



# Classification of berries and fruit juice made from berries of *Plinia cauliflora* (Mart.) Kausel (syn. *Myrciaria cauliflora* (Mart.) O. Berg, “jaboticaba”, Brazilian grapetree) as a novel traditional food

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The Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO) has received an application for the classification of the novel food status of a fruit juice made from freeze-dried powdered berries of *Plinia cauliflora* (Mart.) Kausel (syn. *Myrciaria cauliflora* (Mart.) O. Berg, “jaboticaba”, Brazilian grapetree) as a novel traditional food.

The plant *Plinia cauliflora* (Mart.) Kausel is native to Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay and Bolivia. *Plinia cauliflora* (Mart.) Kausel belongs to the order *Myrtales* in the family *Myrtaceae* (myrtles). The berries (pseudo-fruits) of this plant and foods made from or with these berries are used for human consumption.

The FSVO examined the submitted documents and established the novel food status of the berries of *Plinia cauliflora* (Mart.) Kausel (syn. *Myrciaria cauliflora* (Mart.) O. Berg) and the fruit juice made from these berries. The berries of *Plinia cauliflora* (Mart.) Kausel and the fruit juice made from (freeze-dried powdered) berries of this plant were 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 fall within the definition of a novel food, and in particular within the category

*“foodstuffs manufactured from or with or isolated from plants or parts of plants”* (Art. 15 para. 1 let. d FUAO)

The applicant provided evidence that the berries of *Plinia cauliflora* (Mart.) Kausel and the fruit juice made from (freeze-dried powdered) berries of this plant have been consumed safely as a food in Brazil for at least the last 25 years.

Based on the information submitted by the applicant, the FSVO determines that the berries of *Plinia cauliflora* (Mart.) Kausel (syn. *Myrciaria cauliflora* (Mart.) O. Berg) and the fruit juice made from (freeze-dried powdered) berries of this plant fall under the definition of Article 15 para. 1 let. k FUAO:

*“foodstuffs classed as novel in Switzerland or an EU Member State in accordance with letters b and d-f, originating from primary production in accordance with Article 8 FoodA and having a history of safe food use in a country other than Switzerland or an EU Member State (novel traditional foods)”*.

The berries of *Plinia cauliflora* (Mart.) Kausel (syn. *Myrciaria cauliflora* (Mart.) O. Berg) and the fruit juice made from (freeze-dried powdered) berries of this plant are therefore subject to the authorisation requirement for novel traditional foods under Article 4 of the Novel Foods Ordinance (SR 817.022.2).

