

ADVICE 14-2018

Subject:

**Evaluation of a request for exemption from
the legal requirement of use of potable
water for the production of gelatin**

(SciCom 2017/23)

Scientific opinion approved by the Scientific Committee on 14 September 2018.

Key terms:

Exemption, drinking water, canal water, gelatin

Summary:

Question

The Scientific Committee has been asked to assess a request for exemption from the legal requirement of use of potable water for the production of a food ingredient, namely gelatin. More specifically, the Committee was asked to evaluate whether the use of canal water, that does not meet the requirements of drinking water, poses a health risk to gelatin consumers and/or to animals which get some by-products of this production through the feed.

Methodology

The advice is based on the scientific assessment by experts of the technical file and of additional information submitted in October 2017 and June 2018 by the company.

Results

Compared to Advice 12-2009 (SciCom, 2009), the Scientific Committee is of the opinion that the company has provided sufficient clarifications regarding the control of the active carbon filter and the operability of the online continuous monitoring system of the quality of the canal water, as well as

in regard to the measures taken during pollution peaks observed in the canal water by the online alarm system.

Conclusion

The Scientific Committee is of the opinion that the company adequately assesses and sufficiently manages the risks to humans and animals linked to the use of canal and process water in the production of gelatin.

Recommendations

However, the Scientific Committee recommends to increase the analysis frequency of the different finished products, as well as the registration of the analysis results in a single database.