



Classification of the seeds of *Dipteryx alata* Vogel ("Baru nut") as a novel traditional food

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Documentation concerning the classification of the new food status of the roasted seeds of *Dipteryx alata* Vogel ("Baru nut") as a novel traditional food was submitted to the Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO).

This is the plant *D. alata* Vogel which is cultivated in Brazil and its seeds are consumed. *Dipteryx alata* Vogel belongs to the *Fabales* order of the *Fabaceae* family. For human consumption, the seed is mechanically extracted from the fruit and roasted.

The FSVO examined the submitted documents and determined the novel food status of "Baru nut". "Baru nut" was not used for human consumption to any significant extent in Switzerland or in any EU member state before 15 May 1997 and therefore falls under the definition of novel foods according to Article 15 paragraph 1 of the Ordinance on Foodstuffs and Utility Articles (FUAO; SR 817.02), in particular under the category of

"Foods consisting of, isolated from or produced from plants or their parts" (Art. 15 para. 1 let. d FUAO).

The safe consumption of the seeds of *Dipteryx alata* Vogel ("Baru nut") as a foodstuff for at least the previous 25 years in a third country (Brazil) has been proven by the applicant. The roasted seeds of the fruit are used for human consumption and in Brazil, like peanuts, are consumed as such or as an ingredient in various dishes.

On the basis of the information submitted by the applicant, the FSVO assesses that the roasted seeds of *Dipteryx alata* Vogel meet the conditions set out in Article 15(1)(k) of the FUAO.

"Foods that are considered novel in Switzerland or in an EU member state according to letters b and d-f, originate from primary production according to Article 8 FoodA and have a history of use as a safe foodstuff in a country other than Switzerland or an EU member state (novel traditional foods)".

It is therefore subject to the authorisation procedure for novel traditional foods according to Article 4 of the Ordinance on Novel Foods (SR 817.022.2).