

The Codex Alimentarius Austriacus Guideline Concerning the Definition of Non-GMO Production and the Appropriate Labeling of Food Products

regulates provisions concerning food products which, through labeling, packaging, advertising or official documentation, create the impression that the food product is free from GMOs (genetically modified organisms) or from products made from or with GMOs. The guideline covers claims such as “made without genetic engineering”, “made without genetically modified ingredients”, “GMO-free”, “non-GMO”, “non-GM”, “not genetically modified” “non-genetically engineered ingredients”, as well as “not fed with genetically modified feeds” or similar claims.

Definition of terms

- a) “genetically modified organism (GMO)”: means a “genetically modified organism” or “GMO”, an organism genetically modified within the meaning of 2(2) of Directive 2001/18/EC, with the exception of organisms in which a genetic modification has been effected using one of the methods included in Annex 1B of Directive 2001/18/EC;
- b) “GMO derivative”: any substance produced from or by a GMO that does not itself contain a GMO;
- c) “made with genetic engineering”: made with the use of a GMO as last living organism in the production process, but not consisting of or containing GMOs, nor a GMO derivative.

Agricultural risk components - soy, corn, canola, sugar beet and by-products thereof

For all products/cultures above mentioned a contractual compliance agreement with the Codex Alimentarius Austriacus Guideline concerning the definition of non-GMO production and the appropriate labeling of food products is not sufficient. For these components an appropriate control and monitoring system is necessary. You will get more detailed information from the responsible certification body.

A declaration of compliance with the Codex Alimentarius Austriacus guideline concerning the definition of non-GMO production and the appropriate labeling of food products is required for the following products:

1. The following agricultural components pursuant to Annex VIII of Regulation (EEC) N° 834/07:

lecithin (E322)
 extracts with high concentrations of tocopherol (E306)
 vegetable oils (only when used as a lubricant, as an anti-caking agent or to prevent foaming)

2. Agricultural raw materials of the 2nd generation e.g.

modified starch made from genetically modified corn,
 mono/diglycerides made from modified amino acids of genetically modified soy,
 flavorings (for complex flavoring mixtures, compliance agreements are required for the individual components)

Pursuant to Regulations (EC) 1830/2003 and 1829/2003, **no** labeling requirement apply to the above-named items, therefore a declaration of compliance is required to ensure non-GMO status.

3. Components that can be manufactured using genetically modified microorganisms, e.g.

citric acid
 vitamins: B2, B12, C
 glutamate
 aspartame
 xanthan gum
 enzymes
 etc.

Pursuant to EC Regulations 1830/2003 and 1829/2003, **no** labeling requirement apply to the above-named items, therefore a compliance agreement is required to ensure non-GMO status.

4. Flavours

If there is any input of microbiological and/or enzymatical methods on extraction processes a declaration of compliance to the prohibition of genetically modified organisms on these methods has to be added (carrier substances and technical additives remain out of consideration).