



A1132 Broaden Definition of Steviol Glycosides (Intense Sweetener)

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The Dietitians Association of Australia (DAA) is the national association of the dietetic profession with over 6000 members, and branches in each state and territory. DAA is a leader in nutrition and advocates for food and nutrition for healthier people and healthier nations. DAA appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposal A1132 Broaden Definition of Steviol Glycosides (Intense Sweetener) by Food Standards Australia New Zealand.

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DAA interest in this consultation

DAA is the peak professional body for dietitians in Australia and responsible for the Accredited Practising Dietitian (APD) program as the basis for self-regulation of the profession.

DAA advocates for a safe and nutritious food supply in which the community has confidence and which meets the nutritional needs of all Australians, including groups with special needs.

As experts in nutrition, APDs assist the general population and groups with special dietary needs to meet their nutritional needs. APDs also assist with the translation of food labels and nutrition content claims.

Recommendations

DAA notes that FSANZ concludes that broadening the definition and hence specification for steviol glycosides preparations to include any mixture of individual steviol glycosides extracted from the stevia leaf is justified.

DAA supports the application to expand the definition of steviol glycosides for use as an intense sweetener to include all steviol glycosides extracted from the *Stevia rebaudiana* Bertoni leaf.

DAA is supportive of the proposed amendments to the code that enables greater choice for consumers of product with natural intense sweeteners that pose no public health and safety concerns.