



## **Market entry and barriers for microbial foods and how to overcome them**

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1. Overview of EU regulatory pathways for alternative proteins or other fermentation products
2. The use of genetically modified microorganisms in the EU
3. Transparency regulation and QPS – understanding concepts specific to the EU



# EU regulatory pathways

## 1. Novel foods

Regulation (EU) 2015/2283

- Food not consumed before 1997
  - Novel structure
  - Consisting of, isolated from, or produced from microorganisms, minerals, plants, animals, cell or tissue culture
  - New production process
  - Nanomaterials



## 2. Food additives

Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008

- Sweeteners, colours, preservatives, antioxidants, thickeners, acids...

## 3. Food flavourings

Regulation (EC) No 1334/2008

- Not consumed as such, added to food to impart or modify odour and taste
- Can be obtained from microbiological processes





## 4. Feed additives

Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003

- Sensory additives (e.g. flavourings, colourants)
- Nutritional additives (e.g. vitamins, amino acids)

## 5. Feed materials

Regulation (EC) No 767/2009

- Principal purpose is to meet animals' nutritional needs
- No premarket authorization required for non-GMMs



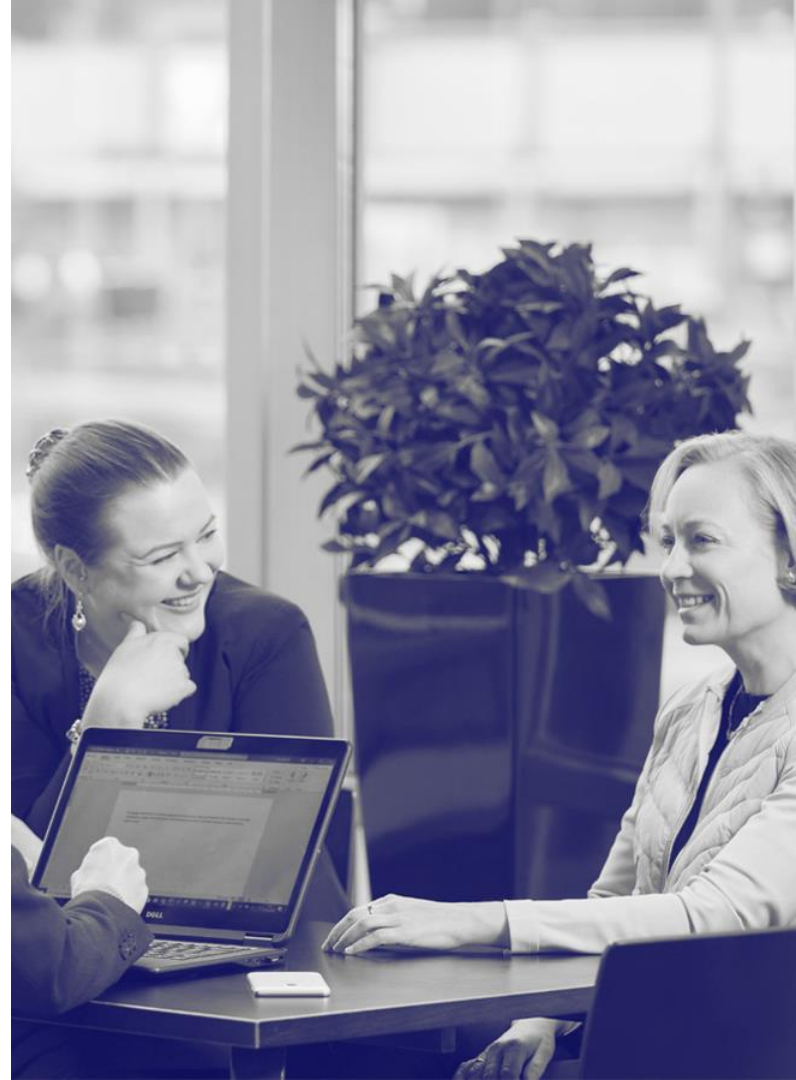
# GMO/GMMs in the EU

# GMO/GMMs in the EU

Regulation 1829/2003 on genetically modified food and feed

Directive 2001/18/EC on the deliberate release of GMOs into the environment

- Genetically modified microorganisms used widely by the biotechnology industry
- No genetically modified microorganisms (GMMs) or fermentation products labelled as GMOs in the EU market



# 2011 EFSA Guidance

on the risk assessment of genetically modified microorganisms and their products intended for food and feed use

## Category 3

Products derived from GMMs in which GMMs capable of multiplication or of transferring genes are not present, but in which newly introduced genes are still present

- Investigate whether DNA is detected in analyses having detection threshold of **10 ng** of DNA per gram or mL of product **or lower**

A microscopic view of cells, likely bacteria, showing various organelles and structures. The image is overlaid with a white speech bubble containing text.

**Genetically  
modified  
food and  
feed**



# 2011 EFSA Guidance

on the risk assessment of genetically modified microorganisms and their products intended for food and feed use

## Category 4

- Products consisting of or containing GMMs capable of multiplication or of transferring genes

A vertical strip on the right side of the slide features a microscopic image of cells with various internal structures and bubbles. A white callout bubble with a tail pointing to the left is overlaid on the image, containing the text 'Deliberate release into the environment'.

