

## **Policy on Genetically Modified (GM) Ingredients**

As a group with a long history of close interdependence with the agricultural sector, it is in our interest to make sure that the farms that supply us are healthy and sustainable in both the short and long term. We recognise that consumers around the world have differing views on the use of GM ingredients in the food chain. We therefore seek to meet consumer expectations as they vary, country by country, as well as complying with local regulations on the use and labelling of GM ingredients.

The overwhelming majority of the food products we sell to consumers in Europe, Australia and New Zealand do not contain GM ingredients. In a handful of the thousands of products we sell in these countries, GM oils are present in the wider supply chain, but we have not been able to establish for certain that the oils we source are non-GM.

In terms of the animal feed we supply, we are keen to balance consumer concerns with the commitment to help our farmers be as competitive as possible, in what is often a very tough business environment. As GM crops have been cleared by UK and EU regulatory bodies as safe for both animal and human consumption these form part of our offering, and we are confident that their use does not in any way affect the wholesomeness of our feeds. We also source assured non-GM crops where our customers seek it.

Unfortunately, as is the case with organic feed, the producers of these non-GM feed materials expect a significant price premium, which is then compounded by the difficulties involved in segregating their transport, storage and manufacturing. Associated British Foods (ABF) is committed to keeping this price premium to the lowest levels in the industry.

Our enzymes business uses GM microorganisms in the manufacturing process, but no GM microorganism is present in the final product.

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