

Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain

Minutes of the 6th meeting of the Working Group on hydrocyanic acid in apricot kernels

held on 16 February 2016 (Teleconference)

(Agreed on 16 February 2016)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Tanja Schwerdtle (chair)

Diane Benford

Manfred Metzler

Barbara Viviani

Polly Boon

- **Hearing Experts:**

Not Applicable

- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Frans Verstraete

- **EFSA:**

Biological hazards and contaminants Unit: Hans Steinkellner

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Mathieu Vinken.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Scientific topic for discussion

4.1. Draft opinion on the acute health risks related to the presence of cyanogenic glycosides in apricot kernels (EFSA-Q-2015-00225)³

The experts discussed the opinion that was updated according to the comments received at the 76th plenary of the CONTAM Panel (19 -21 January 2016). Further amendments were made and tasks allocated. The chair of the WG agreed that the opinion should be presented for adoption at the 77th CONTAM Plenary meeting (1-3 March 2016).

5. Any Other Business

Not Applicable

6. Next meeting

Not applicable

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencpolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionDocumentsLoader?1>

Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain

Minutes of the 5th meeting of the Working Group on hydrocyanic acid in apricot kernels

held on 25 -26 January 2016

(Agreed on 26 January 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Tanja Schwerdtle (chair)

Diane Benford

Manfred Metzler

Barbara Viviani

Polly Boon

- **Hearing Experts:**

Not Applicable

- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Not applicable

- **EFSA:**

Biological hazards and contaminants Unit: Hans Steinkellner

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Mathieu Vinken.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Scientific topic for discussion

4.1. Draft opinion on the acute health risks related to the presence of cyanogenic glycosides in apricot kernels (EFSA-Q-2015-00225)³

The experts discussed the updated opinion and the comments received from the CONTAM Panel at their 76th plenary (19 -21 January 2016).

Based on the discussions amendments were made in the opinion in particular on the chapters on derivation of an acute reference dose, risk characterisation and uncertainties. Further tasks were allocated to the different WG members.

5. Any Other Business

Not Applicable

6. Next meeting

16 February 2016

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencypolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionDocumentsLoader?1>

Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain

Minutes of the 4th meeting of the Working Group on hydrocyanic acid in apricot kernels

held on 9 -10 December 2015

(Agreed on 16 December 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Tanja Schwerdtle (chair)

Diane Benford

Manfred Metzler

Barbara Viviani

Polly Boon

Mathieu Vinken

- **Hearing Experts:**

Not Applicable

- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Frans Verstraete*

- **EFSA:**

Biological hazards and contaminants Unit: Hans Steinkellner

Evidence management Unit: Francesca Mancini

*Present only on the first day

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Scientific topic for discussion

4.1. Draft opinion on the acute health risks related to the presence of hydrocyanic acid in apricot kernels and products derived from apricot kernels (EFSA-Q-2015-00225)³

The experts discussed the updated opinion. In particular the chapters on Occurrence, exposure assessment, toxicokinetics, toxicity, derivation of an acute reference dose (ARfD), risk characterisation, uncertainties and conclusions.

Several amendments were proposed and further tasks were allocated to the different WG members.

5. Any Other Business

Not Applicable

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencpolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionDocumentsLoader?1>

6. Next meeting

25 -26 January 2016

Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain

Minutes of the 3rd meeting of the Working Group on hydrocyanic acid in apricot kernels

held on 5 -6 November 2015

(Agreed on 6 November 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Tanja Schwerdtle (chair)

Diane Benford

Manfred Metzler

Barbara Viviani

Polly Boon

- **Hearing Experts:**

Not Applicable

- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Frans Verstraete¹

- **EFSA:**

Biological hazards and contaminants Unit: Hans Steinkellner

Evidence management Unit: Francesca Martini

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

¹ Present only on day 2 from 9.00 to 10.30 via teleweb

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Mathieu Vinken.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest³, EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Scientific topic for discussion

4.1. Draft opinion on the acute health risks related to the presence of hydrocyanic acid in apricot kernels and products derived from apricot kernels (EFSA-Q-2015-00225)⁴

The experts discussed the draft text for the chapters on toxicokinetics, toxicity, chemistry, analytical methods, legislation and occurrence and exposure. Several amendments were proposed and further tasks were allocated to the different WG members.

5. Any Other Business

Not Applicable

6. Next meeting

9 - 10 December 2015

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencypolicy.pdf>

³ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

⁴ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionDocumentsLoader?1>

Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain

Minutes of the 2nd meeting of the Working Group on hydrocyanic acid in apricot kernels

Teleconference held on 12 October 2015,

(Agreed on 12 October 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Tanja Schwerdtle (chair)

Diane Benford

Manfred Metzler

Barbara Viviani

Mathieu Vincken

- **Hearing Experts:**

Not Applicable

- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Not Applicable

- **EFSA:**

Biological hazards and contaminants Unit: Hans Steinkellner

Evidence management Unit: Francesca Mancini

Scientific Committee and Emerging Risks Unit: Raquel Garcia Matas

- **Others:**

Not Applicable

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Frans Verstraete and Polly Boon.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Scientific topic for discussion

4.1. Draft opinion on the acute health risks related to the presence of hydrocyanic acid in apricot kernels and products derived from apricot kernels (EFSA-Q-2015-00225)³

The experts discussed the draft text for the chapters on chemistry, analytical methods, previous assessments, legislation, methodology, occurrence, and toxicity and the approaches to exposure assessment. Several amendments were proposed and further tasks were allocated to the different WG members.

5. Any Other Business

Not Applicable

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencypolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionDocumentsLoader?1>

6. Next meeting

5-6 November 2015

Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain

Minutes of the 1st meeting of the Working Group on hydrocyanic acid in apricot kernels

Teleconference held on 4 September 2015,

(Agreed on 11 September 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Tanja Schwerdtle (chair)

Diane Benford

Polly Boon

Manfred Metzler

Barbara Viviani

Mathieu Vinken

- **Hearing Experts:**

Not Applicable

- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Frans Verstraete

- **EFSA:**

Biological hazards and contaminants Unit: Barbara Dörr, Hans Steinkellner

Evidence management Unit: Francesca Mancini

- **Others:**

Not Applicable

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Scientific topic for discussion

4.1. Draft opinion on the acute health risks related to the presence of hydrocyanic acid in apricot kernels and products derived from apricot kernels (EFSA-Q-2015-00225)³

The experts discussed the structure and content of the draft opinion. Tasks were allocated to the different WG members.

5. Any Other Business

Not Applicable

6. Next meeting

12 October 2015

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencypolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionDocumentsLoader?1>