

# exemption from allergen labelling for refined ingredients



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# allergen labelling exemptions



- current situation
- European Union
- FSANZ
- where to from here?

# current allergen labelling

## must be declared when present

## candidates for exemption?

Cereals containing gluten and their products, wheat, rye, barley, oats and spelt and their hybridised strains except in beer and spirits

Glucose Syrups  
Maltodextrins

Crustacea and their products

Egg and egg products

Egg products used in winemaking  
Egg lysozyme

Fish and fish products

Isinglass in beer & winemaking

Milk and milk products

Dairy products in winemaking  
Distilled spirits from whey alcohol

Peanuts and soybeans, and their products

Highly refined oils  
Soy lecithin  
Tocopherols  
Phytosterols

Tree nuts and sesame seeds and their products

Distilled spirits



# current allergen labelling (2)\_

- declared on the label; or
- where food is not required to have a label
  - at the point of display of the food; or
  - to the purchaser upon request,
- no thresholds for declaration
- all added components of a food
- domestic and imported foods



# EFSA



- EFSA Scientific Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies
  - opinions on the likelihood of adverse reactions for highly refined ingredients from allergens required to be labelled in the EU.
- does not make the dossiers provided to it public.
- industry organisations that prepared the dossiers may make them available in Australia.

# EFSA opinion supports exemption\*



- isinglass in beer (*wine equivocal*)\_
- vegetable oils, phytosterols and tocopherols from soybean
- wheat based hydrolysates
  - glucose syrups,
  - Maltodextrin
- *EU dossiers probably available*

# Isinglass

- colloidal solution of collagen derived from the swim bladders of various tropical and sub tropical fish
- anatomical location and tissue composition of fish swim bladder, suggest isinglass from most species is not likely to contain the major allergenic fish protein, parvalbumin
- used to clarify beer and wine



# Glucose syrups (& maltodextrins)\_

- produced by controlled enzymatic hydrolysis of cereal starch
- separation & purification
- sold as syrups, or
- spray dried powders



# Soybean oils

- solvent extraction of flaked soybeans
- evaporation of solvent
- filtration & purification



# EFSA opinion supports exemption (2)\_



- distillates for spirits from cereals\*, nuts and whey
- lactitol from milk
- wheat syrups from barley starch
- *Availability of EU dossiers not established*

\* *already exempt*

# EFSA opinion not supporting exemption



- milk, milk products, casein and potassium caseinate used in winemaking
- mustard seed oil
- egg lysozyme used as additive

# FSANZ

- EFSA does not share data with 3rd parties
- difficult for FSANZ to source data to support a proposal to exempt highly refined ingredients
- action needs to be initiated by industry through applications
- individual application for each ingredient/ allergen preferred, as a single large application can too easily be held up



# FSANZ (cont)\_

- cannot allocated high priority to the application (unless a paid application).
  - (Current waiting time to start an application is around 9 months),
- need to ensure that data supplied with any application addresses Australian and New Zealand conditions.
  - evidence that data from overseas is relevant to the products in the ANZ food supply in terms of allergen protein content.



# Application A490



- To exempt isinglass in beer & wine from allergen labelling
- Initial Assessment Review 5 October 2005
- Beer, Wine and Spirits Council of New Zealand
- Application based on EU dossiers

# where to from here?

- identify priority substances for exemption:
- source data
  - EU dossiers & ANZ specific data,
- submit applications to FSANZ as a part of work-plan,
- liaise with FSANZ staff prior to and after lodgement to identify any potential data deficiencies and address these whilst the application is on the waiting list for assessment.



# optimistic timeline



- Assume EU data available
- Application(s) lodged mid 2008.
- FSANZ processing 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr 2009.
- Assume no significant delays or extensive further data requests, applications completion end 2009
- exemptions gazetted early 2010?