

Project Officer Application A1207  
Food Standards Australia New Zealand  
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2 December 2020

Tēnā koe,

## Application A1207 – Rebaudioside M as a Steviol Glycoside from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this application. New Zealand Food Safety (NZFS) has the following comments to make:

NZFS supports amending the table to subsection S3-39(2) in Schedule 3 to permit the use of the steviol glycoside, Rebaudioside M, that is produced by fermentation from a genetically modified *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (*S. cerevisiae*), expressing steviol glycoside biosynthesis pathway genes, as an intense sweetener.

We note FSANZ's assessment that Amyris's Reb M produced from *S. cerevisiae* expressing steviol glycoside biosynthesis pathway genes does not pose a risk to public health and safety.

NZFS accepts FSANZ's recommendation to continue requiring the number 960 or name 'steviol glycosides' to be used in the statement of ingredients for all steviol glycosides until new INS numbers are available for all novel production methods, at which stage a proposal can be prepared to insert new INS numbers in the Code.

Nāku noa, nā

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

New Zealand Food Safety – Haumaru Kai Aotearoa  
Food Science & Risk Assessment Directorate