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ASX Release - Company Announcement

Link to approval by Norway of Aquaterra® Omega-3 Oil for use in Aquafeed

Nufarm Limited (Nufarm, ASX:NUF) earlier today announced the Norwegian Food Safety Authority's (NFSA) decision to approve Aquaterra® Omega-3 oil for use in fish feed. Aquaterra is derived from Nuseed® Omega-3 Canola – the world's first plant-based source of DHA and EPA essential nutrients.

The full NFSA approval can be accessed and translated from Norwegian to English at: https://www.mattilsynet.no/om_mattilsynet/mattilsynet_godkjenner_aquaterra_rapsolje_fra_genmo_difisert_raps_til_bruk_i_fiskefor.50558. The English translation of the page is also attached to this announcement for those who may not be able to access or translate using the link.

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The Norwegian Food Safety Authority approves Aquaterra® rapeseed oil from genetically modified rapeseed for use in fish feed

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After a comprehensive assessment, the Norwegian Food Safety Authority approves an oil from genetically modified rapeseed. The oil can only be used for fish feed, and is considered safe for health and the environment. Both the oil and the feed must be labelled as genetically modified.

In June 2022, the Norwegian Food Safety Authority received the very first application for approval of a genetically modified product. It concerned oil from a rapeseed genetically modified to produce long-chain omega-3 fatty acids that are otherwise normally extracted by marine organisms. The rapeseed (with unique code NS-B5Ø27-4) was developed as a land-based alternative to marine fatty acids, mainly DHA. The fatty acids are important for the health and welfare of salmon.

According to the applicant, Australian seed manufacturer Nuseed, the production of Aquaterra® rapeseed oil has a low environmental footprint, since only five percent of today's rapeseed area is needed to double the world's supply of omega-3 oil. The applicant therefore believes that rapeseed oil will be a sustainable alternative to marine omega-3 resources.

Risk assessed by the Norwegian Scientific Committee for Food and Environment

The Norwegian Scientific Committee for Food and Environment (VKM) has, on commission from the Norwegian Food Safety Authority, conducted a [risk assessment of Aquaterra® oil from genetically modified rapeseed for use in fish feed](#). They conclude that fish feed containing this oil does not cause increased health risk for fish, or any indications of increased environmental risk compared to conventional fish feed with oils from other sources. VKM has previously assessed the documentation in the application Nuseed has sent to the EU for approval of the food and feed applications, and found no indications of a specific Norwegian risk for any of these applications. The rapeseed contains a gene that confers tolerance to pesticides with glufosinate ammonium that are forbidden to use in Norway. VKM states that the protein that provides this tolerance is considered safe by the EU food safety agency EFSA. VKM further states that any residues of proteins in Aquaterra® rapeseed oil, including those that provide tolerance to glufosinate ammonium, are negligible.

Consultation on risk assessment

The Norwegian Food Safety Authority has circulated the risk assessment for consultation, in order to provide an opportunity for various stakeholders to submit any supplementary information of significance for the risk assessment. Of the seven consultation responses, five were in favour of approval, one was negative and one indicated that a new consultation had to be conducted. The Norwegian Food Safety Authority considers that none of the consultation input provides new information about Aquaterra®, indicating that VKM should be given a new assignment on risk assessment.

Overall assessment

The Norwegian Food Safety Authority considers that the requirement that the feed must be safe and not be harmful to human or animal health, or make food from animals unsuitable for human consumption, is met. Furthermore, we consider that the requirement that feed shall not have adverse effects on the environment has also been met.

The cultivation of the rapeseed that is the basis for the Aquaterra® oil is contract-based. Farmers who wish to use glufosinate ammonium are trained in its use. There are a number of substances in pesticides that are banned for use in Norway and in the European Union but are approved in other countries of the world. As long as vegetable products imported from these countries do not contain pesticide residues exceeding the permissible limit values, they may be freely imported. This is regulated by the Regulations relating to pesticide residues in foods and feed.

The Norwegian Food Safety Authority grants the application for approval of Aquaterra® rapeseed oil for use in fish feed. In the approval, we set special requirements for labelling and traceability of the oil and products of or with this oil. The authorisation is granted to Nuseed Nutritional Australia Pty Ltd., represented by Nufarm B.V. in the Netherlands.

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