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Notice of Modification to the *List of Permitted Sweeteners* to Enable the Use of Steviol Glycosides from *Yarrowia lipolytica* VRM in a Variety of Foods

Notice of Modification – Lists of Permitted Food Additives

Reference Number: NOM/ADM-0169

July 22, 2021



Summary

Food additives are regulated in Canada under [Marketing Authorizations](#) (MAs) issued by the Minister of Health and the *Food and Drug Regulations* (Regulations). Approved food additives and their permitted conditions of use are set out in the [Lists of Permitted Food Additives](#) that are incorporated by reference in the MAs and published on the Canada.ca website. A petitioner can request that Health Canada approve a new additive or a new condition of use for an already approved food additive by filing a food additive submission with the Department's Food Directorate. Health Canada uses this premarket approval process to determine whether the scientific data support the safety of food additives when used under specified conditions in foods sold in Canada.

Health Canada's Food Directorate received a food additive submission seeking approval for the use of steviol glycosides from *Yarrowia lipolytica* VRM as a sweetener in all foods where steviol glycosides¹ from other sources is currently permitted in Canada and at the same maximum levels of use.

Steviol glycosides from *Stevia rebaudiana* Bertoni and *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* CD15380, CD15407, and Y63348 is already permitted for use in Canada as a sweetener in a variety of standardized and unstandardized foods.

The results of the Food Directorate's evaluation of available scientific data support the safety of steviol glycosides from *Y. lipolytica* VRM for the same uses as are already permitted for steviol glycosides from the other sources noted above. Therefore, Health Canada has modified the [List of Permitted Sweeteners](#) to enable these uses of steviol glycosides from *Y. lipolytica* VRM by adding this source to Column 1 of Item No. S.1.2 of this List, as shown below in **bold**.

Modification to the *List of Permitted Sweeteners*

Item No.	Column 1 Additive	Column 2 Permitted in or Upon	Column 3 Maximum Level of Use and Other Conditions
S.1.2	Steviol glycosides from: <i>Stevia rebaudiana</i> Bertoni; <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> CD15380; <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> CD15407; <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> Y63348; <i>Yarrowia lipolytica</i> VRM	(1) Table-top sweeteners	(1) Good Manufacturing Practice
	
		(11) (naming the flavour) Milk; (naming the flavour) Partly skimmed milk; (naming the flavour) Partly skimmed milk with added milk solids; (naming the flavour) Skim milk; (naming the flavour) Skim milk with added milk solids	(11) 0.02% (calculated as steviol equivalents)

¹ When referring to the name of the additive, the term "steviol glycosides" is used in the singular form.

Rationale

Health Canada's Food Directorate completed a premarket safety assessment of steviol glycosides from *Y. lipolytica* VRM for use as a sweetener. The assessment concluded that information related to allergenicity, chemistry, microbiology and molecular biology, nutrition, and toxicology supports the safety of steviol glycosides from *Y. lipolytica* VRM for its requested uses. Therefore, the Department has enabled the requested uses of steviol glycosides from *Y. lipolytica* VRM by modifying the [List of Permitted Sweeteners](#) as shown in the above table.

Other Relevant Information

The *Food and Drug Regulations* require that food additives, such as steviol glycosides, that do not have food-grade specifications set out in Part B of the Regulations meet the food-grade specifications set out in the most recent edition of the *Food Chemicals Codex* or the *Combined Compendium of Food Additive Specifications*. The *Food Chemicals Codex* is a compendium of standards for purity and identity for food ingredients, including food additives, published by the United States Pharmacopeial Convention. The *Combined Compendium of Food Additive Specifications*, which contains specifications prepared by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA), is published by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Implementation and Enforcement

The above modification came into force **July 22, 2021**, the day it was published in the [List of Permitted Sweeteners](#).

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is responsible for the enforcement of the *Food and Drugs Act* and its associated regulations with respect to foods.

Contact Information

Health Canada's Food Directorate is committed to reviewing new scientific information on the safety in use of any permitted food additive, including steviol glycosides from *Y. lipolytica* VRM. Anyone wishing to submit new scientific information on the use of this additive or to submit inquiries on this modification may do so in writing, by regular mail or electronically. If you wish to contact the Food Directorate electronically, please use the words "**steviol glycosides (NOM-0169)**" in the subject line of your e-mail.

[Bureau of Chemical Safety, Food Directorate](#)

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