**Deliberate  
release into the  
environment**

# EFSA and GMMs

GMO EFSA-Q-2023-00046

## Application of L-tryptophan as a GMM in the European Union to be used as feed additive

Last updated on: 19/04/2023

Status: Intake

GMO EFSA-Q-2023-00507

## Application for authorisation of L-lysine sulphate from genetically modified *Corynebacterium glutamicum* KCCM 80368 in accordance with Regulation (EC) No....

Last updated on: 12/10/2023

Status: Intake

GMO EFSA-Q-2023-00047

## Application of L-threonine as a GMM in the European Union to be used as feed additive

Last updated on: 19/04/2023

Status: Intake

GMO EFSA-Q-2023-00538

## Application for authorisation of L-valine from genetically modified *Corynebacterium glutamicum* KCCM 80365 in accordance with Regulation (EC) No. 1829/2003 (AP186)

Last updated on: 09/10/2023

Status: Intake

GMO EFSA-Q-2019-00651

## Request for placing on the market of Soy Leghemoglobin produced from genetically modified *Pichia pastoris* (EFSA-GMO-NL-2019-162)

Last updated on: 20/12/2022

Status: Ongoing Risk Assessment

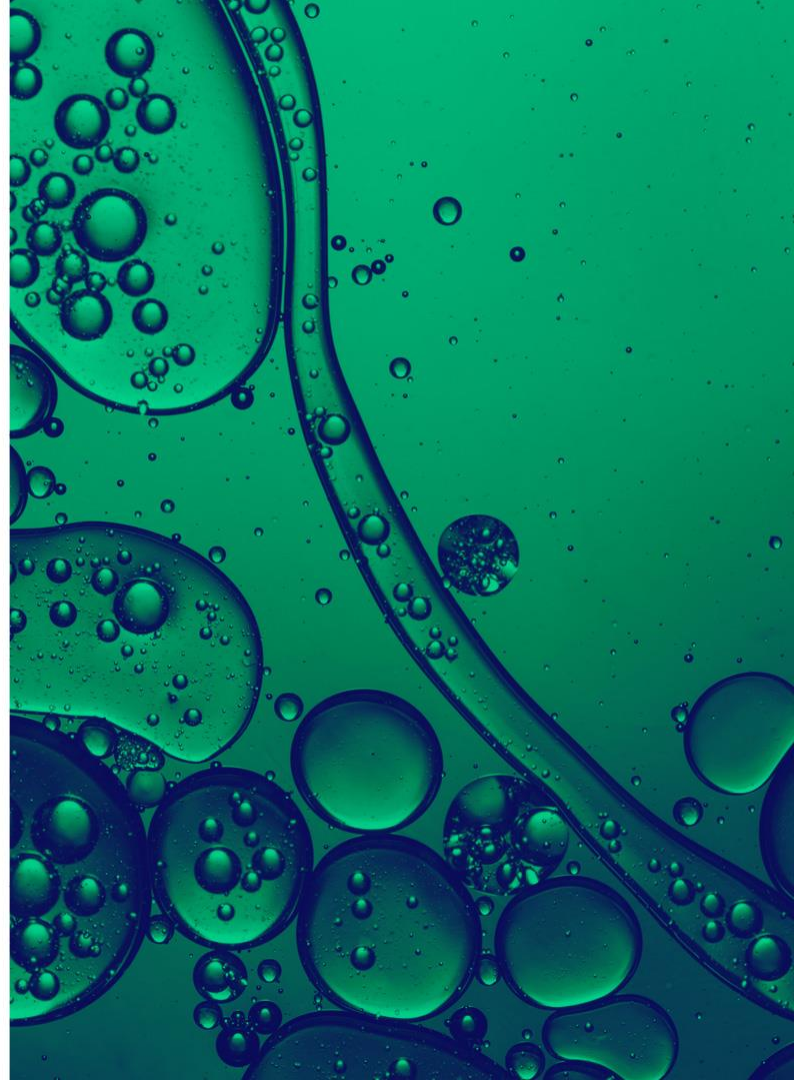
■ Clockstop expected  
until 31/12/2023

# Concepts specific to the EU

# Transparency Regulation

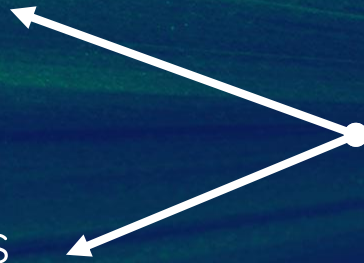
(EU) 2019/1381

- Increasing the independence of studies
- Strengthening the governance and the scientific cooperation
- Developing comprehensive risk communication





- Pre-submission advice
- Notification of studies
- Public consultation
- Verification studies
- Confidentiality requests
- Fact-finding missions



**Suitability  
check,  
confidentiality  
decision  
making**

**> DELAYS**

# QPS - Qualified presumption of safety

- The QPS assessment process is only triggered by submitted dossier for regulated product to EFSA
- QPS list updated every six months



# QPS - Qualified presumption of safety

Microorganisms with QPS status require less data on potential risks (no toxicological studies)

The following are assessed at a taxonomic unit (species) level:

- taxonomic identity
- body of knowledge
- potential safety concerns (including acquired antimicrobial resistance - for bacteria)



Thank you.

Any questions?