

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON CONTAMINANTS IN THE FOOD CHAIN

## 1<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting on Lectins



10 April 2024  
9.30-13.30 CET  
MINUTES - Agreed on 18 April 2024

**Location:** Teleconference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:

Hanne Frøkiær, Bettina Grasl-Kraupp, Patrick Mulder, Pierre Rouge, Heather Wallace, Evangelia Ntzani (Chair)

- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:

Not applicable

- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Frans Verstraete

- EFSA:

FEEDCO Unit: Federico Cruciani (ISA expert), Chantra Eskes, Eleni Gkimprixi, Eirini Kouloura, Marianna Kujawa

- Others:

## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair of the WG welcomed the participants to the 1st meeting of the WG Lectins in food. No apologies were received.

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process.

Certain interests were declared orally by the members before the beginning of the meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Oral Declaration(s) of Interest made at the beginning of the meeting, please refer to the Annex.

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 34 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/expertselection.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



## 4. Tour de table

The participants at the 1<sup>st</sup> WG on Lectins in food provided a brief introduction of their background and their involvement in other EFSA's activities, if any.

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### a. Draft Opinion on the risk assessment of plant lectins in food ([EFSA-Q-2024-00195](#))

The members of the Working Group were given a brief overview of the Background and Terms of Reference (ToR) for the mandate on the risk assessment of plant lectins in food, as requested by the European Commission. The project plan and timelines were presented. The members of the WG then discussed the structure of the draft Opinion on the risk assessment of plant lectins in food, and agreed upon the interpretation of the ToR. The members of the WG discussed also the draft Protocol for the risk assessment of plant lectins in food and in particular, the assessment questions formulated to address the ToR. Following the presentation of the mandate and the discussion on the Protocol, tasks were distributed.

## 6. Any Other Business

None.

## 7. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 17 May 2024.

### Annex

Interests and actions resulting from the Oral Declaration of Interest done at the beginning of the meeting. With regard to this meeting, Prof. Heather Wallace declared the following interest: evaluator of grants for the EIC pathfinder Open call 2024. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, the interest above was not deemed to represent a Conflict of Interest for the expert concerned.