



Classification of duck cells from cell culture of *Anas platyrhynchos domesticus* (“Peking duck”) as a novel food

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An application was submitted to the Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office FSVO for classification of duck cells from cell culture of *Anas platyrhynchos domesticus* (also known colloquially as “Peking duck”) as a novel food.

The food in question is a duck cell culture biomass of *A. platyrhynchos domesticus* (“Peking duck”) cells. It is produced from genetically unmodified cells from fertilised eggs and has a protein content of at least 10 % (70 % in dry matter). Proposed uses of the novel food include animal alternatives to duck liver products such as spreadable specialities, with an inclusion rate of 5 to 80% by weight in the finished food.

The FSVO examined the documents submitted and determined the novel food status of duck cells from cell culture of fertilised eggs of *A. platyrhynchos domesticus* (“Peking duck”). The documents show that this food was not used for human consumption to a significant degree in either Switzerland or an EU Member State before 15 May 1997 and, in accordance with Article 15 para. 1 of the Ordinance on Foodstuffs and Utility Articles (FUAO; SR 817.02), therefore falls within the definition of a novel food, and in particular within the category:

“Foodstuff consisting of, isolated from or produced from cell or tissue cultures obtained from animals, plants, microorganisms, fungi or algae” (Art. 15 para.1 let. f FUAO).

Duck cells from cell culture of fertilised eggs of *A. platyrhynchos domesticus* (“Peking duck”) are therefore subject to the authorisation requirement for novel foods under Article 17 FUAO.

