

NWSI 2026 No. 62

FOOD

Determination of authorisation status: authorisation of seeds and seed flour of *Vigna subterranea* (L.) Verdc. as a novel food (traditional food from a third country)

Explanatory note

(this note is not part of the determination)

This determination is made in relation to Wales by the Welsh Ministers in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 15(4) of Regulation [\(EU\) 2015/2283](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council on novel foods (EUR 2015/2283). It concerns a notification of a traditional food from a third country under the procedure in Article 14 of that Regulation, which provides an expedited authorisation procedure for certain novel foods which have a history of safe food use in a third country (outside the British Islands).

No duly reasoned safety objections have been issued by the Food Standards Agency as the Food Safety Authority for Wales to the placing on the market in Wales of the traditional food concerned.

This determination authorises, in relation to Wales, the placing on the market of seeds and seed flour of *Vigna subterranea* (L.) Verdc. (Bambara groundnut) as a traditional food from a third country. The terms of authorisation and the conditions, requirements and specification upon which the traditional food is authorised are set out in the Schedule.

There has been consultation as required by Article 9 of Regulation [\(EC\) No 178/2002](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety (EUR 2002/178).

Determination

Application and coming into force

1. This determination applies in relation to Wales, and comes into force on 31 March 2026.

Interpretation

2. In this determination:

“Regulation 1169/2011” means Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the provision of food information to consumers (EUR 2011/1169).

3. Any expression used both in this determination and in Regulation (EU) No 2015/2283 of the European Parliament and of the Council on novel foods has the same meaning as it has in that Regulation.

Determination of authorisation status of Bambara groundnut (seeds and seed flour of *Vigna subterranea* (L.) Verdc.)

4. Seeds and seed flour of *Vigna subterranea* (L.) Verdc. is authorised to be placed on the market in Wales, as a traditional food from a third country, in accordance with the conditions, requirements and specification set out in the Schedule.

Jeremy Miles MS

19 March 2026

SCHEDULE

Authorised novel food	Conditions under which the novel food may be used		Additional specific labelling requirements	Other requirements
Seeds and seed flour of <i>Vigna subterranea</i> (L.) Verdc. (traditional food from a third country)	<i>Specified food category</i>	<i>Maximum levels</i>	1. The designation of the novel food on the labelling of the food containing it is: “Bambara (<i>Vigna subterranea</i>) seeds/nut/bean/groundnut” or “Bambara (<i>Vigna subterranea</i>) seed/nut/bean/groundnut flour” depending on the form used 2. The labelling of food containing the novel food must bear a statement that the seeds and the seed flour of <i>Vigna subterranea</i> may cause allergic reactions to consumers with known allergies to peanuts and soybeans. This statement shall appear in close proximity to the list of	
	Not specified			

			<p>ingredients or, in the absence of a list of ingredients, in close proximity to the name of the food</p> <p>3. When the seeds are sold uncooked, the labelling must bear a statement that they should be soaked and boiled before consumption</p> <p>The food information must be presented in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 1169/2011 which apply to mandatory food information.</p>	
Specification				
<p>Description/Definition: The traditional food consists of de-shelled whole dried seeds of <i>Vigna subterranea</i> (L.) Verdc. [Family: Fabaceae (alt. Leguminosae)] or the flour obtained by several steps, including heat treatment and milling of the seeds.</p> <p>Synonyms: <i>Cryptolobus subterraneus</i> (L.) Spreng., <i>Glycine subterranea</i> L., <i>Tetrodea subterranea</i> (L.) Raf., <i>Voandzeia subterranea</i> (L.) Thouars.</p> <p>Common names: Bambara groundnut, Bambara nut, Bambara bean, Bambara pea, Nyimo bean.</p>				
Dried seeds:			Dried seed flour:	

Typical composition range:

- Moisture: 7-11 %
- Protein: > 15 %
- Carbohydrates: 32-65 %
- Sugar: < 6.0 %
- Fat: 4-7 %
- Fibre: 7-31 %

Heavy metals:

- Arsenic: < 0.05 mg/kg
- Cadmium: < 0.02 mg/kg
- Lead: < 0.05 mg/kg
- Mercury: < 0.01 mg/kg

Mycotoxins:

- Sum of Aflatoxins (B₁+B₂+G₁+G₂): < 4 µg/kg
- Aflatoxin B₁: < 2 µg/kg
- Sum of Fumonisin (B₁+B₂+B₃): < 60 µg/kg
- Deoxynivalenol: < 0.1 mg/kg
- Ochratoxin A: < 0.5 µg/kg
- Zearalenone: < 0.1 mg/kg

Typical composition range:

- Moisture: 4-7 %
- Protein : > 15 %
- Carbohydrates: 55-75 %
- Sugar: < 20 %
- Fat: 4-9 %
- Fibre: 10-30 %

Heavy metals:

- Arsenic: < 0.05 mg/kg
- Cadmium: < 0.02 mg/kg
- Lead: < 0.05 mg/kg
- Mercury: < 0.01 mg/kg

Mycotoxins:

- Sum of Aflatoxins (B₁+B₂+G₁+G₂): < 4 µg/kg
- Aflatoxin B₁: < 2 µg/kg
- Sum of Fumonisin (B₁+B₂+B₃): < 60 µg/kg
- Deoxynivalenol: < 0.1 mg/kg
- Ochratoxin A: < 0.5 µg/kg
- Zearalenone: < 0.1 mg/kg

Other contaminants or anti-nutrient factors:

- Hydrocyanic acid (including hydrocyanic acid bound in cyanogenic glycosides): < 15 mg/kg

Microbiological Criteria:

- Aerobic mesophilic spores: < 1 Spore/g
- *Alicyclobacillus*: Not detected in 10 g
- Presumptive *Bacillus cereus*: < 10 cfu/g
- Coliforms: < 10 cfu/g
- *Escherichia coli*: < 10 cfu/g
- *Salmonella*: Not detected in 25 g
- *Staphylococcus aureus*: < 10 cfu/g
- Total Plate Count: < 5 000 cfu/g
- Yeast & Moulds: < 100 cfu/g

CFU: Colony Forming Units

Other contaminants or anti-nutrient factors:

- Hydrocyanic acid (including hydrocyanic acid bound in cyanogenic glycosides): < 10 mg/kg
- Phytic acid: < 0.01 g/100 g

Microbiological Criteria:

- Aerobic mesophilic spores: < 1 Spore/g
- *Alicyclobacillus*: Not detected in 10 g
- Presumptive *Bacillus cereus*: < 10 cfu/g
- Coliforms: < 10 cfu/g
- *Escherichia coli* : < 10 cfu/g
- *Salmonella*: Not detected in 25 g
- *Staphylococcus aureus*: < 10 cfu/g
- Total Plate Count: < 1 000 cfu/g
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