

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2016 of 18 December 2018 authorising the placing on the market of decorticated grains of *Digitaria exilis* as a traditional food from a third country under Regulation (EU) 2015/2283 of the European Parliament and of the Council and amending Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2470 (Text with EEA relevance)

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2018/2016

of 18 December 2018

authorising the placing on the market of decorticated grains of *Digitaria exilis* as a traditional food from a third country under Regulation (EU) 2015/2283 of the European Parliament and of the Council and amending Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2470

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 2015/2283 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on novel foods, amending Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Regulation (EC) No 258/97 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1852/2001<sup>(1)</sup>, and in particular Article 15(4) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EU) 2015/2283 provides that only novel foods authorised and included in the Union list may be placed on the market within the Union. Traditional food from a third country is a novel food defined in Article 3 of Regulation (EU) 2015/2283.
- (2) Pursuant to Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2015/2283, Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2470<sup>(2)</sup> establishing a Union list of authorised novel foods was adopted.
- (3) Pursuant to Article 15(4) of Regulation (EU) 2015/2283, the Commission is to decide on the authorisation and on the placing on the Union market of a traditional food from a third country.
- (4) On 23 January 2018, the company Obà Food Srl. ('the applicant') submitted a notification to the Commission of the intention to place decorticated grains of *Digitaria exilis* (Kippist) Stapf ('Fonio') on the Union market as a traditional food from a third country within the meaning of Article 14 of Regulation (EU) 2015/2283. The applicant requests for decorticated grains of *Digitaria exilis* (Kippist) Stapf to be consumed as such or as a food ingredient by the general population.
- (5) The documented data, presented by the applicant, demonstrate that decorticated grains of *Digitaria exilis* (Kippist) Stapf have a history of safe food use in West African countries, in particular Guinea, Nigeria and Mali.

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*Status: Point in time view as at 18/12/2018.*

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the  
Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2016. (See end of Document for details)*

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- (6) Pursuant to Article 15(1) of Regulation (EU) 2015/2283, on 28 February 2018, the Commission forwarded the valid notification to the Member States and to the European Food Safety Authority ('the Authority').
- (7) No duly reasoned safety objections to the placing on the market within the Union of decorticated grains of *Digitaria exilis* (Kippist) Stapf were submitted to the Commission by Member States or the Authority within the four-month period laid down in Article 15(2) of Regulation (EU) 2015/2283.
- (8) The Commission should therefore authorise the placing on the market within the Union of decorticated grains of *Digitaria exilis* (Kippist) Stapf and update the Union list of novel foods.
- (9) Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2470 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

1 Decorticated grains of *Digitaria exilis* (Kippist) Stapf as specified in the Annex to this Regulation shall be included in the Union list of authorised novel foods established in Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2470.

2 The entry in the Union list referred to in paragraph 1 shall include the conditions of use and labelling requirements laid down in the Annex to this Regulation

*Article 2*

The Annex to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2470 is amended in accordance with the Annex to this Regulation.

*Article 3*

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in *the Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 18 December 2018.

*For the Commission*

*The President*

Jean-Claude JUNCKER

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## ANNEX

The Annex to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2470 is amended as follows:

- (1) The following entry is inserted in Table 1 (Authorised novel foods) in alphabetical order:

Authorised novel food	Conditions under which the novel food may be used	Additional specific labelling requirements	Other requirements
'Decorticated grains of <i>Digitaria exilis</i> (Kippist) Stapf (Traditional food from a third country)	Not specified	The designation of the novel food on the labelling of the foodstuffs containing it shall be "decorticated fonio ( <i>Digitaria exilis</i> ) grains"	

- (2) The following entry is inserted in Table 2 (Specifications) in alphabetical order:

Authorised Novel Food	Specifications
'Decorticated grains of <i>Digitaria exilis</i> (Kippist) Stapf (fonio) (Traditional food from a third country)	<p><b>Description/Definition</b> The traditional food is the decorticated grain (bran removed) of <i>Digitaria exilis</i> (Kippist) Stapf. <i>Digitaria exilis</i> (Kippist) Stapf) is an annual herbaceous plant belonging to the <i>Poaceae</i> family.</p> <p><b>Typical nutritional components of decorticated grain of fonio</b> Carbohydrates: 76,1 g/100 g of fonio Water: 12,4 g/100 g of fonio Protein: 6,9 g/100 g of fonio Fat: 1,2 g/100 g of fonio Fibre: 2,2 g/100 g of fonio Ash: 1,2 g/100 g of fonio Phytate content: ≤ 2,1 mg/g'</p>

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- (1) [OJ L 327, 11.12.2015, p. 1.](#)
- (2) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2470 of 20 December 2017 establishing the Union list of novel foods in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2015/2283 of the European Parliament and of the Council on novel foods ([OJ L 351, 30.12.2017, p. 72](#)).

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There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2016.