

NOSB COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Form NOPLIST1. Committee Transmittal to NOSB

For NOSB Meeting: March 2007

Substance: Lemongrass, frozen

Committee: Crops Livestock Handling Petition is for inclusion of frozen lemongrass on the National List § 205.606

A. Evaluation Criteria (Applicability noted for each category; Documentation attached) **Criteria Satisfied? (see B below)**

- | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Impact on Humans and Environment | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Essential & Availability Criteria | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Compatibility & Consistency | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Commercial Supply is Fragile or Potentially Unavailable as Organic (only for 606) | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |

B. Substance Fails Criteria Category: _____ **Comments:** _____

C. Proposed Annotation (if any): _____

Basis for annotation: To meet criteria above: _____ Other regulatory criteria: _____ Citation: _____

D. Recommended Committee Action & Vote (State Actual Motion): Recommends Frozen lemongrass for listing on § 205.606.

Motion by: Julie Weisman Secoded: Andrea Caroe Yes: 5 No: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

Crops		Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Allowed ¹	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Livestock		Non-Synthetic		Prohibited ²	
Handling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Synthetic		Rejected ³	
No restriction		Commercially Un-Available as Organic ¹	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deferred ⁴	

1) Substance voted to be added as "allowed" on National List to § 205.606 with Annotation (if any) _____

2) Substance to be added as "prohibited" on National List to § 205. _____ with Annotation (if any) _____

Describe why a prohibited substance: _____

3) Substance was rejected by vote for amending National List to § 205. _____ Describe why material was rejected: _____

4) Substance was recommended to be deferred because _____

_____ If follow-up needed, who will follow up _____

E. Approved by Committee Chair to transmit to NOSB:

Julie Weisman
Committee Chair

Date February 19, 2007

NOSB EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR SUBSTANCES ADDED TO THE NATIONAL LIST

Category 1. Adverse impacts on humans or the environment? Substance – Frozen Lemongrass

Question	Yes	No	N/A ¹	Documentation (TAP; petition; regulatory agency; other)
1. Are there adverse effects on environment from manufacture, use, or disposal? [§205.600 b.2]			X	This is an agricultural product.
2. Is there environmental contamination during manufacture, use, misuse, or disposal? [§6518 m.3]			X	This is an agricultural product.
3. Is the substance harmful to the environment? [§6517c(1)(A)(i);6517(c)(2)(A)i]		X		
4. Does the substance contain List 1, 2, or 3 inerts? [§6517 c (1)(B)(ii); 205.601(m)2]		X		
5. Is there potential for detrimental chemical interaction with other materials used? [§6518 m.1]		X		
6. Are there adverse biological and chemical interactions in agro-ecosystem? [§6518 m.5]			X	This is an agricultural product used as an ingredient in an organic processed food. It is no longer in the agro-ecosystem.
7. Are there detrimental physiological effects on soil organisms, crops, or livestock? [§6518 m.5]			X	This is an agricultural product used as an ingredient in an organic processed food. It is no longer in the agro-ecosystem.
8. Is there a toxic or other adverse action of the material or its breakdown products? [§6518 m.2]			X	This is an agricultural product used as an ingredient in an organic processed food. It is no longer in the agro-ecosystem.
9. Is there undesirable persistence or concentration of the material or breakdown products in environment?[§6518 m.2]			X	This is an agricultural product used as an ingredient in an organic processed food. It is no longer in the agro-ecosystem.
10. Is there any harmful effect on human health? [§6517 c (1)(A)(i) ; 6517 c(2)(A)i; §6518 m.4]		X		See # 12, below.
11. Is there an adverse effect on human health as defined by applicable Federal regulations? [205.600 b.3]		X		
12. Is the substance GRAS when used according to FDA's good manufacturing practices? [§205.600 b.5]	X			Lemongrass is considered GRAS by the FDA (CFR 21 § 182.10)
13. Does the substance contain residues of heavy metals or other contaminants in excess of FDA tolerances? [§205.600 b.5]		X		

¹If the substance under review is for crops or livestock production, all of the questions from 205.600 (b) are N/A—not applicable.

