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PRESS RELEASE

China gives the green light to whey permeate imports

Arla Foods Ingredients has welcomed the news that whey permeate can now be exported to China for use in food and beverage products.

On 15 May 2020, China published an official [safety and quality standard](#) for using permeate powders in food processing – signifying that its market is ready to accept imports of the ingredient with immediate effect.

The development comes as a result of a recent trade agreement between the US and China. However, the standard applies globally, and permeate from any country may be exported to China provided it complies with the requirements.

Henrik Jacob Hjortshøj, Head of Sales Development, Food at Arla Foods Ingredients, said: “The opening of the Chinese market to permeate exports is highly significant for the global dairy ingredient industry. Demand for permeate is rising fast in China, just as it is across the world. We look forward to working with our customers in China to supply them with the highest quality whey permeate powder for their food and beverage applications.”

Whey permeate is a milk solid with around 80% lactose content. Used as a bulking agent, it is a highly cost-effective replacement for skimmed milk powder, lactose and sweet whey powder. In 2017, powdered permeate received a Codex Alimentarius international standard.

Arla Foods Ingredients is one of the world’s largest suppliers of whey permeate, with production facilities in the EU and Argentina. It markets Variolac® whey permeate, which has sweet milky taste, low ash content, stable mineral profile and free-flowing powder properties over a 12-month shelf life.

Permeate is increasingly being used by multinational brands, particularly in categories such as chocolate and biscuits, but also in hot drinks, dairy and desserts. Innova figures show that the number of new products containing whey permeate has more than doubled in recent years, growing from 169 in 2015 to 387 in 2019.

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About Arla Foods Ingredients

Arla Foods Ingredients is a global leader in value-added whey solutions. We discover and deliver ingredients derived from whey, supporting the food industry with the development and efficient processing of more natural, functional and nutritious foods. We serve global markets within early life nutrition, medical nutrition, sport nutrition, health foods and other foods and beverage products.

Five reasons to choose us:

- We have R&D in our DNA
- We offer superior quality
- We are your trusted business partner
- We support sustainability
- We ensure security of supply

Arla Foods Ingredients is a 100% owned subsidiary of Arla Foods. Our head office is in Denmark.

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