

## SCIENTIFIC OPINION

# Scientific Opinion on the re-evaluation of Amaranth (E 123) as a food additive<sup>1</sup>

EFSA Panel on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources added to Food (ANS)<sup>2, 3</sup>

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### ABSTRACT

The Panel on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources added to Food provides a scientific opinion re-evaluating the safety of Amaranth (E 123). Amaranth has been previously evaluated by JECFA in 1972, 1975, 1978 and 1984, and the SCF in 1976, 1979 and 1983. In 1984 the SCF set an ADI for Amaranth of 0-0.8 mg/kg bw/day based on results from a 90-day rat study. In contrast, in 1984 JECFA allocated an ADI of 0-0.5 mg/kg bw/day Amaranth based on a long-term carcinogenicity study in rats. In evaluating the overall toxicological database on