                                                           | 0.25                | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.034   | Sponge cake                                          | 1                                                           | 0.25                | 274             |
| FoodEx code       | FoodEx category                                      | Conversion factor from FoodEx food group to raw material<sup>a</sup> | Recipe fraction<sup>b</sup> | mg TOS/kg flour |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| A.01.07.001.035   | Sponge cake roll                                     | 1                                                                   | 0.25                        | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.036   | Muffins                                              | 1                                                                   | 0.25                        | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.037   | Waffles                                              | 1                                                                   | 0.25                        | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.038   | Apple strudel                                        | 1                                                                   | 0.15                        | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.039   | Cream-cheese strudel                                 | 1                                                                   | 0.24                        | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.040   | Cheese pastry goods from puff pastry                | 1                                                                   | 0.15                        | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.041   | Croissant from puff pastry                           | 1                                                                   | 0.6                         | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.042   | Brioche                                              | 1                                                                   | 0.5                         | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.044   | Lebké                                                | 1                                                                   | 0.6                         | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.045   | Dumpling                                             | 1                                                                   | 0.5                         | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.046   | Cake marbled, with chocolate                         | 1                                                                   | 0.5                         | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.047   | Marzipan pie                                         | 1                                                                   | 0.25                        | 274             |
| A.01.07.001.048   | Baklava                                              | 1                                                                   | 0.15                        | 274             |
| A.01.07.002       | Biscuits (cookies)                                   | 1                                                                   | 0.9                         | 274             |
| A.01.07.002.001   | Biscuits, sweet, plain                              | 1                                                                   | 0.9                         | 274             |
| A.01.07.002.002   | Biscuits, chocolate filling                          | 1                                                                   | 0.81                        | 274             |
| A.01.07.002.003   | Biscuits, cream filling                              | 1                                                                   | 0.81                        | 274             |
| A.01.07.002.004   | Biscuits, fruit filling                              | 1                                                                   | 0.81                        | 274             |
| A.01.07.002.005   | Biscuits, vanilla filling                            | 1                                                                   | 0.81                        | 274             |
| A.01.07.002.006   | Butter biscuits                                      | 1                                                                   | 0.81                        | 274             |
| A.01.07.002.007   | Biscuit, iced                                        | 1                                                                   | 0.81                        | 274             |
| A.01.07.002.008   | Speculaas                                            | 1                                                                   | 0.9                         | 274             |
| A.01.07.002.009   | Biscuits, sweet, wheat wholemeal                     | 1                                                                   | 0.9                         | 274             |
| A.01.07.002.010   | Biscuits, oat meal                                   | 1                                                                   | 0.9                         | 274             |
| A.01.07.002.011   | Biscuits, spelt meal                                 | 1                                                                   | 0.9                         | 274             |
| A.01.07.002.012   | Biscuits, salty                                      | 1                                                                   | 0.9                         | 274             |
| A.01.07.002.013   | Biscuits, salty, with cheese                         | 1                                                                   | 0.81                        | 274             |
| A.01.07.002.014   | Sticks, salty                                        | 1                                                                   | 0.81                        | 274             |
| A.17.03.003       | Biscuits, rusks and cookies for children             | 1                                                                   | 0.9                         | 274             |
| A.18.04.001       | Find bakery products for diabetics                   | 1                                                                   | 0.5                         | 274             |
| A.19.01.001       | Sandwich and sandwich-like meal                      | 1                                                                   | 0.32                        | 274             |
| A.19.01.002       | Pizza and pizza-like pies                            | 1                                                                   | 0.3                         | 274             |

FoodEx: A standardised food classification and description system; TOS: total organic solids.

(a): Available online: [http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/ess/documents/methodology/tcf.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/ess/documents/methodology/tcf.pdf) (FAO, 2000)

(b): Derived from publically available recipe information, and/or food label information (such as Mintel Global New Products Database: [http://www.mintel.com/global-new-products-database](http://www.mintel.com/global-new-products-database)).
Appendix C – Dietary exposure estimates to the food enzyme–TOS in details

Information provided in this appendix is shown in an excel file (downloadable http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/wol1/doi/10.2903/j.efsa.2018.5320/suppinfo). The file contains two sheets, corresponding to two tables.

**Table 1:** Average and 95th percentile exposure to the food enzyme–TOS per age class, country and survey

**Table 2:** The contribution of the food enzyme–TOS from each FoodEx category to the total dietary exposure