

Project Officer Application A1185
Food Standards Australia New Zealand
PO Box 10559
The Terrace
Wellington 6036

23 March 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

Application A1185 – Alpha-amylase from GM *Aspergillus niger* as a processing aid (enzyme)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this application. New Zealand Food Safety (NZFS) has the following comments to make:

NZFS supports amending the table to subsection S18 – 9(3) in Schedule 18 to insert a new entry for the enzyme alpha-amylase (EC 3.2.1.1) sourced from a particular GM strain of *Aspergillus niger* containing the alpha-amylase gene from *Rhizomucor pusillus*, subject to good manufacturing process.

Alpha-amylase is used as a processing aid in starch processing and in the production of potable alcohol.

We note that FSANZ has concluded that there are no public health and safety concerns associated with the use of alpha-amylase from genetically modified (GM) *Aspergillus niger*. We note that the evidence presented to support the proposed use of the enzyme provides adequate assurance that the enzyme, in the form and prescribed amounts, is technologically justified and has been demonstrated to be effective in achieving its stated purpose.

Yours sincerely

**New Zealand Food Safety – Haumaru Kai Aotearoa
Food Science & Risk Assessment Directorate**