

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND FLAVOURINGS (FAF)

52nd FAF Panel meeting



23 October 2024

09:00-18:00

MINUTES (Agreed on 23/10/2024)

Location: Teleconference

Chair: Laurence Castle

Attendees:

○ Panel Members:

Monica Andreassen, Gabriele Aquilina, Maria Lourdes Bastos, Polly Boon, Laurence Castle, Biagio Fallico, Rex FitzGerald, María José Frutos Fernández, Bettina Grasl-Kraupp, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Rainer Gürtler, Eric Houdeau, Marcin Andrzej Kurek, Henriqueta Louro, Patricia Morales, Sabina Passamonti

○ European Commission:

Stylianos Koulouris, Jiri Sochor

○ EFSA:

Food Ingredients and Packaging (FIP) Unit: Stefania Barmaz, Valeriu Curtui, Maria Carfi, Consuelo Civitella, Borana Dino, Gabriele Gagliardi, Federica Lodi, Carla Martino, Elena Mazzoli, Agnieszka Mech, Salvatore Samuele Multari, Josef Rasinger, Ana Rincon, Laura Ruggeri, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard, Sam Vermeiren and Panagiota Zakidou

Feed and Contaminants (FEEDCO) Unit: Montserrat Anguita Freixa, Rosella Brozzi

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair of the FAF Panel welcomed the Participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Panel members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Panel members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 51st FAF Panel Plenary meeting held on 24-26 September 2024, in Parma.

The minutes of the 51st Panel plenary meeting were agreed by written procedure on 1st October 2024.

5. Report on written procedure



None.

6. Scientific output(s) submitted for discussion/adoption

6.1 Draft opinion on hesperetin dihydrochalcone as a new food flavouring ([EFSA-Q-2022-00825](#))

The FAF Panel discussed all parts of the draft opinion. The opinion was unanimously adopted, subject to the incorporation of changes as agreed during the meeting and editorial changes. The full text of the opinion will be available in the EFSA Journal.

6.2 Self-tasking mandate proposed to EFSA by the FAF Panel for a revision of the 2012 ANS Panel "Food Additive Guidance for submission for food additive evaluations" ([EFSA-Q-2023-00713](#))

The FAF Panel discussed the sections related to the exposure part of the revision of the Guidance for submission for food additives evaluation. Changes suggested during the meeting were incorporated in the document as well as editorial changes. General information on the status of the revision of the other sections of the Guidance on Food Additives was also presented as well as the expected timeline for its finalisation.

7. Other scientific topics for information and/or discussion

7.1 Guidance on the characterisation of microorganisms in support of the risk assessment of products used in the food chain ([EFSA-Q-2024-00438](#))

This question refers to a self-task of the Scientific Committee of EFSA to prepare a guidance on the characterisation of microorganisms used in the food chain. Following the discussion at the previous FAF Panel meeting, a revised document was presented. The guidance was unanimously endorsed.

8. Feedback from the Scientific Committee/ Scientific Panels/EFSA/ EC

8.1 Scientific Committee/Panel(s) including their Working Groups

None.

8.2 European Commission

None

8.3 FAF Panel Working Groups

A meeting of the FAF Working Group (WG) on Flavourings took place since the last FAF plenary meeting and no issues were brought to the attention of the Panel further to what is already recorded in the [minutes of the WG](#).

The kick off meeting of the FAF WG on Food Additives Re-evaluation and Follow-up took place at the beginning of October and recorded in the [minutes of the WG](#).



8.4 EFSA

None

9. New mandates

- **New questions received since the 51st FAF Plenary:**

Food Sector	EFSA-Q-Number	Subject	Creation date
FA	EFSA-Q-2024-00631	Application for the authorisation of hydroxytyroso	17/10/2024

This new application dossier is under consideration by EFSA. Pending confirmation of the validity of the application, the scientific assessment will be assigned to WG on Food Additives Applications.

- **Valid/accepted questions since the 51st FAF Plenary:**

The following mandate has been accepted for risk assessment by EFSA since the 51st FAF Plenary meeting.

Food Sector	EFSA-Q-Number	Subject	Validity/acceptance date
FLV	EFSA-Q-2024-00589	Request for evaluation of flavouring substances FL No. 05.062 and FL No. 05.099 in the Flavouring Group Evaluation 216 (FGE.216)	26/09/2024

The mandate EFSA-Q-2024-00589 will be assigned to the WG Flavourings for the drafting of the scientific opinion.

Moreover, the Panel was informed that the application for the authorisation of buffered vinegar as a new food additive, registered under EFSA-Q-2022-00864, was considered not valid on 23 October 2024.

- **Withdrawn questions since the 51st FAF Plenary:**

None

10. Any other business

None

11. Preparatory meetings

Since the last FAF Plenary meeting, the following preparatory meeting was held:

11.1 Preparatory meeting on the revision of the 2012 ANS Panel "Food Additive Guidance for submission for food additive evaluations" (EFSA-Q-2023-00713), 15/10/2024



11.1a Attendees

Gabriele Aquilina, Claudia Bolognesi, James Chipman, Riccardo Crebelli, Rainer Gürtler.

11.1b Declaration of Interest of the attendees

In line with section 3, no conflicts of interest related to the issue discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of the meeting.

11.1c Discussion points

The discussion was focused on the genotoxicity strategy for the revision of the 2012 ANS Panel “Food Additive Guidance for submission for food additive evaluations”.

12. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 26 and 27 November 2025 via teleconference.