Category 2. Is the Substance Essential for Organic Production? Substance – Frozen Lemongrass

Question	Yes	No	N/A ¹	Documentation (TAP; petition; regulatory agency; other)
1. Is the substance formulated or manufactured by a chemical process? [6502 (21)]		X		
2. Is the substance formulated or manufactured by a process that chemically changes a substance extracted from naturally occurring plant, animal, or mineral, sources? [6502 (21)]		X		
3. Is the substance created by naturally occurring biological processes? [6502 (21)]	X			
4. Is there a natural source of the substance? [§205.600 b.1]			X	Petitioned substance is from a natural source.
5. Is there an organic substitute? [§205.600 b.1]		X		Petitioner states that no organic substitutes are available that meet standard.
6. Is the substance essential for handling of organically produced agricultural products? [§205.600 b.6]			X	
7. Is there a wholly natural substitute product? [§6517 c (1)(A)(ii)]			X	Petitioned substance is a wholly natural product.
8. Is the substance used in handling, not synthetic, but not organically produced? [§6517 c (1)(B)(iii)]	X			
9. Is there any alternative substances? [§6518 m.6]		X		
10. Is there another practice that would make the substance unnecessary? [§6518 m.6]			X	

¹If the substance under review is for crops or livestock production, all of the questions from 205.600 (b) are N/A—not applicable.

Category 3. Is the substance compatible with organic production practices? Substance – Frozen Lemongrass

Question	Yes	No	N/A ¹	Documentation (TAP; petition; regulatory agency; other)
1. Is the substance compatible with organic handling? [§205.600 b.2]			X	
2. Is the substance consistent with organic farming and handling? [§6517 c (1)(A)(iii); 6517 c (2)(A)(ii)]			X	
3. Is the substance compatible with a system of sustainable agriculture? [§6518 m.7]			X	
4. Is the nutritional quality of the food maintained with the substance? [§205.600 b.3]	X			
5. Is the primary use as a preservative? [§205.600 b.4]		X		
6. Is the primary use to recreate or improve flavors, colors, textures, or nutritive values lost in processing (except when required by law, e.g., vitamin D in milk)? [205.600 b.4]		X		Used to create regionally authentic flavor profile, not flavor lost in processing.
7. Is the substance used in production, and does it contain an active synthetic ingredient in the following categories:			X	
a. copper and sulfur compounds;				
b. toxins derived from bacteria;			X	
c. pheromones, soaps, horticultural oils, fish emulsions, treated seed, vitamins and minerals?			X	
d. livestock parasiticides and medicines?			X	
e. production aids including netting, tree wraps and seals, insect traps, sticky barriers, row covers, and equipment cleaners?			X	

¹If the substance under review is for crops or livestock production, all of the questions from 205.600 (b) are N/A—not applicable.

Category 4. Is the commercial supply of an agricultural substance as organic, fragile or potentially unavailable? [§6610, 6518, 6519, 205.2, 205.105 (d), 205.600 (c) 205.2, 205.105 (d), 205.600 (c)]

Substance – Frozen Lemongrass

Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments on Information Provided (sufficient, plausible, reasonable, thorough, complete, unknown)
1. <u>Is the comparative description provided</u> as to why the non-organic form of the material /substance is necessary for use in organic handling?	X			Petition page 2 “Intended Use” states that it is necessary for organic processed formulation of authentic tasting of SE Asian foods, and only fresh, or frozen from fresh, gives needed flavor profile.
2. Does the current and historical industry information, research, or evidence provided explain how or why the material /substance cannot be obtained organically in the appropriate form to fulfill an essential function in a system of organic handling?	X			Petition page 4 “Justification Statement” organic lemongrass is available in dry form from 3 suppliers, but there are no known suppliers of organic lemongrass in frozen form. Page 2 “intended Use” states chefs find dried lemongrass does not give adequate flavor. Attachment 2 states that dried and powdered is not a substitute for fresh.
3. Does the current and historical industry information, research, or evidence provided explain how or why the material /substance cannot be obtained organically in the appropriate quality to fulfill an essential function in a system of organic handling?	X			See references to Question 2 above.
4. Does the current and historical industry information, research, or evidence provided explain how or why the material /substance cannot be obtained organically in the appropriate quantity to fulfill an essential function in a system of organic handling?	X			Petitioner does not describe quality of fresh organic lemongrass available and why it can not be sourced year round. Page 3 states that today can not find supplier of frozen organic fresh lemongrass.
5. Does the industry information provided on material / substance non-availability as organic, include (but not limited to) the following: a. Regions of production (including factors such as climate and number of regions);		X		No information suggests that geography is a limiting factor.
b. Number of suppliers and amount produced;	X			Petition page 4 “Justification Standards” refers to 3 suppliers of organic dried lemongrass. Gives no information about # of suppliers of conventional frozen lemongrass or organic fresh lemongrass.
c. Current and historical supplies related to weather events such as hurricanes, floods, and droughts that may temporarily halt production or destroy crops or supplies;		X		No information was given to suggest this.
d. Trade-related issues such as evidence of hoarding, war, trade barriers, or civil unrest that may temporarily restrict supplies; or		X		
e. Are there other issues which may present a challenge to a consistent supply?		X		